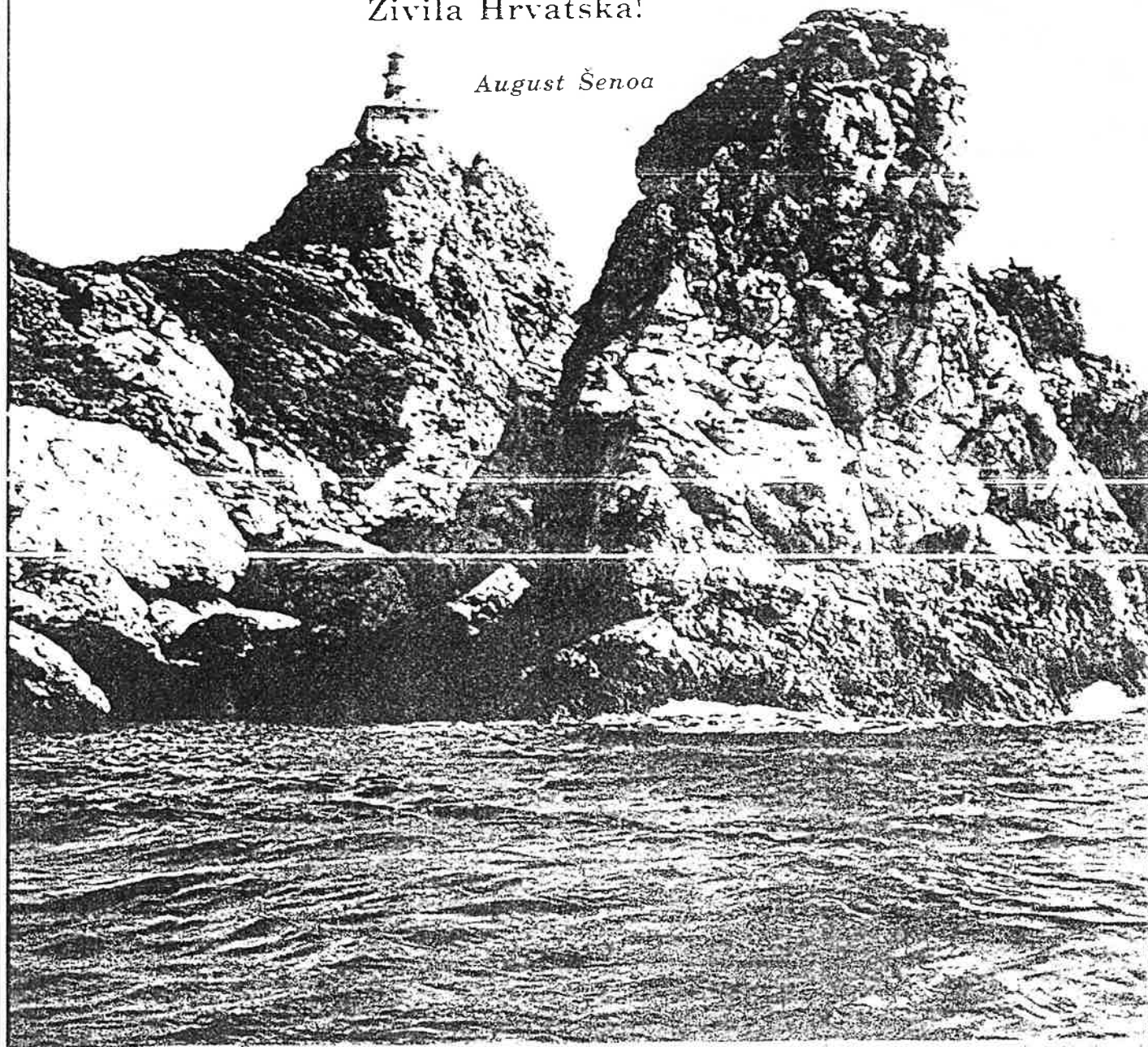


HRVATSKA PJESMA

Glasna, jasna od pameti
Preko dola, preko gora
Hrvatska nam pjesma leti
Sve do sinjeg tamo mora;
Časak meka,
Čas ko grom:
Vječna jeka
Za naš dom;
Davor oj,
Brate moj!
Nek se slože grla bratska:
Živila Hrvatska!

