



Monday 22 November 2010

Highlights of 8/11/2010 through 19/11/2010 - Nr. 86

8 November

Zoran Zigić denied early release

On 8 November, the ICTY President, Judge Robinson, issued a decision denying early release to Zoran Zigić. The Tribunal had been advised by authorities in Austria, where Zigić is serving his sentence, that the prisoner would be eligible for release on 16 October 2010, having served half of his sentence.

Zigić was a civilian taxi-driver mobilised to serve as a reserve police officer during the war in Bosnia. He was tried by the ICTY as part of the Kvočka et al. case, and was ultimately found to be guilty of persecutions, murder and torture committed at the Keraterm camp, and cruel treatment at the Trnopolje camp. On 28 February 2005, the Appeals Chamber upheld the Trial Chamber's sentence of 25 years in prison. President Robinson was of the view that, although Zigić has "displayed some - albeit very limited - evidence of rehabilitation, there remain significant factors that weigh against granting him early release." The "gravity of Mr Zigić's crimes is high" and the practice of the Tribunal is to consider convicted persons to be eligible for early release only when they have served two-thirds of their sentence. Early release was accordingly denied.

The full text of President Robinson's decision can be found on the ICTY website: <http://www.icty.org/x/cases/kvocka/presdec/en/101108.pdf>

12 November

First set of local language transcripts delivered to BiH

On 12 November, the Tribunal delivered the first set of trial transcripts produced in local languages to the Prosecutor's office in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as part of a project that aims to enhance the capacity of judiciaries in the region to handle complex war crimes cases. Additionally, the second batch of transcripts was delivered to the Croatian authorities. Until October 2010, the trial transcripts were available only in English and French.

"It has been regrettable and unfortunate that these transcripts were not available in the national languages of the countries concerned. I therefore welcome the opportunity to set that right through the War Crimes Justice Project," said President Robinson. The set of transcripts sent to BiH and Croatia contained close to 620 pages in total. Other transcripts are expected to be delivered in late November to the authorities of Serbia and in early December to the authorities of Croatia and BiH. In October, the Tribunal delivered 500 pages of transcripts to the Croatian authorities, while 400 pages were delivered to Serbian authorities earlier this month. The Tribunal will aim to produce a minimum of 60,000 transcript pages in local languages as part of the War Crimes Justice Project.

The War Crimes Justice Project is a 4-million euro regional project funded by the European Union and carried out by the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), in partnership with the ICTY, the UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, and OSCE field operations.

15 November

Prosecutor travels to Serbia, says fugitives remain priority number one

While in Belgrade, Prosecutor Brammertz met with the Serbian President, Boris Tadić; the Prime Minister, Mirko Cvetković; and the Minister and President of the National Council for Co-operation with the Tribunal, Rasim Ljajić. He also met with Vladimir Vukčević, the War Crimes Prosecutor, and other members of the Action Team, the group of officials co-ordinating the search for fugitives.

Speaking to journalists in Belgrade, the Prosecutor said that "the arrest of the two fugitives is the Tribunal's priority number one". On Mladić, the Prosecutor said "the answer and the leads to his arrest are in Serbia." He continued by saying that it was "obvious that he [Mladić] is not alone and has support of other persons." There is no deadline for the arrest of the fugitives, since that would mean that the people who are looking for them know their whereabouts, the Prosecutor said.

Asked to comment on Serbia's co-operation with the Tribunal, the Prosecutor said that it was "impossible to give a black or white answer to that question...There has been improvement since 2008, but we are not there yet." "My role is to see at the operational level if everything possible is being done in order to be successful, and

while recognising that a number of people are really doing an excellent job we say at the same time that there is room for improvement and that in a number of areas more can be done in a more professional way and in a more multi-disciplinary way.”

Prosecutor Brammertz’s trip to Serbia marked the last of his working visits to the region of the former Yugoslavia before he presents his biannual report to the Security Council in December.

