



Republic of Serbia
OFFICE OF THE WAR CRIMES
PROSECUTOR

Reference: KTO no. 1/17
Belgrade, 03 March 2017
BV/TD

HIGHER COURT IN BELGRADE
War Crimes Department

Pursuant to my authority under articles: 43 (2.5), 331 (1) and 332 of the Criminal Procedure Code; 3 and 4 of the Act on the Organization and Competence of Government Authorities in War Crimes Proceedings; and in line with article 47 (1) of the Act on International Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, I raise this

INDICTMENT

Against AA,

Personal details:

Son of AB and AV née ...
Citizen identity number: ...
Date/place of birth: ...
Current residence: ...
Country of citizenship: ...
Educational background: ...
Occupation: ...
Previous convictions: none.

Background facts:

In the period between 1992 and 1995, an internal (non-international) armed conflict existed in the territory of Bosnia-Herzegovina. Parties to the conflict were Serb, Bosniak and Croat armed forces. Hostilities under way at the time relevant to this indictment involved the military and police forces of the BH Serbian Republic (subsequently renamed Republic of Srpska) on one side and the BH Army on the other.

As a reserve police officer of the BH Serbian Republic's Ministry of the Interior, at the time serving in the Police Department Lušci Palanka – part of the Public Security Service Sanski Most, the accused, AA, aided and abetted by Police Department commander AG (now deceased), as well as by other unidentified civil and military

police officers, engaged in unlawful arrests and detention, torture and inhumane treatment of local Bosniak civilians, causing them great suffering and injuries to health and bodily integrity, and took the life of one civilian, whereby he committed serious breaches of international law, recognized by the following acts and provisions:

- Article 3 (1.a, 1.c) of the Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (Geneva Convention IV), adopted on 12 August 1949 and ratified by the FPRY National Assembly (FPRY Official Gazette, no. 24/50); and
- Articles 4 (1, 2.a, 2.c) and 13 (2, 3) of the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions on the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II).

Charges:

Throughout June and July 1992, in the neighbourhoods of Modra, Skucani Vakuf, Naprelje, Lukavica and other villages in the broader area of Sanski Most, the accused, AA, forcibly removed non-Serb civilians from their homes and unlawfully confined them in the building of the Simo Miljuš Memorial Museum in Lušci Palanka, municipality Sanski Most, which was guarded by the local Police Department staff. Both inside the facility and during interrogations on the nearby Police Department premises, AA submitted the captives to severe beatings in order to extort information about arms in their possession and other details regarding the involvement of the local civilian population in the alleged organization of resistance to the Serbian army. Among the victims who got kicked and beaten with all manner of weapons including batons, rifle butts or barrels and other objects, were the following: AD, AĐ, AE, AŽ, AZ, AI, AJ, AK, AL, ALJ, AM, AN, ANJ, AO, AP and other captured civilians. Some of them first got their legs or arms tied with lengths of rope to a chair or a ceiling girder and then beaten until they were unable to move. Among those subjected to such mistreatment was AD, whom the accused, AA, forced to cross himself, crawl along the floor, kiss the torturer's army boots and perform similar offensive and humiliating acts intended to cause the victim great suffering and injuries to his health and bodily integrity. As a result of such abuse, AD died in the prison facility.

By his engagement in the foregoing acts, the accused, AA, committed the criminal offence under article 142 (1) (war crime against civilian population) in re article 22 of the FRY Criminal Act.

Bruno Vekarić
Deputy War Crimes Prosecutor