August Šenoa



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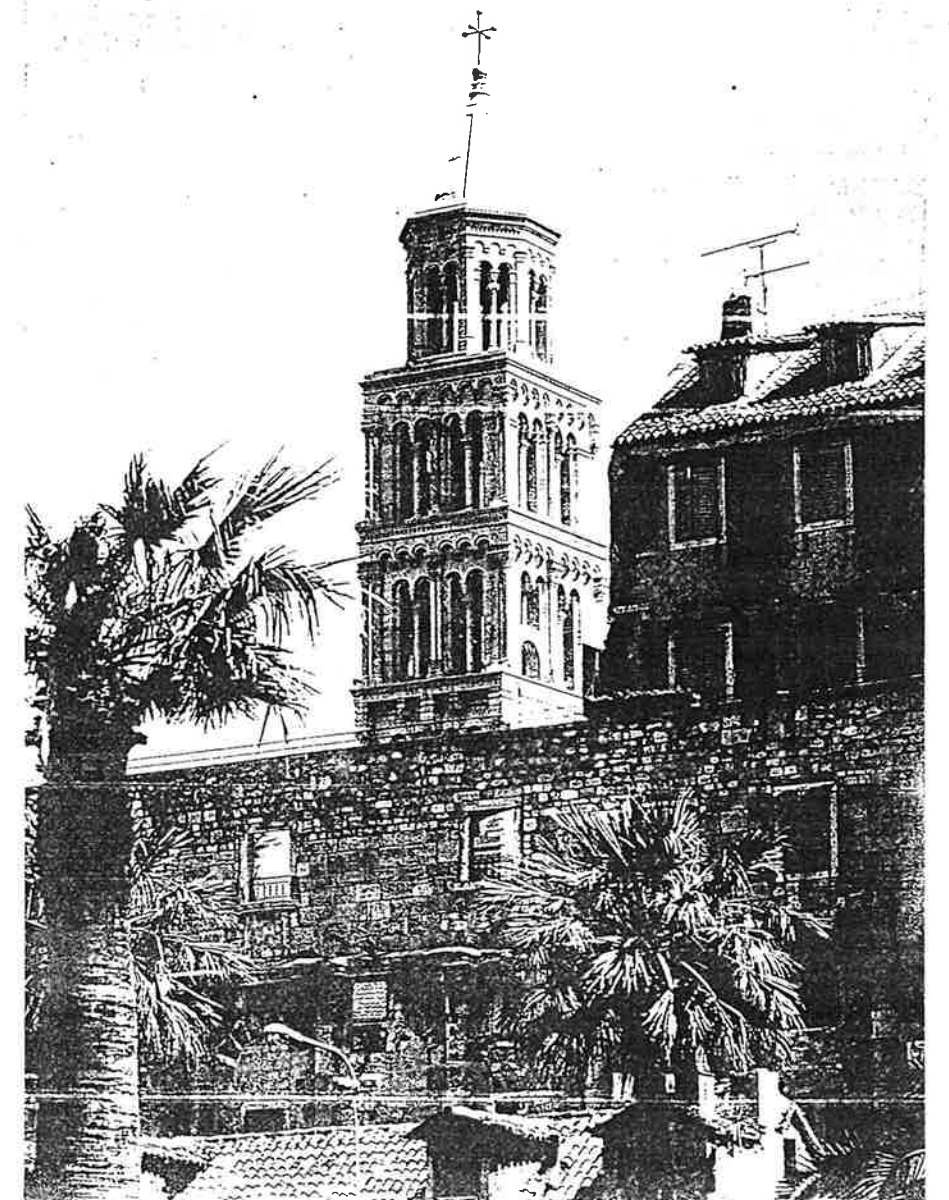
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tiskali nama toliko potrebne
novine sa vijestima iz Toronta i
okolice, vijesti iz svijeta i
Hrvatske;
i druge kulturne
i sportske vijesti.



Urednica piše :

Vi, dragi čitatelji, vidite sve - čak i ono što ja mislim da se ne vidi. Neki od Vas su me nazvali i rekli da su primjetili da sam gotovo sama pripremila br. 14 HRVATSKE ISKRE. To je istina, i moram se ispričati suradnicima čiji materijali su čekali na tisak, a eto nisu ušli u zadnji izbor. Oprostite !

Danas ćete primjetiti da nas dosta surađuje u ovom 15. broju HRVATSKE ISKRE. Imamo čak i novu dopisnicu - vukovarčanku, moju dobru prijateljicu gđju. Željku Zgonjanin. Ja osobito cijenim njen prilog, jer teško je pisati onima koji su prošli kroz pakao Vukovara. Moja Željka je unatoč Vukovaru i paklu kroz koji je prošla, ostala ista kao i prije - topla, jednostavna, dobra. Kroz njene dopise ćemo redovno slušati o tome kako žive i rade obični vukovarci, koji su smogli snage da se vrate, da Vukovar nije bio uzalud branjen.

