

**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

**24 January 2006**

**Confrontation of Slobodan Medić and Aleksandar Medić**

- i) While Slobodan Medić adhered to the assertion that all those who worked at Đeletovci had contracts of employment, Aleksandar Medić insisted that no such contract existed, that he did not hand in a workbook because he had not worked before, and that he might have signed his name on an envelope or in a list in acknowledgement of the receipt of wages.
- ii) Looking Slobodan in the eye, Aleksandar reiterated that the orders were issued exclusively by commander Slobodan, who replied to this that there was a headquarters that made decisions.
- iii) Aleksandar reiterated that the radio link was functional whereas Slobodan insisted that it was not owing to eavesdropping and interference by the enemy side.
- iv) Slobodan insisted that he did not give the order for the execution; on the other hand, Aleksandar adhered to his assertion that while he was still in bed early on the day of the execution he heard the commander say, ‘Go and get Žara [Aleksandar]’, and that somewhat later, as he walked towards the lorry with the prisoners, he saw the commander sitting under a plum tree.
- v) Aleksandar said that Stojković had told him personally that the commander had ordered him to film the execution; Slobodan replied to this that he knew nothing of the execution at the time, adding that if he had known he would not have allowed it to be recorded.
- vi) Aleksandar said that on returning to the command post Petrašević informed the commander, who was still sitting under the plum tree, that the task had been carried out and that the ‘parcels’ had been ‘liquidated’, whereupon the commander addressed Aleksandar with the words, ‘You a tough guy now, Žara?’; Slobodan replied to this that Aleksandar was saying things he had been instructed to say.

In the end, Aleksandar challenged Slobodan to say who ordered him to liquidate the prisoners, a question Slobodan left unanswered.

### **Confrontation of Slobodan Medić and Aleksandar Vukov**

During their confrontation, Medić and Vukov adhered to the statements they had made earlier: Medić reiterated that decisions were taken according to military seniority and that company commanders, their deputies, platoon commanders and others made decisions within the scope of their competence; Vukov for his part maintained that commander Medić took every decision himself and that his word was law in all matters of the unit's operation, life and work.

The two accused were confronted to clarify the controversy whether Vukov was Medić's *de facto* or *de iure* deputy. Neither denied that during the commander's absence from the base at Deletovci Vukov acted as his deputy there. But while Vukov insisted that in the field at Trnovo he was merely the commander of the Reconnaissance Platoon and not the commander's deputy, Medić maintained that Vukov was his deputy there too.

### **Confrontation of Branislav Medić and Aleksandar Medić**

During this confrontation certain ambiguities were clarified, with both accused adhering to their earlier statements.

#### **Victims' Legal Representative notes:**

The hearing was attended by the following victim family members from Srebrenica: Nura Begović, Rejha Avdić, Naza Hasanović, Ešefa Alić, Refija Alić, Muzafer Ibrahimović, and Hajra Čatić.