



Monday 1 October 2007

Highlights of 17/09/2007 through 28/09/2007 - Nr. 22

[18 September](#)
**Šešelj trial to
start on
7 November**

Pre-trial Judge Antonetti issues a Scheduling Order ordering a pre-trial conference in the Šešelj case to be held on 6 November 2007. The Order further instructs the Prosecution to give its opening statement on 7 November, and the Accused Šešelj (if he so wishes) to give his opening statement on 8 November. On Tuesday 14 November, the Prosecution is to start with the presentation of evidence.

[18 September](#)
**Kosovo Policy
Advisors at the
Tribunal**

Fifteen senior civil servants from the Kosovo government (Office of the President, Office of the Prime Minister, various ministries) visit the Tribunal as part of their Course on Diplomacy and European Co-operation. Representatives from Outreach and OTP brief the participants, who are also invited to ask questions and to witness first-hand the proceedings in the Haradinaj case.

[20 September](#)
**Želenović: appeal
hearing set for 15
October**

The Appeals Chamber schedules the appeal hearing in the case of Dragan Želenović for Monday 15 October at 10 a.m. in Courtroom I.

Želenović pleaded guilty on 17 January 2007 to seven counts of rape and torture, in Foča in 1992. On 4 April 2007, the Trial Chamber sentenced him to 15 years' imprisonment.

[25 September](#)
**Sefer Halilović:
appeals
judgement is
scheduled**

The Appeals Chamber issues a Scheduling Order stating that the appeals judgement will be rendered on 16 October at 2:15 p.m. in courtroom 3.

A high-ranking officer within the Army of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sefer Halilović was tried between 31 January 2005 and 31 August 2005 on the basis of an indictment alleging that troops under his control and command committed murders in the villages of Grabovica and Uzdol in the Jablanica and Prozor areas in Herzegovina in September 1993 during a military operation allegedly called "Operation Neretva". On 16 November 2005, Trial Chamber I acquitted Sefer Halilović, who was immediately released. The appeals hearing took place on 10 and 11 July 2007.

The scheduling order specifies that "should Sefer Halilović decide to be present during the public hearing, he shall communicate that intention by written letter to be filed with the Registry no later than two weeks from the date of this decision."

[26 September](#)
**President and
Vice-President re-
elected**

Judge Fausto Pocar and Judge Kevin Parker are re-elected as President and Vice-President, respectively.

The permanent judges of the Tribunal re-elected the President and Vice-President by acclamation during today's plenary session.

[27 September](#)

[Limaj *et al.* case: Appeals Chamber affirms Trial Chamber's judgement](#)

The Appeals Chamber upholds the Trial Chamber judgement in the case against former Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) members Fatmir Limaj, Isak Musliu and Haradin Bala. It dismisses all the appeals lodged by parties, confirming acquittals of Limaj and Musliu while affirming Bala's convictions for torture, cruel treatment and murder and his sentence of 13 years.

The three were indicted for the crimes committed against both Serb and Kosovo Albanian civilians in the KLA-run Llapushnik/Lapusnik prison camp between May and July 1998.

The following press release was issued: CVO/MOW/1184e at <http://www.un.org/icty/latest-e/index.htm>

The full text of the summary of the judgement can be found at: <http://www.un.org/icty/pressreal/2007/pr1184e-summary.htm>

[27 September](#)

[Vukovar: Trial Chamber rejects counts of crimes against humanity, sentences Mrkšić to 20 years and Sljivančanin to 5 for war crimes, acquits Radić](#)

The Trial Chamber dismisses all charges of crimes against humanity against the three, finding that the 194 non-Serb individuals taken from the Vukovar Hospital in November 1991 and subsequently murdered at Ovčara by Serb forces had been "specifically identified and selected because of their known, or believed, involvement in the Croatian forces in Vukovar. The Serb forces who mistreated the victims and murdered them acted on the understanding that the victims were prisoners of war, not civilians."

Mile Mrkšić was found guilty of aiding and abetting the murder, torture and cruel treatment of them. Sljivančanin was convicted of aiding and abetting the cruel treatment of the prisoners. Miroslav Radić was found not guilty on all counts and the Chamber ordered his immediate release, upon completion of the necessary arrangements.

The following press release was issued: CT/MOW/1185e at <http://www.un.org/icty/latest-e/index.htm>

The full text of the summary of the judgement can be found at: <http://www.un.org/icty/pressreal/2007/pr1185e-summary.htm>

[ICTY PROCEEDINGS COMPLETED WITH REGARD TO 108 ACCUSED](#)

Since the very first hearing (referral 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 108 of them: seven have been acquitted, 52 sentenced (eight are awaiting transfer, 26 have been transferred, 16 have served their term, and two 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 53 accused: eight are at the appeals stage, 26 are currently on trial, 12 are at pre-trial and four are still at large. Furthermore, two accused were recently convicted and sentenced by a Trial Chamber, and a third one was acquitted, but the delay for appeals by either party is still running.

The figure of the accused at the appeals stage includes Sefer Halilović, (who has been acquitted by the Trial Chamber and released, but the Office of the Prosecutor has filed an appeal), as well as Amir Kubura and Naser Orić. These two accused have been sentenced and granted early release (Kubura) and release (Orić), but the OTP has appealed against the Trial Chamber's Judgements.

A further 20 individuals have also been the subject of contempt proceedings.

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Registrar: Hans Holthuis. Chief PTV: Christian Chartier
Assistants: Isabelle Lambert, Gea van der Werf

Queries and comments:

Christian Chartier, Editor: +31.70.512.52.40, chartier.icty@un.org
Denise Gustin-Gardella, Assistant Editor: +31.70.512.53.49, gustin.icty@un.org

International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, Churchillplein 1, 2517 JW The Hague, the Netherlands
www.un.org/icty

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