Ovaj broj sastavljen je od raznih materijala, od mnogih dopisnika i članaka koji bi mogli biti interesantni za sve Vas. Iskoristit ću priliku da se zahvalim svima, koji su pomogli da ovaj broj izađe - Dr. Darku Desatyju, Eliani Trinaestic, Martinu Latinčicu, Željki Zgonjanin, hrvatskom konzulatu, Vama mnogima koji su mi govorili o događajima naše zajednice, dežurnom "čitaču" (grešaka), čak i onima iz Hrvatske koji su pomogli, i jasno, ing. Slavku Butkovicu na velikoj pomoći. Gdje bi mi bili da svih Vas nema?

Još jedna obavijest - spremamo se da osnujemo redakciju HRVATSKE ISKRE. Pozivamo sve, koji se žele pridružiti radu da mi se jave, pa ćemo malo razgovarati. Ja sam uvijek vjerovala u onu "puno ljudi, puno zna - i puno bolje sve napravi!".

I na kraju, HRVATSKA ISKRA je tiskana dan prije povratka vel. Gjurana u domovinu, pa nemamo izvještaja sa aerodroma. To će biti u idućem broju, a sada želimo sve najbolje vel. Gjuranu, i sretan boravak u domovini. Prilažem njegovu vizit-karticu sa adresom - javite se karticom ili posjetite ga kad dodete u Zagreb. Od moje obitelji, i mene osobno, hvala Vam, velečasni na svemu i sve najbolje !

Još malo informacija - radimo na promjeni izgleda prve strane HRVATSKE ISKRE. Svjesni smo da bi kvaliteta slika trebala biti puno bolja, ali sve dok nemamo dovoljno financijskih sredstava, moramo ovako. Jasno, kad bi više ljudi oglašavalo, bilo bi lakše, no biti će i toga. Moramo vjerovati u ono što radimo, i tu ću parafrazirati našu novu dopisnicu, Željku Zgonjanin- "Ako nešto uporno i od sveg srca želiš i radiš na ostvarenju tog sna - gotovo je sigurno da ćeš taj san i ostvariti." HRVATSKA ISKRA je ostvareni san pokojnoga ing. Mekinde, ali i moj, a čini mi se i Vaš. Hvala Vam na svemu,

Valentina

ŠPORT

Svjetsko prvenstvo je završeno, čekaju nas nova nogometna uzbuđenja. U domovini Hrvatskoj na pragu nova prvenstvena sezona, počinje 9. kolovoza, slijede Eurokupovi. Prva starta zagrebačka "Croatia", 12. kolovoza protivu škotskog Celtica kao gost, dok će "Hajduk" i "Osijek", te "Varteks" svoje jesenje protivnike doznati tokom mjeseca kolovoza. Brončani vatreni već 5. rujna idu u novo dokazivanje, igraju prvi susret kvalifikacija za Euro 2000 protivu irske.

Ipak, još uvijek se rado prisjećamo užitaka i uspjeha kojeg su zabilježili nogometaši, osvojivši dvije brončane medalje, vatreni na Svjetskom Prvenstvu., a nade hrvatskog nogometa i buduci vatreni, juniori ispod 18 godina starosti, također treće mjesto i broncu na Europskom Prvenstvu.



Dražen Ladić

Vrtimo video kazete da još jednom zaplješčemo nevjerojatnim obranama Ladića, uskliknemo svjetskom snajperu Šukeru, divimo se lucidnosti Asanovića, te napose zapitamo "žutog" Prosinečkog kako je postigao onaj "naj" gol Jamaici. Ljeto nam eto prolazi u povijesnom uspjehu nogometaša, koji je puno više za mladu i brojčano malu Hrvatsku od sportskog uspjeha. Ova bronca nas je zlatnim slovima upisala na sve mape svijeta. Ove

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dvije bronce, obavezuju na potvrdu tog velikog uspjeha, posebno u kvalifikacijama za slijedeće prvenstvo Europe, u kojem nas čeka i sudar nad sudarima, susret protivu prekodrinskih susjeda.

