



Republic of Serbia
Office of the War Crimes Prosecutor
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INVESTIGATION LAUNCHED AGAINST FIVE SUSPECTS IN BELI MANASTIR CASE

Upon an order issued by the Serbian War Crimes Prosecutor, officers of the Serbian Ministry of the Interior (MUP) have arrested four out of a total of five individuals suspected of committing a war crime against civilian population in the area of Beli Manastir (Croatia), in the latter part of 1991. The Prosecutor has proposed that detention be ruled for all the suspects, including the one who is still at large.

In a motion filed with the investigative judge of the Belgrade District Court's War Crimes Chamber, the Serbian War Crimes Prosecutor has requested investigation against five Serbian citizens, former local police officers in Beli Manastir and members of the Special Police Unit - part of the armed police force of the so-called Serbian Autonomous Area (SAO) of Eastern Slavonija, Baranja and Western Srem. In addition to murders of at least six non-Serb civilians, these individuals are suspected of a number of other criminal acts, including unlawful arrests, injuries to bodily integrity, intimidation, terror, torture and inhumane treatment.

In 2008, the Croatian State Prosecutor referred this criminal case - originally addressed by the District Court in Osijek (Croatia) - to the competence of the Serbian War Crimes Prosecutor, pursuant to the Agreement on Cooperation in Prosecuting Perpetrators of War Crimes, Crimes against Humanity and Genocide, which was concluded between the two Prosecutors in October 2006.