

**Case: Slobodan Medić *et al***  
**War Crimes Chamber**  
**Belgrade District Court, Republic of Serbia**  
**Case number: K.br. 6-05**

**Trial Chamber:** Gordana Božilović-Petrović, Judge, Trial Chamber President, Vesko Krstajić, Judge, Trial Chamber Member, Vinka Beraha-Nikićević, Judge, Trial Chamber Member

**Prosecutor:** Bogdan Stanković

**Accused:** Slobodan Medić, Pera Petrašević, Aleksandar Medić, Aleksandar Vukov and Branislav Medić

**Report:** Nataša Kandić, Humanitarian Law Center (HLC) and Dragoljub Todorović, Attorney, victims representatives

**20 December 2005**

The trial of Slobodan Medić *at al* opened with the Trial Chamber President, Judge Gordana Petrović-Božilović, asking the accused to give their particulars and informing them of their rights and obligations under the Criminal Procedure Code (ZKP).

The Prosecutor read out the entire indictment, after which the Trial Chamber President ordered the accused other than Slobodan Medić to leave the courtroom.

**Slobodan Medić's Defence**

The accused began his defence by saying that after the end of the fighting around Vukovar early in 1992 he and some 15-20 other Serbs made arrangements to guard the oilfields at Đeletovci, a village previously inhabited by Croats. This group of guards, armed with automatic rifles and pistols, later grew into the 'Škorpioni' (Scorpions) military unit attached to the Vukovar Corps of the Army of the Republic of Serb Krajina (RSK) under General Dušan Lončar. In 1995 the unit numbered about 500 men. The unit was twice ordered to assist military units fighting the Army of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) (in November 1994 near Bihać and in April 1995 near Velika Kladuša), as well as to help the Army of Republika Srpska (VRS) in the vicinity of the village of Trnovo in July 1995.

Regarding the execution of the six Bosniak civilians near the location called Godinjske bare on Mount Treskavica in July 1995, Medić denied any participation in and even knowledge of the incident on his part: '[...] I saw the excerpt [footage of the execution] on TV92, though I'd learned of it from Ms Nataša Kandić, she'd made accusations against me when I appeared as a witness at the trial of Saša Cvjetan. She made accusations to the effect that I'd committed some crime out there and all that, saying the locality was called Godinjske bare, that she was out to investigate the affair, that she had leads, that material evidence existed and that she was about to track it down.'

In connection with the subject-matter of the indictment, Medić said that he had been in the company at all times of his security Pera Petrašević and Aleksandar Medić, the co-accused in this trial, as well as of Slobodan Davidović (convicted in Croatia), and Milomir Momić (still at large).

**Victims Legal Representative notes:**

Under arrangements made by the HLC, the hearing was attended by eight victim family members from the Srebrenica Women's Association headquartered in Tuzla, as well as by Saidin Salkić, son of the victim Sidik, Sajma Salkić, sister of the victim Saib, and Smaila Ibrahimović, daughter of the victim Smail.

Humanitarian Law Center