U torontskoj zajednici Hrvata lokalni nogometaši uglavnom uspješno odraduju svoje prvenstvene obaveze. Zagreb, Velebit, Karlovac i Livno su na vrhu ljestvica, a nešto slabije sreće je Croatia, koja pod teškim financijskim uvjetima teško dolazi i do bodova, jer u profesionalnoj ligi Canade, potrebni su i profesionalni uvjeti za rad, a kojeg nažalost u Croatiji danas nema. Osjeća se hlađenje Hrvata prema nogometu u Canadi, valjda zbog toga jer imamo vlastitu državu, pa nam više nisu potrebna dokazivanja i reklame. Krivo, cvijet kad procvate, treba ga i dalje zalijevati.

Uskoro nam dolazi i tradicionalni nogometni turnir hrvatskih momčadi Canade i Amerike, kojemu je domaćin "Adria" iz Oshawe, međutim, dvodnevna hrvatska olimpijada 5. i 6. rujna održati će se na terenima Toronta, subota u Hrvatskom Kulturnom Centru Norval, te finalna završnica u nedjelju na Centennial stadionu u Etobicoke-u.

Goran Ivanišević, prvi glasnik hrvatskog suvereniteta i broj jedan reket Croatia-e nastupit će na tradicionalnom turniru tenisača u Torontu "Du Maurier Open" koji se održava na terenima York Univerziteta od 1. - 9. kolovoza.

Željko Mavrović, višestruki prvak Europe u teškoj kategoriji, konačno će ukrstiti rukavice u ringu za titulu svjetskog prvaka. Biti će to 26. rujna u malom gradicu Connecticut države, Utsville-u, a protivnik mu je branilac titule Lenox Luis. Weekend, prilika za Hrvate Sjeverne Amerike da se tu večer nadu u što većem broju u dvorani uz rub ringa, za još jedno hrvatsko sportsko zlato.

Martin Latinčić

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ZA NAŠU DJECU

CRVENKAPICA 1992

Ja sam Maja, a zovu me Crvenkapa zato što me mama šalje subotom u posjet babi. Iz Vodica putujem na otok Prvič. Nosim mesa, jogurta, likova ... Na rivu dodem punih ruku. Kad kupim kartu, već mi je lakše.

Mama mi prid polazak sto puta kaže da se ne penjem na provu, nego da sidem u salon. Tako i napravim. U salonu je puno dima, zagušljivo. Uvijek me uvati neka baba pa me ispituje - "Di ćeš mala? Čigova si ti? Ti si ono Mare? A kako ti baba i dida?"

Kako mi baba? A ona je s njom svaki dan!

Na rivi u Prviču teta Luce čeka da primi cimu, a mene dočeka moja draga maška. Dok se primicemo kuci, ona njuška po kesama. Baba nam izade u susret. Jedino tada izide iz kuće otkako je ujac strada u neveri. Kune more i govori mi da ne idem u duboko kad se kupam. Uvijek ponavlja da ne nosim teške kese. Juti se šta kupujem cedevitu jer, kaže, nije zdrava za jetra. Juti se i kad ne donesem sve likove za dida. Nisam ja kriva što ih nema u apoteki!

Odmah me nudi spizom. Ako neću, pita što me boli. Najviše volim imati mliko s krašem i gledati TV. Ona televizor ne pali. Dala bi ga zapečatit da ja ne dolazim.

Uveče, kad se vraćam, natovari me blitvom, suhim smokvama, vinom za tatu. Dade mi i novaca za drugu subotu. Još me "zlamenuje", pojubi i reče - "Čuvaj se, sričo moja!". Kad je izbio rat, dida je umro. Baba je otišla ucu u Zagreb, a maška je ostala sama. Bože, kako će jedna bez druge, kako cu ja bez njih?

HRVATSKA ČITANKA 2

Rad učenice Maje Sladoljev, Vodice, st. 53

NAJMANJI GRAD NA SVIJETU

Hum ima jednu starinsku crkvu, mnogo slikovitih krajolika, jednog zvonara i samo jedan zvonik. Na zvoniku šiljati gromobran iznad križa, u hrpi zbijenih ima trinaest starih kamenih hiža. Koliko ima uličica? Pa samo dvije! Ima jednu staru školu, predviđen Muzej glagoljice, a možda je još koje novorođenče na pomolu.

Matija Pokrivka



Vodice, Dalmacija

ZAPLAKAO SAM HRVATSKI

Zaplakao sam hrvatski
progovorio hrvatski
hrvatski govorim
šapcem hrvatski
šutim hrvatski
sanjam hrvatski.

I na javi govorim hrvatski
volim na hrvatskom
volim hrvatski
pišem hrvatski
kad ne pišem, ne pišem hrvatski
sve mi je na hrvatskom
hrvatski mi je sve.

