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International
Criminal Tribunal
for the former
Yugoslavia

Tribunal Pénal
International pour
l'ex-Yougoslavie

ICTY WEEKLY UPDATE-70

19 March 1999

LAST MINUTE NEWS

ALEKSOVSKI CASE:

CLOSING ARGUMENTS TO BE PRESENTED ON MONDAY AND TUESDAY

Following the Scheduling Order issued on 5 March 1999 by Trial Chamber I (see Update No. 69), the closing arguments from the Prosecution and the Defence will be heard on Monday 22 and Tuesday 23 March 1999 respectively from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The basic statistics related to the Aleksovski case are as follows:

The Trial began on 6 January 1998

- **13 trial weeks**
41 trial days: 24 for OTP
17 for Defence

- **38 witnesses for OTP**
- **26 witnesses for Defence**

- **OTP exhibits: 138**
- **Defence exhibits: 37**

KRNOJELAC CASE:

PROSECUTOR'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE AN AMENDED INDICTMENT

On Thursday 18 March 1999, the Prosecution filed a Motion requesting that they be given until 23 April 1999 (instead of 26 March 1999) to file an amended indictment, as ordered by the Trial Chamber in its Decision of 24 February 1999 on the Defence Preliminary Motion on the Form of the Indictment (see Update No. 67).

KORDIC AND CERKEZ CASE:

PROSECUTION'S APPLICATION FOR LEAVE TO APPEAL REJECTED

On Wednesday 17 March 1999, a bench of three Judges of the Appeals Chamber (Judge McDonald (Presiding), Judge Vohrah and Judge Wang) rejected "*as being untimely*" an Application filed on 4 February 1999 by the Prosecutor. The Prosecutor sought leave to appeal against a Decision of 22 January 1999 denying in part a Prosecutor's application for a binding order to the Republic of Croatia for the production of documents.

TADIC CASE:

APPEALS HEARING FURTHER SCHEDULED

The hearing "*on the merits in the appeal, cross-appeal and the appeal on sentencing*" shall commence at 2 p.m. on Monday 19 April 1999 (see Update No. 66).

"BOSANSKI SAMAC" CASE:

DEFENCE MOTION TO SEVER DEFENDANTS AND COUNTS DISMISSED

On Monday 15 March 1999, Trial Chamber III (Judge May (Presiding), Judge Bennouna and Judge Robinson) dismissed a Defence Motion requesting the severance of the trial of Stevan Todorovic from that of his co-defendants, Milan Simic, Miroslav Tadic and Simo Zaric.

Denying the Defence's contention that the possibility of "mutually antagonistic defences" constitutes a conflict of interests that might cause serious prejudice to the accused Todorovic, the Chamber considered that "... *a Trial Chamber of the International Tribunal, composed of professional Judges, is able to assess the evidence in a case involving conflicting defences in a fair and just manner, without prejudice to any of the accused, and that such a case is best tried by the same Trial Chamber rather than a number of different Chambers*". The Trial Chamber also considered that "... *in any case, separate trials would not eliminate the possibility of an accused testifying against another accused*".

Finally, since "... *a joint trial avoids duplication of evidence, minimizes hardship caused to witnesses, and is generally in the interest of judicial economy*", the Trial Chamber held that, "... *the interests of justice are best served by a joint trial in this case*".

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

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COURTROOM SCHEDULE: MONDAY 22 MARCH TO FRIDAY 26 MARCH 1999*

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Courtroom I	No proceedings	9.00-13.00, TC I Aleksovski Trial Closing arguments	10.00, TC I Blaskic Trial	10.00, TC I Blaskic Trial	9.00-13.30, TC I Blaskic Trial
	14.00-18.00, TC I Aleksovski Trial Closing arguments	14.30, TC I Blaskic Trial	14.30-17.30, TC I Blaskic Trial	14.30, TC I Blaskic Trial	No proceedings
Courtroom III	9.00-13.00, TC II Kupreskic Trial	9.00-13.30, TC II Kupreskic Trial	9.00-13.30, TC II Kupreskic Trial	9.00-13.30, TC II Kupreskic Trial	No proceedings
	14.30-17.30, TC II Kupreskic Trial	No proceedings	No proceedings	No proceedings	No proceedings

*The courtroom schedule is provisional and you are invited to check for last minute changes with the Public Information Unit. Unless otherwise indicated, the session is open.

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