

56. OVERVIEW OF RECORDED CRIMINAL OFFENCES AND MEASURES TAKEN IN THE TERRITORY OF KOSOVO AND METOHIJA FROM 1ST JULY 1998 TO 20TH JUNE 1999

9. King Petar the First Street bb, Leposavić, 15th April 1999, causing public danger under Article 187 of KZ RS

Causing public danger which is an offence under Article 187 of KZ RS took place on 20th April 1999. The perpetrator was Vulović Bojan (a member of the reserve force of the Yugoslav Army), who came from the village of Ostraće in Leposavić municipality.

A criminal complaint of 15th April 1999 the number of which was KU 11/99 was filed and submitted to the Office of military prosecutor in Priština.

10. Lipljan, the villages of Gornje /Slovinje/ and Donje Slovinje, 15th April 1999

On 15th April 1999, intelligence activities of the police resulted in obtaining information according to which there were mass graves in the villages of Gornje /Slovinje/ and Donje Slovinje in Lipljan municipality. Allegedly, around 35 bodies were buried in the mass graves and the buried people had most likely died in fighting between KLA and security forces which had taken place in that area.

The existence of the graves was confirmed after the information had been checked and authorities of the Yugoslav Army were informed accordingly. They disinterred 16 bodies, identified them, and turned them over to their relatives for funeral.

Even though searches had been conducted, the grave in Gornje Slovinje was never found.

We have no knowledge of any other actions that the Yugoslav Army might have undertaken.

The case file and pertinent documents were filed with the Office of the District Public Prosecutor in Priština.

11. Đakovica, 16th April 1999, rape under Article 103 of KZ RS

Several members of the Yugoslav Army raped Nezira Merlinde of the village of Bardonjić and Beriša Hasime of the village of Koserić. The incident occurred in the village of Crmljane on 16th April 1999 at around 1000 hours.

They took a sum of 3,130 DM in an unlawful way from the following people: Šefki Krasnići, Sejdi Krasnići, and Đulfedana Krasnići, all of whom came from the village of Vranovac, from Zoje Hisenaj, Škurta Hiseni, and Miruše Hisenaj, all of whom came from the village of Bradonjić, from Meme Krasnići from the village of Čelopek, Arif Kereči from the village of Kraljane, and from Kimeta Berišu of Čelopek.

These civilians requested that members of the Ministry of the Interior should give them protection.

The security authorities of the Army were notified of the incidents, as was the Staff of the Ministry of the Interior.

12. Rezalo, Srbica, 18th April 1999

According to information two members of the Yugoslav Army, captain Krsmanović and major Čorbić, supplied to the Secretariat of the Interior in Kosovska Mitrovica on 13th April 1999, several dozen bodies, between 30 and 40 of them, were lying nearby the village cemetery in the village of Rezalo. The bodies had been covered up by earth and rubble by members of the Yugoslav Army.

Investigating Magistrate Paunović Bogoljub of the District Court in Kosovska Mitrovica and authorised officers with the Secretariat of the Interior went to the crime scene on the same day. An investigation of the scene proved that nearby the village cemetery there was a deposit of earth, and after the first layer had been removed, human bodies were discovered. The aforementioned Investigating Magistrate refused to issue exhumation orders since damage might have been caused to the bodies.

Investigating Magistrate Miletić Blagoje of the District in Court in Kosovska Mitrovica and authorised officers went to the scene of the crime on 18th April 1999. After having examined the scene of the crime, they established that there were a large number of human bodies lying underneath the deposit of earth. The Investigating Magistrate refused to issue orders for exhumation of the bodies; instead, he issued orders that since the existing deposit was located at a water-worn gully, one more layer of

approximately 80 cm of earth be deposited over it. At the same time, he insisted with attending officers with the Yugoslav Army, namely with captain Krsmanović and major Čorbić, that investigative activities should be carried out by investigative authorities of the Army. Files containing findings of forensic investigation were compiled.

13. Lipljan, the villages of Malo Ribare and Mali Alaš, 18th/19th April 1999

Activities of the police had led to information that was obtained on 18th and 19th April 1999. According to the information, there were mass graves located in the villages of Malo Ribare and Mali Alaš in Lipljan municipality and approximately 45 bodies were buried in those graves. They belonged to people who had died during operations of VJ units.

After the information had been checked and confirmed, the competent authorities of the Yugoslav Army were informed of the incident. They disinterred and identified 25 bodies in Malo Ribare and 16 bodies in Mali Alaš.

The bodies were handed over to their relatives so that they could be given a burial.

We have no information about any other measures that VJ might have undertaken in this case.

14. Zubin Potok, 22nd April 2000, Arsenije Čarnojević's Street bb, murder under Article 47 of KZ RS

On 22nd April 1999, at around 2200 hours, Kasalović Dragan of the village of Zupče in Zubin Potok municipality, who served as a sergeant in the Yugoslav Army, fired shots from a 7.62-mm calibre automatic rifle and killed Biševac Mirko of Zubin Potok. Biševac was the owner of café "Hram" /Temple/ in which the murder occurred. At the same time, Kasalović inflicted bodily harm on Jakšić Dragoljub, Vukićević Zoran, Đurić Slaviša, Radojković Boban, Nešović Gordana, and Radomirović Snežana.

A criminal complaint KU 24/00 was filed against Kasalović Dragan because there were reasonable grounds to suspect that he had committed the offence of murder under Article 47, paragraph 2, item 3 of KZ RS. The criminal complaint was submitted to the Office of the District Public Prosecutor in Kosovska Mitrovica. Kasalović Dragan turned himself in to military authorities in Niš and he was remanded in custody there. The investigative authorities of the Army instituted criminal proceedings.

15. Obilić, 23rd April 1999, attempted robbery under Article 168 of KZ RS and offence under Article 23 of ZOJRM /Law on Public Law and Order/

Milenković Momir, who was a member of the reserve force of the Yugoslav Army, and three individuals of Albanian ethnic affiliation took 2,020.0 dinars and 200 DM from Gaši Muharem while threatening him with a knife.

The perpetrators were placed in detention.

A criminal complaint was filed and laid in the competent Prosecutor Office.

16. Peć, 26th April 1999, causing public danger under Article 187 of KZ RS

On 26th April 1999, several members of the Yugoslav Army discharged an automatic rifle in the direction of a building in which families Grujić, Martinović, Jekinić, etc. lived, and which was located in Rasadnik settlement. One projectile entered the bedroom of the Jekinić family. The perpetrator was identified as Novović Jovica, who was a soldier.

The Military Police were notified of the incident.

An official note PU 510/99 and a questionnaire that contained information related to the incident PU 2895/99 were referred to the Yugoslav Army. A report was submitted to the Ministry of the Interior.