Pajo Kanižaj



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Za daljnje informacije molimo obratite se hrvatskom Konzulatu, tel (905) 277-9051. Zahvaljujemo Konzulatu na obavijesti.



RODENDANSKA ČESTITKA VEL. KECERINU !!

Čujemo da su župljani župe Hrvatskih Mučenika proslavili jedan od posebnih rodendana - kako čujemo vel. Kecerin je proslavio svoj 61. rodendan među svojim, na posebnom pikniku koji je održan 12. srpnja 1998 (na dan kad je vel. Kecerin i rođen). Uredništvo HRVATSKE ISKRE priključuje se dobrim željama Vaših župljana, i cijele naše hrvatske zajednice u Torontu, Mississaugi i okolici. Sve najbolje, vel. Kecerin i hvala Vam na svemu !

Vijesti iz Hrvatske

Pripremio: Slavko Butković

Mintas-Hodak u posjetu Slovačkoj

BRATISLAVA (HINA) -Potpredsjednica hrvatske Vlade Ljerka Mintas-Hodak, koja se nalazi u posjetu Slovačkoj, razgovarala je u Bratislavi sa svojim domaćinom potpredsjednicom slovačke vlade Katarinom Tothovom, priopćio je hrvatsko veleposlanstvo u Bratislavi.

Tijekom sastanka bilo je riječi o brojnim zajedničkim temama s kojima se susreću Hrvatska i Slovačka u procesu tranzicije te su razmijenjena iskustva o načinima rješavanja uočenih problema.

Hrvatska je također vrlo zainteresirana za slovačka iskustva iz dosadašnjeg pregovaranja s Europskom unijom, jer se nada da će i sama uskoro započeti taj pregovarački proces, rekla je tom prigodom Mintas-Hodak.

SMOTRA FOLKLORA U ZAGREBU

ZAGREB (HINA) - Središnja svečanost Međunarodne smotre folklora, koja se ove godine održava po 32. put, održana je 25 srpnja navečer na središnjem zagrebačkom trgu, uz predstavljanje svih sudionika, folklornih skupina iz Hrvatske, iseljenišтва, Bosne i Hercegovine te još iz sedam stranih zemalja.

Pozornicom su nakratko prodefilirali folkloraši iz svih hrvatskih županija, zatim Kupresa, Livna i Oštre Luke-Bok iz BiH, Hrvata iz Kanade, te skupine iz Češke, Francuske, Litve, Moldavije, Norveške, Portugala i Rusije.

Demantiranje “State Department-a”

ZAGREB/WASHINGTON (HINA) - Izvješće “New York Times-a”, prema kojemu je američka administracija odustala od planova hvatanja Radovana Karadžića i Ratka Mladića, nije točno, izjavio je glasnogovornik State Departmenta James Rubin.

Premda su Karadžić i Mladić još uvijek na slobodi, samo je “pitanje vremena” kada će se oni naći pred sudom (ICTY) u Den Haagu, kazao je Rubin. Dodao je kako SAD nastavljaju raditi sa svojim saveznicima na privođenju ratnih zločinaca pravdi.

“Svaka pomisao da smo promijenili našu politiku u tom smislu je netočna”, istaknuo je glasnogovornik State Departmenta. Rubin je također podsjetio da su SAD pomogle da se uhititi više desetaka osoba osumnjičenih za ratne zločine u BiH, bilo izravnom akcijom uhićenja, bilo uvjerivši ih da se dragovoljno predaju.

Upitan nisu li neki planovi o uhićenju Karadžića i Mladića zastali zbog straha američkih saveznika, posebice Francuza, da bi njihovo uhićenje moglo proizvesti nove sukobe u BiH, Rubin je kazao kako je teško izravno govoriti o provođenju takvih planova. “Ako dode do njihova provođenja u djelo, to nije nešto o čemu bismo unaprijed željeli pričati”, ustvrdio je Rubin. Stajalište SAD je da će mir u BiH biti time stabilniji što više ratnih zločinaca bude privedeno pravdi, također je ista.

DONACIJA PETRINJI

PETRINJA (HINA) - Gradonačelnik Josip Dolenec je u subotu ispred zgrade gradske uprave preuzeo pošiljku od 70,000 komada biber crijepa, doveženog u sedam šlepera iz njemačkog grada Autenrida.

