



**Republic of Serbia  
Office of the War Crimes Prosecutor**

**HIGHER COURT IN BELGRADE  
WAR CRIMES DEPARTMENT**

30 April 2010

Pursuant to my authority under articles 46 (2.3), 265 (1) and 266 of the Criminal Procedure Act, and under articles 2 and 4 (2) Act on Organization and Competence of State Authorities in War Crimes Proceedings, I herein raise the

**INDICTMENT**

Against:

1. Sima BOGDANOVIĆ, aka „Sima četnik“, from Ruma, born on September 30th 1949, auto mechanic, graduated from a railway engineering college, person with disabilities, married, father of two adult children, citizen of the Republic of Serbia, completed compulsory military service, does not have military records, has the rank of a reserve non-commissioned officer, has prior convictions, now in custody pursuant to ruling of the Belgrade Appellate Court 's Chamber, ref. Kr.PO2-1/2010 from February 2nd 2010.

2. Damir BOGDANOVIĆ, from Ruma, born on March 12th 1972, completed primary school, taxi driver, married, father of two minors, citizen of the Republic of Serbia, completed compulsory military service, military records of Ruma, has prior convictions, now in custody pursuant to ruling of the Belgrade Appellate Court's Chamber, ref. Kr.PO2-1/2010 from February 2nd 2010.

3. Zoran STOJANOVIĆ, aka "Trcko", from Loznica, born on February 24th 1960, plumber, divorced, father of two adult children, citizen of the Republic of Serbia, completed compulsory military service, military records of Loznica, has prior convictions, now in custody pursuant to ruling of the Belgrade Appellate Court's Chamber, ref. Kr.PO2-1/2010 from February 2nd 2010.

4. Tomislav GAVRIĆ, aka "Gavra", from Šabac, born on January 8th 1966, graduated from Economic High school, economic technician, married, father of two minors,

citizen of the Republic of Serbia, completed compulsory military service, military records of Šabac, has prior convictions, now at liberty.

5. Đorđe ŠEVIC, from Ruma, born on November 17th 1972, completed primary school, auto mechanic, divorced, no children, citizen of the Republic of Serbia, released from compulsory military service, convicted for war crime against civilian population and now, accordingly, serving his prison sentence in Sremska Mitrovica correction facility, ending on October 24th 2017.

#### ALLEGATIONS AND CHARGES:

During the armed conflicts in the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which involved armed formations of Serbian, Muslim and Croatian peoples, from early 1992 to 1995, the accused were members of the Serbian party to the conflict. In the area of Zvornik they were in breach of the rules of international law under articles 3 (1.1a) and c) of the Geneva Conventions on Protection of Civilian Persons during War of August 12th 1949 (Geneva Convention IV), which was ratified by the Decision of the Peoples' Assembly of the Federal Peoples' Republic of Yugoslavia (FNRJ, "Official Gazette" no. 24/50), of the rules under article 4 (2.a) and (2.e) of the Additional Protocol to the Geneva Convention of August 8th 1949 on Protection of Victims of Non-international Armed Conflicts (Protocol II) by complying with the acts of others and acting on mutual agreement.

#### Events in the village of Skočić

In the afternoon of July 11th 1992, as members of a paramilitary group under the command of the accused Sima BOGDANOVIĆ, with unidentified soldiers known under the following names and nicknames: "Rajko", "Bogdan", "Daragana", "Tihi (Quiet)", "Jaza iz Rume (Jaza from Ruma)", "Lazić", "Žuti (Yellow)", "Radenko", "Džamaši", "Savkić", "Alić", "Bane", "Zoran iz Šapca (Zoran from Sabac)", "Slavica" they came in two vehicles to the village of Skočić, Zvornik municipality. After forceful emigration of Muslim population, only people of Serb and Roma ethnicities remained in the village.

-The accused firstly brought down the mosque in Skočić by setting explosives under the foundations of the mosque, thereby causing large-scale destruction of the property, unlawfully, willfully and without any military necessity.

-Subsequently they went into the part of the village where injured Roma parties lived and searched their homes, looking for money and valuables. They gathered all the victims, 27 of them – civilian persons, including women, children and adult men, in a house and yard belonging to Hamdija Ribić. The accused ordered them to surrender

their weapons and personal valuables. From the house of injured party Memed Raimi they seized a number items, including a telephone, coffee and etc. From injured party Hadžira they forcefully took a gold wedding ring off on her finger, threatening that to cut off her finger if she did take the ring off herself. From the injured party "Gamma" they seized gold earrings, pendants shaped as a cross and a horseshoe, and a ring from her finger. By acting in the above-described manner, they treated the victims inhumanely, depriving them of life necessities and gold jewelry, which had an emotional value.

