



8 September 2000

ICTY WEEKLY UPDATE – 138

PROCEDURAL DEVELOPMENTS:

I. OVERVIEW OF COURT PROCEEDINGS

KVOČKA, KOS, RADIĆ, ŽIGIĆ & PRCAČ CASE (“OMARSKA & KERATERM CAMPS”)

Trial Chamber I – Judges Rodrigues (Presiding), Riad and Wald

The Trial Chamber reconvened on Tuesday 5 September, entering its tenth week of hearings in the prosecution case-in-chief. The first witness to be called this week, protected witness “J”, was one of the women detained in both the Omarska and Trnopolje camps.

Witness “J” testified about the attack on Prijedor on 30 May 1992 and several days later having to report at the SUP building from where she was the Omarska camp. When she arrived at the camp she was taken to the reception office in the administration building where she saw Zeljko Meakić, Miroslav Kvočka, and Milojica Kos and was later that day interrogated by Nenad Babić and Nenad Tomčić.

Witness “J” told the court that, from her experience she identified Meakić as the camp commander of Omarska, Kvočka as the deputy commander, subsequently being replaced by Prcač, and Kos as a shift leader. The other shift leaders being Mladen Radić and Momcilo Gruban. Witness “J” also saw Žigić at the camp.

The witness testified that some of the women had to spend the whole day in the restaurant handing out that one meal a day to the prisoners and cleaning. From the restaurant they could hear noises such as screams and blows that reverberated coming from the offices where the interrogations were conducted. The women had to sleep in these rooms but every time they went back to the room there was blood on the floor and walls and traces of torn clothing which they had to clean away.

Witness “J” testified that when new prisoners arrived and were being beaten Kvočka, Prcač, Radić or Kos were in the vicinity and never took any steps to prevent the beatings and all four often walked by dead bodies near the “white house” area of the camp.

Witness “J” also told that court that she witnessed the assault of two women, Mugbila Besirević and Munevera Mesić, on separate occasions by guards in the restaurant. The witness was also assaulted herself on two occasions, once by Radić and later by Nedeljko Grabovac.

Witness “J” was taken from the Omarska camp to the Trnopolje camp on 3 August 1992 where she saw Žigić again. When she left Trnopolje witness “J” returned to Prijedor and was only allowed to leave the town after signing documentation leaving behind all her possessions.

The cross-examination of witness “J” concluded on Thursday 7 September after which the Trial Chamber heard the testimony of protected witness “K” in closed session. The testimony of witness “K” concluded on Friday 8 September.

KORDIĆ & ČERKEZ CASE (“LAŠVA VALLEY”)

Trial Chamber III – Judges May (Presiding), Bennouna and Robinson

The Trial Chamber continues to hear Cerkez’s defence case-in-chief. On Monday 4 September, The Trial Chamber reconvened on Monday 4 September with the testimony of Mr. Ivica Marković.

Mr. Marković was the commander of the HVO municipality staff in Novi Travnik from its establishment until August 1992, after which, he became the head of the defence office in Novi Travnik and become the head of the department for operational affairs in the Stjepan Tomasević Brigade in 1993.

Mr. Marković testified about, amongst other things, the establishment of the HVO staff and the village guards; why Saban Mandzuka left the head post in the Territorial Defence and who his successors were; mobilisation lists; conflicts between the Muslim and Croat ethnic groups during the war in Novi

Travnik and the reason for these conflicts; and the establishment of the Stjepan Tomasević Brigade, its function, manning and Cerkez's role as commander.

The next witness, Dragan Grebenar, head of the Pocuica village guards, testified about the self-organised formation of the guards in 1992. Mr. Grebenar told the court about events following the confrontation between the HVO and the ABiH in the territory of the Vitez municipality in April 1993 and his tasks at the front line.

The cross-examination of Mr. Grebenar by the Prosecution was completed on Tuesday 5 September, after which the Trial Chamber heard the testimony of Mr. Zdenko Rajić.

Mr. Rajić told the court that, after the war broke out in Bosnia-Herzegovina, he reported to the HVO as a volunteer and joined the defence line against the Serbs at Galica, Potkraj, Skulja, Slatka Vode, Strikanice, Jajce, Bugojno, and the Mount Vlasic plateau.