Pošiljka je dar tvrtke “Creaton”, a prijevoz je platilo Ministarstvo razvitka i obnove RH. Crijep za pokrivanje krovista povijesno i kulturno zaštićene stare zgrade gradske uprave u središtu Petrinje dobiven je u akciji drugog programa Hrvatskog radija “Svakog tjedna pošiljka jedna”, Donacija je vrijedna oko 50,000 DEM. Zgrada je

oštećena za vrijeme srpske agresije na Hrvatsku.

UBIJENO 10 SRPSKIH POLICAJACA

PRIŠTINA (AFP/HINA) - Deset srbijanskih policajaca ubijeno je 25.srpnja u sukobima na Kosovu, prilikom napada srbijanskih snaga na Mališevo, uporište Oslobodilačke vojske Kosova, objavio je je Demokratski savez Kosova (DSK)

Srbijanski napadači ispalili su desetke minobacačkih granata na položaje OVK-a, priopćio je DSK, dodajući da je u tim napadima jedan Albanac ubijen, a jedan ranjen. DSK navodi da je srbijanska vojska i policija, potpomognuta tenkovima i pješačkim postrojbama pokrenula napad iz Orahovca na Mališevo i da su taj napad odbili pripadnici OVK-a nakon višesatnih borbi.

Turisti u koloni vozila duge 10 kilometara

ZADAR - Invazija motoriziranih gostiju od subote ujutro traje iz Zagreba prema Zadru i Obrovcu te dalje prema Šibeniku i Splitu.

U policijskoj upravi zadarskoj kažu da su kolone vozila od Plitvica do Zadra na pojedinim dionicama dugačke i po deset kilometara.

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VERBATIM

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JESSE HELMS, US Senate Foreign Relations Comm.head.

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repa.....

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rekla,
kazala i
čula !

Dober dan
Draga moja Reza
tak ste lepi ko od
pekmeza.

Bog daj,Bog daj
moja Julia moja
bežala sem
pak imam znoja.

Kaj je novog
kaj se opet sprema,
svi nas stićeu
i bolje da ih nema.

Vele.....Hrvatskoj
daj ono, daj ovo
a niko ne pita
što će nam opet Jovo.

Pedeset leti
je prošlo dugih
dosta je za na vek
Jovana ludih.

Tak, tak, tak
moja gospa Reza
neka im se
praši do nebesa.

Ali sad hoću
nekaj drugo reći,
moj Štef stari
hoće nekaj ispeći.

Rekal mi je
mora nekaj splanirat
i tu ideju
hoće patentirat.



Kad on počne
novce s rukom zbrajat,
uvek ima više
neg kad je počel nabrajat.

On kad novce zbroji
otvoreno pred svima
bar za deset posto
ih navek više ima.

A će ih on opet
prebroji iznova
opet ih je još više
to je velka love.

Joj na, gospa Julia
to je ekonomska stvar
za to mora imat
on prirodni dar.

V banki il v Zadrugi
bi mogel dobit posel
zbrajat peneze
jer ni on neki osel.

To je velki dar
takvog nekaj znati
i takve sposobnjake
uvek se treba imati.

Stari veli da se
bu bankarom zval
i novce prebrajal
i nek bu svakom žal.

Kaj mislite, može
karijeru si izgradit
v Zadrugi ili banki
bi tam mogel radit.

Znate Julia kaj
moram Vam se potužit
moj pak stari
samo se hoće zadužit.

Vinčeka si bi
s veseljem v žil
i nikaj drugo
ne bi on pil.

Ma nemojte
Reza moja draga,
pijančenje je zlo
i nije bez vraga.

I još nekaj
bi htela vam povedat
kak naš narod
engleščinu voli gledat.

Rekla mi je
suseda jedan dan,
vozila bum “karu”
i na “šopati” idem van.

Jer “tiketi” su skupi
i osječa se ko “Dejzi”
a “rejdio” se pokvaril
i radi “nojz” ko “krejzi”

Znam, znam
Moja draga Julia
takve stvari
sem puno put čula.

Ali sad pak
nesmem se više zezat
moram doma
novi kostim srezat.

I moram starom
vrata ići otvorit
il bu stari opet
na velko htel ponorit.

Do drugi puta
z Bogom Julia
novost kakvu
bum opet čula.

A z Bogom Reza
želim vam sretan put
trač i nekaj važnog
bi opet htjela čut.

Na istom placu
navek istog dana
trač ispod repa
konja Jelačić bana.

DIDA

Malo šale...

Katastrofa

“Kako se piše riječ katastrofa ?” pita mlada nakon prve bračne noći.

“Zašto ti to treba?”
“Samo tako, htjela bih deanas pisati svoj majci”.

