UNITED NATIONS



International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 Case: IT-03-66-R77

Date: 11 March 2005

Original: English

BEFORE THE TRIAL CHAMBER

Before:

Judge Liu Daqun, Presiding

Judge Amin El Mahdi

Judge Alphons Orie, pre-trial judge

Registrar:

Mr. Hans Holthuis

Decision of:

11 March 2005

PROSECUTOR

v.

Bega BEQAJ

DECISION ON DEFENCE'S MOTION TO LIFT CONFIDENTIALITY OF WARRANT OF ARREST AND ORDER FOR SURRENDER

The Office of the Prosecutor:

Mr. David Akerson Mr. Jason Dominguez

Counsel for the Accused:

Mr. Tjarda Eduard van der Spoel

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TRIAL CHAMBER I (the "Chamber") of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (the "Tribunal"),

BEING SEISED of the confidential "Motion to lift confidentiality of the warrants of arrests and orders for surrender" filed by the Defence for the accused Beqaj ("Accused") on 15 February 2005 ("Motion");

NOTING that the Prosecution has not responded to the Motion;

NOTING the "Decision on Review of Indictment and Order for Non Disclosure" issued by the confirming judge Carmel Agius (the "Confirming Judge") *ex parte* and under seal on 29 October 2004;

NOTING the "Warrant of arrest Order for Surrender" issued by the Confirming Judge *ex parte* and under seal on 29 October 2004;

NOTING this Chamber's "Order to Lift the Confidentiality of the Indictment" dated 4 November 2005;

NOTING that the Warrant of Arrest/Order for Surrender issued on 29 October 2004 remained under seal;

CONSIDERING that the Defence submits that "there are no exceptional circumstances to justify that the warrants of arrest and orders for surrender" issued by the Confirming Judge should remain under seal and argues that it needs access to the "warrants of arrest and orders for surrender" against the Accused in order to "examine the legitimacy of the arrest and transfer to the UN Detention Unit in The Hague";¹

FINDING that there is a legitimate purpose to the Motion and that it is in the interests of justice to lift the seal on the Warrant of Arrest/Order for Surrender in the present case;

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PURSUANT to Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence;

HEREBY GRANTS the Motion, **ORDERS** that the seal on the "Warrant of Arrest Order for Surrender" issued by the Confirming Judge on 29 October 2004 be lifted.

Done in English and French, the English version being authoritative.

Dated this 11th day of March 2005, At The Hague, The Netherlands.

> Judge Alphons Orie, Pre-trial Judge

[Seal of the Tribunal]

¹ Motion, para. 7.

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