



Republic of Serbia  
OFFICE OF THE WAR CRIMES  
PROSECUTOR  
Ref. KTRZ.No.8/07

Belgrade, 14 March 2008

**DISTRICT COURT IN BELGRADE  
- War Crimes Chamber**

**Belgrade**

Pursuant to my authority under articles 46 (2.3), 256 (1) and 266 of the *Code of Criminal Procedure*, re articles 3 and 4 (2) of the Act on the Organisation and Competence of Government Authorities in War Crimes Proceedings, I hereby raise this

**INDICTMENT**

Against

**1 AA**

Personal details:

Son of ... and ...

Place and date of birth: ...

Educational background: ...

Occupation: ...

Country of citizenship: ...

**2 AB**

Personal details:

Son of ... and ...

Place and date of birth: ...

Educational background: ...

Occupation: ...

Country of citizenship: ...

**Background facts and general allegations:**

In the period between early 1992 and 1995, an armed conflict existed in the territory of Bosnia-Herzegovina (BH), at the time part of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRJ). Parties to the conflict were armed groups of Serbs,

Muslims and Croats. As members of the Serbian armed groups, **AA** and **AB** engaged in the hostilities in the area of Zvornik, where they committed grave breaches of the rules of international law recognised by the following acts and provisions:

- Article 3 (1.1.a) of the Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949, relating to the protection of civilians in time of war (*Geneva Convention IV*), which was ratified by the Assembly of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia (*FNJR Official Gazette* No. 24/50); and
- Article 4 (1, 2.a) of the Protocol Additional to Geneva Convention IV (*Protocol II*), relating to the protection of victims of noninternational armed conflicts.

### **Charges:**

#### **I**

#### **AA: Crimes at the Ekonomija farm**

**In the period between 5 and 12 May 1992**, among other Muslim civilians imprisoned in the slaughterhouse at the Ekonomija farm in Zvornik were the following: AV; protected witness »U«; protected witness »4«; AG; AD; AĐ; protected witness »Beta«; protected witness »T«; AE; AŽ; protected witness »F«; AZ; AI; AJ; AK; AL; and ALj. Acting as a volunteer in the so-called Pivarski's unit – part of the Zvornik territorial defence force (TO), **AA** committed serious breaches of *Geneva Convention IV* – Article 3 (1.1), and *Protocol II* – Article 4 (1, 2.a and 2.g).

a) **On 5 May 1992**, **AA** made an unauthorised entry into one of the farm facilities, where a group of twelve Muslim civilians were detained. AA was accompanied by three other members of Pivarski's unit, namely AM and AN (proceedings against the two are under way in separate case K.V.5/05), and the individual known under the nickname of ANj. In a joint and synchronised action, **AA** and his accomplices engaged in a beating campaign against the inmates, using all manner of objects including water pipes, wooden batons, lengths of electric cable etc. A number of still unidentified victims suffered massive bodily injuries in the process.

b) **On an unidentified day within the aforementioned period of time**, **AA** arrived at the Ekonomija farm accompanied by other two TO members, namely AO and aka ANj. The three entered the building where the victims were confined and pulled one of the prisoners, a Muslim from village Janja, out of the building for interrogation. At one point during the interrogation, the victim seized the opportunity and took flight. In a momentary response, **AA** ran after the fugitive, closed in on him after around a hundred metres and killed him by a gunshot.

c) **On 12 May 1992**, **AA** and AM entered the slaughterhouse at Ekonomija. Having ordered inmate AJ to come closer, **AA** and AM severely beat the victim and robbed him of a gold chain. While AM was interrogating the victim beating and kicking him all along, **AA** was standing nearby with a rifle in his hands. At one

point, **AA** used the barrel top to remove the gold chain from the victim's neck and said: »You won't need this any longer.« By acting in the above described manner, **AA** and **AM** inflicted serious bodily injuries on the victim until he was unable to move.

## **II**

### **AA and AB: Crimes at the Brickyard:**

**In the period between 12 May and early July 1992**, twenty-two civilian persons were transferred from Ekonomija to the site named Ciglana (Brickyard) in Zvornik, where they got subjected to forced labour. In their capacity as TO volunteers and members of Pivarski's unit, **AA** and **AB** acted at all relevant times as guards at the Brickyard.

a) On a number of occasions **throughout the aforementioned period**, aided and abetted by **AM** and **AN** (criminal proceedings against the two are under way in case K.V. No.5/05), as well as by aka **ANj**, **AA** and **AB** subjected the Brickyard inmates to inhumane treatment. They pulled various groups of prisoners out of the facility and forced them to plunder abandoned Muslim and Serb homes in the Zvornik area. Groups of prisoners were commonly transferred in vans to the houses targeted for plunder. After receiving instructions as to what they should seize, the prisoners would take the loot out of the houses and load them onto the van. Meanwhile, **AA**, **AB** and their accomplices were watching from a close distance, under arms and ready to prevent any escape attempts. Aided and abetted by **AM**, **AN** and aka **ANj**, **AA** and **AB** would eventually load the spoils – including cupboards, TV sets, refrigerators and other household items – on trucks and dispatch them to Serbia under cover of the Brickyard products.

**b) On an unidentified day, most probably 26 or 27 June 1992**, **AA**, **AB** and aka **ANj** entered the area inside the Brickyard compound which housed Muslims condemned to forced labour. In a joint and wilful action, the three engaged in a campaign of terror which resulted in one inmate being killed and another gravely injured. The very presence of the attackers equipped with firearms suggested that any resistance would be pointless. Inmate **AŽ** was first taken into a separate room, where aka **ANj** took his accomplices' knives and slit the victim's throat. As **AŽ** bled to death, **AA** and **AB** commented on the scene saying: »Look at this fool, he's killed the man with a blunt knife!«. Shortly afterwards, aka **ANj** fetched **AO** from the common room and used the same knife to cut out a tattoo from his arm.

**By their engagement in the above described conduct, AA and AB committed the criminal offence recognised by article 142 (1) (war crime against civilian population) re article 22 of the SFRJ Criminal Act.**

**Vladimir Vukčević**  
**War Crimes Prosecutor**

