



**Republic of Serbia
OFFICE OF THE WAR CRIMES
PROSECUTOR**

Reference: KTO no. 05/16
Belgrade, 26 May 2016

SS/NV

**HIGHER COURT IN BELGRADE
War Crimes Department**

BELGRADE

Pursuant to my authority under article 47 (1) of the *Act on International Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters*, I hereby **conform** the indictment in this case – originally raised by the Una-Sana Cantonal Prosecutor's Office in Bihać, BH (reference: T01 0 KTRZ 0019641 14, dated 29 June 2015) and confirmed before the BH court – to the laws of the Republic of Serbia. Further, pursuant to my authority under articles: 43 (2.5), 331 (1, 2) and 332 of the *Criminal Procedure Code*; and under articles 3 and 4 (1) of the *Act on the Organization and Competence of Government Authorities in War Crimes Proceedings*, I raise this

INDICTMENT

Against AA

Personal details:

Daughter of ... and ... née ...
Place / date of birth: ...
Citizen identity number: ...
Current residence: ...
Country of citizenship: ...
Educational background / occupation: ...

Background and allegations:

In the period from April 1992 to December 1995, which covers the time relevant to this indictment, an armed conflict existed in the territory of Bosnia-Herzegovina (BH). Parties to the conflict were the Republic of Srpska's Army (VRS) and Police on one side, and BH Army and Police on the other. As a member of the VRS Petrovac Brigade, the accused, AA, committed grave breaches of international law, as envisaged by the following acts and provisions:

(a) Article 3, *Geneva Convention on the Treatment of Prisoners of War* of 12 August 1949 (*Geneva Convention III – FNTY Official Gazette no. 24/50*); and

(b) Article 4 (2.a) and (2.e) in re (1), *Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, Relative to the Protection of Victims of Noninternational Armed Conflicts (Protocol II – SFRY Official Gazette – International Contracts, no. 16/78)*.

a) Torture, inhumane treatment, infliction of great suffering and injury to bodily integrity

In mid-July 1992, VRS forces were present in village Radić, municipal area of Bosanska Krupa. They captured BB, a nurse previously wounded in the head and leg, who was a member of the Ključ-Sana Company – part of the then Una-Sana Operational Group within the 5th Corps of the BH Army. BB was subsequently handed over to the Petrovac Women's Front, a group operating within the VRS Petrovac Brigade, at the time headed by AA, who held the rank of captain, and also including AB and AV. The group took BB to a valley near the Radić school, where a large number of villagers had been assembled. AA ordered BB to strip naked and crawl along the ground, which caused the victim multiple laceration injuries all over the body. AA then forced BB to dig a grave for herself, and stabbed the victim with blackthorn branches between her legs all the while. At one point, AB and AV joined the campaign. They started beating BB with hazel sticks and continued doing so until the sticks were broken. Then AV used a knife to cut off BB's hair and carve a cross in her head, and proceeded by carving another one along the victim's back, which caused her heavy bleeding. AB then took the knife from AV and slashed the lower part of BB's ear, which resulted in further bleeding. Finally, the accused, AA, ordered BB to sing Serbian songs and bend down. As she kicked BB down with her boot, AA forced the victim's head into cow dung and used a shovel to hit her on the backside.

b) Participation in killing

In subsequence, AA, AB and AV- at that point joined by AG, a minor born ... – took BB to another valley, which was 70 metres away from the aforementioned site. Upon arrival, BB was ordered to dig another grave for herself, but as she was too weak to do so due to the torture she had suffered, AG dug a hole and ordered the victim to step inside and lie down on her back, which she duly did. AG opened fire from his automatic rifle and discharged between 5 and 7 bullets into the victim's chest and stomach. BB succumbed to the injuries and died on the spot.

By engaging in the above described conduct, the accused, AA, committed the criminal offence under article 144 (war crime against prisoners of war) of the FRY Criminal Act.

Snežana Stanojković
Deputy War Crimes Prosecutor