



Ref. no. KTO-4/2017 Belgrade, 26 December 2017 MP/JZ

## HIGHER COURT IN BELGRADE War Crimes Department

## <u>BELGRADE</u>

In compliance with article 47 (1) of the *Act on International Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters*, I hereby **conform** the BH Prosecutor's confirmed indictment (no. T20 0 KTRZ0006572 13, dated 31 December 2013), to the laws of the Republic of Serbia as follows:

Pursuant to my authority under articles 43 (2.5), 331 (1) and (2), and 332 of the *Code of Criminal Procedure*; and 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 the accused:

 AA, son of AB and AV; place / date of birth: ...; current address: ...; citizen identity number: ...; ID card number: ..., issued on..., by ...; educational background: ...; country of citizenship: ...; no previous convictions; not remanded in custody for this criminal offence,

and

2. AG, son of AD and AĐ; place / date of birth: ...; current address: ...; citizen identity number: ...; ID card number: ..., issued on... by ...; educational

background: ...; country of citizenship: ...; no previous convictions; not remanded in custody for this criminal offence

## Background and allegations:

In the period between 1992 and 1995, an armed conflict existed in the territory of Bosnia-Herzegovina (BH). Parties to the conflict were armed forces of the Serbian, Bosniak and Croatian ethnic communities. At the time relevant to this indictment, the accused, AA and AG, acting as soldiers of the Republic of Srpska's Army, committed serious breaches of international law, as envisaged by articles 3 (1.a) and 147 of the *Fourth Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War*, adopted on 12 August 1949 (Ratified by the FPRY National Assembly, *FPRY Official Gazette* no. 24/50).

In the afternoon of an unidentified day in the former part of August 1992, the events relevant to this indictment took place in the building of Elementary School Petar Kočić in the area of Bosanska Krupa, BH. The accused, AG, at the time member of the 11th Krupa Light Infantry Brigade, discharged the duty of a guard in the military prison operating inside the school building. The inmates were Bosniak civilians from the municipal areas of Bosanska Krupa, Sanski Most and Bihać. While his duty as the prison guard was to protect the confined civilians and prevent unauthorized entry to the prison premises, the accused, AG, failed to do so. Having unlocked the front door with a key confided to his safekeeping, he enabled the accused, AA, at the time member of the Republic of Srpska's Army, to enter the school building. Armed with an automatic rifle, AA first searched around the prison for AE, the prisoner who had killed AA's mother AV several days earlier. As AE had already been transferred to a detention unit in Bania Luka and was therefore unavailable, the accused, AG, went on to unlock and open the door of another room where Bosniak civilians - members of the so-called Joks group – were held. As he did so, the accused, AG, was aware of the intention of his co-accused, AA, to torture and possibly kill those inside. Indeed, as soon as he stepped through the doorway, AA opened fire on the inmates, killing ten in the process. The names of those killed are as follows: AZ, AI, AJ, AK, AL, ALJ, AM, AN, ANJ and AO. By allowing him access to the room, AG consciously enabled and helped AA to commit the killings. The two then proceeded together to another room where more Bosniak civilans were confined. Having unlocked and opened the room door, AG called inmate AP to step out. As AP did so, AA took him to the school gym. AA first asked AP why he had stopped his uncle AR, and then took the inmate's life with shots from his automatic rifle. By acting in the above-described manner, the accused, AG, consciously enabled the co-accused, AA, to kill AP, assisting him in the process. Finally, the accused, AG, allowed the co-accused, AA, an undisturbed departure from the prison premises and from the school building. In the evening of the same day, AG had the killed civilians' bodies removed from the school building and driven away. In 2006, those bodies were found and recovered from Zvečarka, a natural pit in the area of Lušci Palanka, municipality Sanski Most.

By engaging in the foregoing acts, the accused, AG and AA, committed the criminal offence under article 142 (1) (war crime against civilian population) of the *FRY Criminal Act*. Additionally, the accused, AG, is responsible in re article 24 (acting as accessory) of the *FRY Criminal Act*.

Milan Petrović Deputy War Crimes Prosecutor