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International
Criminal Tribunal
for the former
Yugoslavia

Tribunal Pénal
International pour
l'ex-Yougoslavie

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REGISTRY

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VESELIN ŠLJIVANČANIN GRANTED PROVISIONAL RELEASE

Yesterday the Appeals Chamber granted Veselin Šljivančanin provisional release pending the hearing of his appeal.

Šljivančanin, former senior officer of the Yugoslav People's Army, was found guilty of one count of aiding and abetting torture and sentenced to five years' imprisonment on 27 September 2007 for having failed to stop or prevent the continuation of the beatings endured by Croat prisoners of war at Ovčara, near Vukovar. The Defence and the Prosecution filed their notices of appeal against the judgement on 29 October 2007.

The Appeals Chamber held that the fact that Šljivančanin had served almost 90 percent of the sentence imposed by the Trial Chamber warranted provisional release when assessed in conjunction with other factors in accordance with the Tribunal's Rules of Procedure and Evidence. The Chamber noted that provisional release had been previously granted to other persons under similar circumstances.

Under the terms and conditions specified in the decision, Šljivančanin will have to surrender his passport to the police station of his residence and remain within the boundaries of the Republic of Serbia. He is not allowed to discuss his case with the media and he must not interfere in any way with victims or potential witnesses.

The full text of the decision can be found on the Tribunal's website at:

www.un.org/icty.

Courtroom proceedings can be followed on the Tribunal's website www.un.org/icty.

Internet address: <http://www.un.org/icty>

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