Nestao muž

U policijskoj stanici.
“Ima li vaš nestaliu muž neke osobne znake?”
“Ne gospodine vodniče,ali će ih dobiti kad se vrati”.

Muž i žena

Žena zajedljivo pita mužaČ
“Voljela bih znati od koga je naš dječak naslijedio sve te mane !
Od men zacijelo ne!”
“Točno, kaže muž hladno, “ti sve svoje još imaš”.

Eva

“Pogledaj, Eva, momak tamo preko strašno mi ide na živce!”
“Ali , Anno, on te i ne primjećuje!”
“Baš zato !”

Brbljava žena

Neki čovjek putuje sa svojom brbljavom ženom.
“Kako ti se sviđa priroda?”, pita ju on.
“Zanimamila sam od njene ljepote!”
“kako bi bilo da ovdje provedemo naš sljedeći godišnji odmor !”



Čovjek može tisuću puta u bitko pobijediti tisuću ljudi, ali najveći je borac onaj koji pobijedi samoga sebe

Buda

✽

Žene se oblače da razvesele muškarce i rastuže ostale žene:
Colette

“The body is what we came into the world and what we lieve behind. And in between there is only a growing awareness and understanding that starts with the body and goes on from there.”
Olivia Viahos

Once upon the Time-A Short History of Shiatsu

Shiatsu (Japanese for “finger pressure”), in the way we acknowledge it today, developed early in the twentieth century. By 1919 Mr. Tampai Tempaku blended together Western anatomy and physiology, anma (Chinese and Japanese traditional massage established in the 8th century), ampuku (abdominal massage or so-called Hara treatment), with acu-point therapy, Do-In (breathing practices and physical exercises to stimulate body energy) and the Buddhist philosophy.

In 1925, Mr. Tempaku along with Katsusuke Serizawa, Tokujiro Namikoshi, Shizuto Masunaga and many other practitioners formed Shiatsu Therapy Association. By 1955, the Japanese Ministry of Health and Welfare recognized Shiatsu as a valid health treatment partially due to the Namikoshi 15 years work on Neuromuscular Massage, but mostly because of famous cure of Marilyn Monroe in 1953 during her honeymoon in Japan with Joe DiMaggio. The same year Namikoshi started to teach in North America followed by Masunaga, Ohashi and Ted Saito, the first Shiatsu practitioner in Toronto in early 1970’s. Since then, a different schools of Shiatsu has been developed according to the emphasis of each teacher.

Katsusuke Serizawa focuses on acupressure points also called “tsubos”, and a type of treatment is sometimes called acupressure. Tokujiro Namikoshi organized tsubos according to Western physiology and pathology. Many of the tsubos lie close to blood and lymph vessels, nerves and endocrine glands. Pressing stimulates responses of the skin, stimulates circulation, corrects skeletal misalignments, harmonize the nervous system and helps with normal functioning of internal organs. Zen-Shiatsu created by Shizuto Masunaga emphasizes importance of the Meridians (body energy pathways that should be open in order to maximize optimum of health) and a complex system of abdominal diagnosis invented by Masunaga.

Some additional styles of Shiatsu available in North America are: Macrobiotic Shiatsu (Founded by Shizuko Yamamoto) that include a lifestyle guidance regarding breathing techniques and changes in diet, Five Element Shiatsu, Ohashiatsu (developed by Wataru Ohashi in New York) and Watsu or Water Shiatsu that combine treatment with aquatic stretches.

Enough of History! So, how does shiatsu actually work?

The Japanese Ministry of Health and Welfare define Shiatsu as “...a form of manipulation administered by the thumbs, fingers and palms, without the use of any instrument, mechanical or otherwise, to apply pressure to the human skin, correct internal malfunctioning, promote and maintain health, and treat specific diseases.” The main difference between European massages and Shiatsu lie primarily in objective of the therapy. European massages directly stimulate blood circulation releasing stagnated blood and stiffness from circulatory congestion. On the other hand, Shiatsu emphasize correction and maintenance of bone structure, tendons, muscles

and meridian lines which, when distorted and interrupted, may cause various diseases.

The other explanation of how Shiatsu works is the functioning of the sympathetic and parasympathetic nervous system. Sympathetic nervous system governs over “flight of fight” response of the body. For exemplar, when you hear suddenly an unexpected noise or realize that you are not alone in the room, sympathetic nervous system release a complex set of body responses that work as an alarm clock. Parasympathetic nervous system or “relax and digest” is activated during the sleep or in the deep relaxation. Only when parasympathetic is engaged, all healing in the body can take place. By applying continuous, steady pressure, we can control reaction of sympathetic nerves and open up the body to own healing and adjusting intelligence.

