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International  
Criminal Tribunal  
for the former  
Yugoslavia

Tribunal Pénal  
International pour  
l'ex-Yougoslavie

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**REGISTRY**  
**GREFFE**

The Hague, 25 April 2002  
JL/P.I.S./672e

**TRANSFER OF DRAGOLJUB OJDANIĆ TO THE HAGUE**

On 25 April 2002, Dragoljub Ojdanić was transferred from Serbia, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY), to the Detention Unit of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague.

Dragoljub Ojdanić is charged in an amended Indictment, confirmed on 29 October 2001. It alleges that, between 1 January 1999 and 20 June 1999, forces of the FRY and Serbia acting at the direction, with the encouragement, or with the support of the four accused, Milan Milutinović, Nikola Šainović, Vljeko Stojiljković and Dragoljub Ojdanić, executed a campaign of terror and violence directed at Kosovo Albanian civilians. At all times relevant to this Indictment, Dragoljub Ojdanić held the post of Chief of General Staff of the Yugoslav Army (VJ).

It is alleged that the operations targeting the Kosovo Albanians were undertaken with the objective of expelling a substantial portion of the Kosovo Albanian population from Kosovo in an effort to ensure continued Serbian control over the province. The Indictment goes on to describe a series of well-planned and coordinated operations undertaken by the forces of the FRY and Serbia.

Approximately 800,000 Kosovo Albanian civilians were expelled from the province by their forced removal and subsequent looting and destruction of their homes, or by the shelling of villages. Surviving residents were sent to the borders of neighbouring countries. *En route*, many were killed, abused and had their possessions and identification papers stolen. Furthermore, specific massacres allegedly committed by Serb forces in places such as Đakovica/Gjakovë, Suva Reka/Suharekë, Račak/Reçak, Bela Crkva/Bellacërke, Mala Kruša/Krushë e Vogël, Velika Kruša/Krushë e Madhe, Padalište/Padalishtë, Izbica/Izbicë, Vučitrn/Vushtrri, Dubrava/Dubravë Prison complex, Meja/Mejë and Kačanik/Kacanik are listed in the Indictment.

*Charges*

The Indictment charges Dragoljub Ojdanić, on the basis of individual criminal responsibility (Article 7(1) of the Statute) and superior criminal responsibility (Article 7(3) thereof) with:

- one count of violations of the laws or customs of war (Article 3 of the Statute – murder),
- four counts of crimes against humanity (Article 5 thereof – deportation; murder; persecutions on political, racial or religious grounds; other inhumane acts)

The date and time for the initial appearance of Dragoljub Ojdanić will be announced in due course.

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