-After they had spread out with their weapons over the house and yard, they hit and kicked a number of victims, with gun-butts and other objects, inflicting a large number of bodily injuries on some of the victims, and killing one person. That person was Arif Ribić, who was firstly beaten down to the ground, where upon a paramilitary shot him in the head, depriving him of life. Other member of the paramilitary group hit Bisera Aganović on the head with a gun-butt when she said in a crying voice: "Son, don't" after Arif's murder. She fainted from that blow to the head. Accused Zoran Stojanović hit injured party Esed Aganović on the head with a bicycle rim. -Afterwards, they ordered a number of male victims to take off their clothes and perform oral sex on each other, which they had to comply with. Among the victims were Muhamed and Esed Aganović (grandfather and grandson). By all of the foregoing acts, the accused treated their victims in an inhumane manner, insulting their human dignity and psychologically torturing them, having in mind that all the victims were close or distant relatives to each other.

- Then accused Sima Bogdanović cut off the penis of Esed Aganović, inflicting him with a heavy bodily injury, and then he took the protected female witness "Alfa" out of the house. He tied her arms with one end of a belt and tied its other end to the fence.

He took her clothes off and than raped a tied-up victim. After that, he tried to take her two gold teeth out with a bender. Acting in that manner, he tortured her physically and psychologically.

- Meanwhile, unidentified members of this paramilitary group took two under age female victims/protected witnesses, "Beta" and "Gamma", to a nearby house and raped them. A soldier named "Bogdan" raped "Beta", whereupon a few other members of the group did the same, and a soldier named "Tihi (Quiet)" raped the "Gamma" under a gun threat.

- After all this, they ordered the victims into a cargo trunk of a truck, dumped the body of Arif Ribić inside as well, and then left for the village of Malešić.

## Events in the village of Malešić

a) On arrival in Malešić in vehicles, on the same evening of July 11th 1992, this paramilitary group, under the command of accused Sima Bogdanović, separated victims/protected witnesses "Alfa", "Beta" and "Gamma" from the group of imprisoned civilians, ordering them out of the cargo truck. When "Beta" refused to do so, accused Zoran Stojanović threatened: "Get out or I'll shoot you". Then all the three female victims got out of the vehicle together with two or three unidentified soldiers of this group, who were to prevent them from escaping. Other members of this paramilitary group under the command of accused Sima Bogdanović, including all of the accused and other unidentified soldiers, drove other victims, under the disguise of the dark, to a pit in the "Hamzići" neighborhood (most probably dug out earlier for the purpose of sand extraction). There they took the victims out of the vehicle one by one, killed them with firearms and knives and threw the bodies into the pit. In this place they killed a total of 22 civilians: Muška Ferhatović called "Bisera", Zumra Bajrić, Džemila Bajrić, Hadžira Nuhanović, Mehmed Aganović, Bisera Aganović, Zekira Aganović, Esefa Aganović, Esed Aganović, Beriz Aganović, Mirzet Aganović, Serifa Aganović, Biber Ribić, Sarajka Ribić, Semso Ribić, Ismet Ribić, Sefika Ribić (visibly pregnant), Zlatija Ribić (raped before execution), Mehmed Ribić, Rahima Ribić, Arif Nuhanović and Ziba Nuhanović.

b) They wounded one person, Zija Ribić, minor at the time, born on February 16th 1984, who coincidentally survived. Before he was taken out of the truck and taken to the pit, the victim asked to go to his mother, and they responded: "You will go to your mother now". They threw him in the pit after shooting and hitting him with a knife. b) During a few months' period, starting from July 11th 1992, this paramilitary group under the command of accused Sima Bogdanović, including all of the accused and other unidentified soldiers, held victims/protected witnesses "Alfa", "Beta" and "Gamma" unlawfully imprisoned in the houses in Malešić, known as the "white house", "uncle's house" and "yellow house". The victims were under orders to wash clothes, clean the houses, prepare food, as well as to satisfy the paramilitaries sexually. They were beaten many times and brutalized sexually, which all the victims had to comply with.

On the night of their arrival in Malešić, all three female victims were raped. "Alfa" was raped by unidentified members of this group known as "Radenko" and "Lazić"; "Beta" by accused Zoran Stojanović, and "Gamma" by unidentified members by the names of "Rajko" and "Beli (White)". In the next few days and throughout all of the time they spent in Malešić, all three females were sexually abused on a daily basis and repeatedly raped by a number of members of this paramilitary group. "Alfa" was raped, beaten and sexually brutalized by accused Zoran Stojanović and persons named "Radenko", "Rajko" and "Lazić"; "Beta" was raped, beaten and sexually brutalized by accused Zoran Stojanović, Sima Bogdanović (who threatened her not to

tell his wife about the rape, or he would kill her), Đorđe Šević and persons named "Alić", "Dejan", "Rajo", "Savkić"; "Gamma" was raped, beaten and sexually brutalized by accused Zoran Stojanović, and persons by the nicknames of "Žuti (Yellow)" and "Jazo", who made her take off her clothes and dance naked on a table. When all of the five accused and other unidentified members of this paramilitary group returned from the site called "Hamzići", all of the three female witnesses had to wash their bloodstained uniforms. In this way, they tortured them psychologically and treated them inhumanely, having in mind that the bloodstained clothes were a reminder of the deaths of their closest relatives.

