

Reference: KTO no. 8/18 Belgrade, 27 November 2018

OĐ/JZ

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 0015446 13, dated 05 June 2018) and confirmed before the BH court – to the laws of the Republic of Serbia. Further, pursuant to my authority under articles: 43 (2.5) and 331 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 a.k.a. ...,

Personal details:

Son of ... and ... née ...
Place / date of birth: ...
Citizen identity number: ...
Registered address: ...
Country of citizenship: ...

Educational background / occupation: ...

Criminal record: no reference to his name in any proceedings currently conducted for another criminal offence; released pending trial

In view of the existence of reasonable grounds for suspicion that he engaged in the acts described below.

Background and allegations:

In the period from 1992 to 1995, which covers the time relevant to this indictment, an armed conflict between forces of the Serb, Bosniak and Croat communities existed in the territory of Bosnia-Herzegovina (BH).

As a member of the BH Serbian Republic's Army (later renamed the Republic of Srpska's Army), Military Post 3753, the accused, AA, committed grave breaches of international law, specifically of the following acts and provisions:

- (a) Article 3 (1), Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949 (Geneva Convention IV); and
- (b) Article 4 (1) and (2.a), *Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, Relative to the Protection of Victims of Noninternational Armed Conflicts* (*Protocol II*).

In late May 1992, groups of the BH Serbian Republic's Police and Army arrested a large number of Bosniak male civilians from Velagići, Pudin Han, Sanica, Krasulje and several other villages in the Ključ area. The captives – among whom were BB, VV, GG,ĐĐ and EE – were then transferred to the premises of *Nikola Mačkić* Elementary School in Ključ. The accused, AA, who was present in the school building, submitted the captives to a campaign of physical torture, which included severe beating with hands, batons and other objects all over the body, as well as kicking with army boots. As he approached DD, the accused put a knife under the victim's throat threatening to butcher him. Overcome with terror, BB and ĐĐ lost consciousness several times. As they regained consciousness, the accused, AA, would proceed with his torture and humiliation campaign, which persisted throughout the whole day. In subsequence, the victims were loaded into buses and driven to the detention camp in village Sitnica, in the area of Ključ. In one of the buses was BB, who had been carried inside by other captives as he was unable to walk on his own due to the physical torture he had suffered. The accused, AA, approached the victim with a baton and beat him again all over the body. As the victim tried to take shelter under a bus seat, the accused produced his knife and stabbed the victim in the back, thereby causing him heavy bleeding, as well as great physical and mental suffering.

By engaging in the foregoing acts against civilian persons, specifically in the inhumane treatment which caused the victims intense suffering and injuries to their health and bodily integrity, the accused, AA, committed the criminal offence under article 142 (1) (war crime against civilian population) of the FRY Criminal Act.

Ognjen Đukić Deputy War Crimes Prosecutor