Mr. Rajić subsequently joined the Stjepan Tomasevic Brigade upon its establishment and later became a member of Vitez Brigade continuing to fight as a volunteer.

The next witness, Major Zeljko Blaz, who is currently employed in the ABiH command for training and doctrine, started working for the Central Bosnia Operative Zone in 1992 and gave evidence about the organisation of communication in the Operative Zone. Major Blaz also testified about the communications centre of the Vitez Brigade and being sent to the front line against the JNA in the hills to establish inductor communications.

On Wednesday 6 September, the Trial Chamber heard the testimony of Captain Jozo Radman, a member of the ABiH.

Captain Radman testified about the formation and role of the Zabilje village guards and co-operation with those guards from the village of Sadovace. The witness told the court that he reported to the municipal headquarters in order to prepare for defence against the Serbs in the summer of 1992 when he went to the front line in Vlasić and until that time he was only active in the village guards.

Captain Radman told the court that noticeable tensions between the Croats and the Muslims appeared at the beginning of 1993 and testified about the earliest days of the conflict in the Lašva Valley and the fall of Dzotline Kuce on 5 September.

The next witness, Dragan Strbac, who previously testified in the Furundzija and Aleksovski cases, was the head of the civil defence at the Vitez municipality.

Mr. Strbac testified about, amongst other things, the role and staffing of the civil defence and its reorganisation as the defence office, the mobilisation of civil defence conscripts and the basic tasks of civilian defence commissioner and units. After the conclusion of Mr. Strbac's cross-examination on Thursday 7 September, the court heard the testimony of Mr. Zarko Krizanović. Mr. Krizanović testimony covered the formation and structure of the Gacice village guard and the assistance given to it by the Vitezovi unit.

The Trial Chamber has now adjourned until Monday 11 September.

COURTROOM SCHEDULE: 11 SEPTEMBER – 15 SEPTEMBER *

MONDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

Courtroom I 09:30 - 13:00, **Kunarac/Kovac/Vukovic**, Trial
14:30 - 16:00, **Kunarac/Kovac/Vukovic**, Trial
Courtroom II 09:30 - 13:00, **Kordic/Cerkez**, Trial
14:30 - 16:00, **Kordic/Cerkez**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:30 - 14:30, **Kvocka et al. Prcac**, Trial

TUESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

Courtroom I 09:30 - 13:00, **Kunarac/Kovac/Vukovic**, Trial
14:30 - 16:00, **Kunarac/Kovac/Vukovic**, Trial
Courtroom II 09:30 - 13:00, **Kordic/Cerkez**, Trial
14:30 - 16:00, **Kordic/Cerkez**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:30 - 14:30, **Kvocka et al. Prcac**, Trial

WEDNESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

Courtroom I 09:30 - 13:00, **Kunarac/Kovac/Vukovic**, Trial
14:30 - 16:00, **Kunarac/Kovac/Vukovic**, Trial (*to be confirmed*)
Courtroom II 09:30 - 13:00, **Kordic/Cerkez**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:30 - 14:30, **Kvocka et al. Prcac**, Trial
14.45, **Kupreskic et al.**, Status conference

THURSDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

Courtroom I 09:30 - 13:00, **Kunarac/Kovac/Vukovic**, Trial
14:30 - 16:00, **Kunarac/Kovac/Vukovic**, Trial
Courtroom II 09:30 - 13:00, **Kordic/Cerkez**, Trial
14:30 - 16:00, **Kordic/Cerkez**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:30 - 14:30, **Kvocka et al. Prcac**, Trial

FRIDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

Courtroom I 09:30, **Kolundzija/Dosen/Sikirica**, Status conf./Motion hearing
Courtroom III 09:30 - 14:30, **Kvocka et al. Prcac**, Trial

Coverage of the proceedings in Courtroom II will be broadcast in the viewing area in the lobby.

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

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PRESS RELEASES ISSUED SINCE 29 AUGUST:

DATE	NUMBER	TITLE	E	F	B/C/S
	524		E		B/C/S

For the latest list of all court filings, please visit the [ICTY Court Records](#)

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