#### Events in the villages of Klisa, Petkovci and Drinjača

In late 1992, a paramilitary group under the command of accused Sima Bogdanović, including all of the accused, firstly went to the village of Klisa, and then to the villages of Petkovci and Drinjača. They forcefully took with them "Alfa", "Beta" and "Gama", who were unlawfully imprisoned and treated inhumanely. All the time the victims had to wash their clothes, clean houses and other facilities where they were staying and prepare food. Protected witness "Beta" had to spend most of her time with a person named "Dejan", who had just arrived then and joined this paramilitary group and who continuously raped her. "Gamma" had to spend most of her time with accused Zoran Stojanović, who constantly raped her and departing from Klisa eventually took her to Serbia. She only managed to escape him on March 3rd 2007. The accused, Sima Bogdanović, Damir Bogdanović, Tomislav Gavrić and Đorđe Šević, with other unidentified members of this paramilitary group left the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina on January 7th 1993. On that occasion, a soldier named "Dejan" took "Beta" to Serbia.

- By the above described conduct they committed the criminal offence, recognized by article 142 (1) related to article 22 (war crime against the civilian population) of the Criminal Code of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Therefore,

#### I P R O P O S E

That a trial be scheduled and held before the Higher Court in Belgrade – War Crimes Department, in view of its subject matter and territorial jurisdiction, whereto the following should be summoned:

1. War Crimes Prosecutor from Belgrade
2. Victims/protected witnesses

3. The accused: Sima Bogdanović called "Sima četnik", Damir Bogdanović, Zoran Stojanović called "Trcko", Tomislav Gavrić called "Gavra" and Đorđe Šević.

4. Witnesses:

5. I further propose that the following documents be read out as evidence:

- Records on witness hearing from the Cantonal Prosecutor's Office of Tuzla Canton ref. KTA-RZ-15/06.,
- "The list of missing Roma persons from village Skočić from July 11th 1992", "The list missing inhabitants of Skočić neighborhood" – an evidentiary item from the case file of the BH Prosecutor's Office, ref. KTA-RZ-60/06, "The list of Skočić villagers missing from war on July 11th 1992" made by Roma Association "Roma Brothers Skočić",
- Official record of the State Investigation and Protection Agency of the Regional Office Tuzla with photo documentation,
- Records from the birth records (...),
- Permission for the burial of the deceased (...),
- Confirmation of the Refugees Service on the name of (...),
- Discharge papers from Zvornik hospital on the name of (...), discharge papers from „Dr. Simo Milosevic“ Institute in Igalo, on the name of (...),
- Hospital referrals (...),
- Medical records (...).

6. Findings and the opinion of a court expert

7. Transcripts from the investigation files of the Higher Court in Belgrade, War Crimes

Department, ref. Ki.V. br.4/09 of the victims/ protected witnesses heard before this Court.

8. To be obtained for the trial and read out the death certificates of the Clinical University Centre Tuzla for the following persons: Muška Ferhatović called "Bisera", Zumra Bajrić, Džemila Bajrić, Hadžira Hunanović, Mehmed Aganović, Bisera

Aganović, Zekira Aganović, Esefa Aganović, Esed Aganović, Beriz Aganović, Mirzet Aganović, Šerifa Aganović, Biber Ribić, Sarajka Ribić, Šemso Ribić, Ismet Ribić, Sefika Ribić, Zlatija Ribić, Mehmed Ribić, Rahima Ribić, Arif Nuhanović and Ziba Nuhanović.

I further prose that:

9. The insight should be made into the criminal records of all the accused.

10. At the trial, insight should be made into two photographs, one depicting 12, and the other 21 persons in uniforms.

11. Detention on remand for the accused: Sima Bogdanović, Damir Bogdanović and Zoran Stojanović, pursuant to articles 142 (3.1 and .5) of the Criminal Procedure Act. Upon the trial completion, I invite the Court to find the accused guilty, sentence them according to the law and impose on them the obligation to pay the cost of the criminal proceeding.

WAR CRIMES PROSECUTOR  
*Vladimir Vukčević*