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International
Criminal Tribunal
for the former
Yugoslavia

Tribunal Pénal
International pour
l'ex-Yougoslavie

Press Release . Communiqué de presse
(Exclusively for the use of the media. Not an official document)

PRESIDENT

PRÉSIDENT

The Hague, 22 January 2004
CVO/P.I.S./ 817e

SIMO ZARIĆ GRANTED EARLY RELEASE

On 21 January 2004, the President of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, Judge Theodor Meron, granted Simo Zarić's Request for early release, effective 28 January 2004.

Simo Zarić was found guilty by virtue of his individual criminal responsibility on one count of crimes against humanity (persecutions) and sentenced to six years' imprisonment (Please refer to Press Release 792e dated 17 October 2003).

In reaching his decision, the President considered a number of different factors. These included the fact that "*Zarić's application is receivable because he has served over two-thirds of his sentence (...)*", which is the time convicted persons become eligible for early release in most of the States that have signed an agreement with the ICTY on the enforcement of sentences.

In addition, the President took into consideration "*the gravity of the offence committed by Simo Zarić, as detailed in the Judgement*", as well as "*Simo Zarić's resolve to be reintegrated into society, his good behaviour in detention, his attachment to his family and his prominence in his community*".

The President also considered a number of submissions, including reports by the Commanding Officer of the Detention Unit and the Office of the Prosecutor, and consulted with the members of the Bureau.

Thirteen convicted persons have been transferred to serve sentence: Anto Furundžija (Finland), Duško Tadić (Germany), Stevan Todorović (Spain), Drago Josipović (Spain), Vladimir Šantić (Spain), Duško Sikirica (Austria), Radomir Kovac (Norway), Zoran Vuković (Norway), Dragoljub Kunarac (Germany), Goran Jelisić (Italy), Biljana Plavsić (Sweden), Hazim Delić (Finland) and Esad Landzo (Finland).

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