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Tribunal Pénal
International pour
l'ex-Yougoslavie



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REGISTRY

GREFFE

The Hague, 8 April 2005
CVO/MOW/958e

CHARGES AGAINST MILORAD TRBIĆ UNSEALED

Today, 8 April 2005, Judge Antonetti ordered the public disclosure of the charges against Milorad Trbić, charged in the same indictment as Vinko Pandurević (see Press Release 952e). Milorad Trbić was transferred to the Detention Unit of the Tribunal on 7 April 2005. His initial appearance has been scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 13 April 2005 at 8 a.m. in Courtroom III.

The amended indictment against Milorad Trbić and Vinko Pandurević was confirmed on 24 March 2005 by Judge Liu. On 30 March 2005, Judge Liu granted an order pertaining to non-disclosure of the charges until further order. He also ordered that the original indictment dated 1999 against the accused Pandurević be withdrawn.

According to the indictment, Milorad Trbić, born on 22 February 1958 in the village of Ponijevo, in Zenica, joined the Bosnian Serb Army (VRS) when the war in Bosnia started. He was appointed to the position of Deputy Commander of the 3rd Battalion of the Zvornik Brigade. He was later transferred to the security organ of the Zvornik Brigade. In July 1995, he held the rank of reserve Captain. He continued to hold this position during the remainder of the period relevant to the indictment. He was an assistant to and reported directly to Lieutenant Drago Nikolić (see Press Release 951e), Chief of Security of the Zvornik Brigade.

Charges

The indictment charges Milorad Trbić on the basis of his individual criminal responsibility (Article 7(1) of the Tribunal Statute) with:

- One count of crimes against humanity (Article 5 of the Statute – murder)

Factual Allegations

The indictment states that, between about 11 July 1995 and 1 November 1995, “*Vinko Pandurević, Milorad Trbić, and others, planned, instigated, ordered or otherwise aided and abetted in the planning, preparation or execution of a planned and organized mass execution of thousands of captured Bosnian Muslim men from the Srebrenica “safe area”*”.

The indictment states that during this operation, among other things, Milorad Trbić participated on 14 July 1995, in the killing of 20 Bosnian Muslim males in front of the gymnasium of the Grbavci School in the village of Orahovac, where hundreds of Bosnian Muslim males had been detained. That same day, VRS personnel from the Zvornik Brigade transported these Bosnian Muslim males from the school at Grbavci to a nearby field, where personnel, including members of the 4th Battalion of the Zvornik Brigade, ordered the prisoners off the trucks and summarily executed them with automatic weapons. “*Milorad Trbić assisted in loading the Muslim men onto the trucks to the execution sites and assisted in the executions by shooting Muslim men with his rifle. Approximately 1000 Bosnian Muslim males were killed*”.

The full text of the indictment is available on the Tribunal’s website.

Hard copies can also be obtained from the Media Office.

All proceedings can be followed live on the Tribunal’s website www.un.org/icty.

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

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