[15 - 19 November](#)

Serbian journalists at the ICTY

On a trip organised in co-operation with the OSCE Mission to Serbia, a group of ten Serbian journalists spent the week of 15 November visiting the Tribunal. The group included editors and journalists from Radio Television Serbia and Vojvodina, TV Pink, BETA and Tanjung news agencies, NIN weekly, as well as Alo and Press dailies. At the press briefing on Wednesday, 17 November, Acting Head of Outreach Nerma Jelačić welcomed the visitors and told the assembled reporters: "The media in Serbia has a crucial role to play in the process of facing the past and raising the issue of responsibility for war crimes. We therefore hope that their visit provides them with a deeper insight into the work of the Tribunal and helps them improve their reporting skills on the war crimes trials, in a way that is informed, accurate and responsible. This in turn will help enhance the Serbian’s public understanding and perception of the work of the Tribunal."

COURTROOM SCHEDULE: 22 NOVEMBER – 3 DECEMBER

Public proceedings are broadcast with a 30-minute delay on the ICTY’s website.

MONDAY 22 NOVEMBER

Courtroom I 14:15 – 19:00, **Stanišić & Župljanin**, Trial
Courtroom III 14:15 – 19:00, **Tolimir**, Trial

TUESDAY 23 NOVEMBER

Courtroom II 14:15 – 19:00, **Stanišić & Simatović**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Tolimir**, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, **Stanišić & Župljanin**, Trial

WEDNESDAY 24 NOVEMBER

Courtroom II 14:15 – 19:00, **Stanišić & Simatović**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Tolimir**, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, **Stanišić & Župljanin**, Trial

THURSDAY 25 NOVEMBER

Courtroom II 14:15 – 19:00, **Stanišić & Simatović**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Tolimir**, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, **Stanišić & Župljanin**, Trial

FRIDAY 26 NOVEMBER

Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Stanišić & Župljanin**, Trial

MONDAY 29 NOVEMBER

Courtroom I 09:00 – 14:30, **Karadžić**, Trial
Courtroom II 09:00 – 13:45, **Perišić**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Stanišić & Župljanin**, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, **Tolimir**, Trial

TUESDAY 30 NOVEMBER

Courtroom I 13:30 – 19:00, **Karadžić**, Trial
Courtroom II 09:00 – 13:45, **Perišić**, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, **Stanišić & Simatović**, Trial

Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Stanišić & Župljanin**, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, **Tolimir**, Trial

WEDNESDAY 1 DECEMBER

Courtroom II 09:00 – 13:45, **Perišić**, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, **Stanišić & Simatović**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Stanišić & Župljanin**, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, **Tolimir**, Trial

THURSDAY 2 DECEMBER

Courtroom II 09:00 – 13:45, **Perišić**, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, **Stanišić & Simatović**, Trial
Courtroom III 09:00 – 13:45, **Stanišić & Župljanin**, Trial
14:15 – 19:00, **Tolimir**, Trial

FRIDAY 3 DECEMBER

Courtroom II 09:00 – 13:45, **Perišić**, Trial

The ICTY winter recess has been scheduled. The recess will take place between Monday 20 December 2010 and Friday 07 January 2011

PROCEEDINGS COMPLETED WITH REGARD TO 124 ACCUSED

Since the very first hearing (deferral request in the Tadić case) on 8 November 1994, the Tribunal has indicted a total of 161 individuals, and has already completed proceedings with regard to 124 of them: 12 have been acquitted, 63 sentenced (four are awaiting transfer, 25 have been transferred, 31 have served their term, and three died while serving their sentence), 13 have had their cases transferred to local courts. Another 36 cases have been terminated (either because indictments were withdrawn or because the accused died, before or after transfer to the Tribunal).

Proceedings are on-going with regard to 37 accused: 14 are at the appeals stage, 18 are currently on trial, and three are at the pre-retrial stage. Two fugitives are still at large.

A further 31 individuals have been or are the subject of contempt proceedings.

The ICTY Digest is a publication of the Registry, prepared and produced by the LPTV Section.
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