Shiatsu may be used as an effective home remedy for self-relaxation or help for family members. However, a better understanding of the tsubo theory and diagnostic that professionals have is the reason why people still seek a professional help.

And now, what can I expect from the Shiatsu session?

One average Shiatsu session last for approximately one hour. You can remain dressed, wearing soft clothing (made preferably of natural fibers). In the hot summer time, we sometimes suggested staying in your underwear, but even then, you are fully draped. No oil is used. The very first session will include 5-10 minutes of diagnostic procedure (Hara-abdominal palpation, pulse taking etc.), while following sessions may include range-of-motion manipulation and gentle stretching if general state health was not changed.

If you are relatively healthy and have no back problems, you will lie on a futon or mat on the floor. Working on the floor brings a sense of “grounding”, especially if you do a lot of intellectual work such as computer work, reading, paper work in the office etc. If you are pregnant or otherwise have difficulties to lie down, you will rest on the padded table. Some people experience “lifting” when they are on the table and some like to use table exclusively.

Shiatsu therapist may use her palms, fingers, and elbows, but mostly thumbs (together or single one). Pressure should be applied vertically while therapist rests her body weight into applied point. Pressure will be hold for 5 seconds or more, gently released and renewed without thumb lifting. Lines along which the pressure is applied are actual Meridians. By treating physical or physiological condition, we treat mental and emotional as well. In Eastern Medicine, there is no significant division between mind and body, physical and emotional. Our body, our mind, our thoughts and emotions are only part of the bigger Whole, and our greatest challenge and the incomparable beauty of life is in finding a fine, silent inner measure that may balance all four of them. Silent, inner peace is our real Healer.

Eliana Trinaistic, B.A., S.T.

S.Masunaga, W.Ohashi,Zen-Shiatsu, How to Harmonize Yin and Yang for Better Health, Japan Publication, NY,1996, pg.17

Eliana Trinaistić je rođena u Rijeci, od 1990 profesor je Hrvatskog jezika i književnosti i trenutno živi i radi u Torontu (High Park Area) kao Shiatsu Therapist, Reiki practitioner i Rebirther. Za dodatni info molimo vas zovite - “HealMe Therapies” na 416/761-0135 (Toronto location) ili 416/876-0896 (Mississauga location) ili e-mail na adresi- estrin@pathcom.com

Vijesti na engleskom
News in English

by: S. L. Butković

B’NAI B’RITH
SATISFIED IN
SAKIC CASE

ZAGREB (HINA) - Visiting B’nai B’rith international president Tommy Baer says legal procedures in the Dinko Sakic case are acceptable to the international community.

Based on what it had seen and heard, the Jewish organisation was satisfied with the way legal procedures were being handled, Baer told a press conference at the end of his visit to Croatia. Baer emphasised that B’nai B’rith did not in any way want to meddle in Croatia’s judicial system.

CROATIAN-
AUSTRIAN
COOPERATION

ZAGREB (HINA) - Croatian and Austrian Agriculture Minister , Zlatko Dominikovic and Wilhelm Molterer, signed a cooperation protocol in Zagreb on Wednesday.

The protocol will enable cooperation both at the administrative level and in direct relations between companies, particularly the manufacturers of seeds and tractor engines.

The two ministers also discussed the export of 15,000 tonnes of Croatian oil rape which will be used as raw material for the production of biodiesel fuel.

First Returnees
from
“Yugoslavia”

ZAGREB (HINA) - The first group of people returning to Croatia according to the latest Croatian Government return programme should return from

“Yugoslavia” this Thursday, a representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said on Wednesday.

The first group of 45 returnees will be welcomed by UNHCR mission to Croatia chief Robert Robinson in Sisak.

CRO-AMERICAN
group calls on
United States

WASHINGTON (HINA) - The Croatian-American Association (CAA) welcomed the passing of a law on the return of refugees, displaced and exiled persons in Croatia, and called on the United States to assist in the process.

The CAA believes that Croatia once again demonstrated its commitment to becoming a vital member of the western alliance and a significant player in Europe, a CAA statement said.

The CAA believes it is time for the US and the international community to stop with its constant tirades and acknowledge Croatia’s willingness to co-operate with the western world, in order to make the enviroment more stable.

Given the many of the obstacles awaiting returnees in Croatia are economically-related, the CAA also called on the US to assist in the reconstruction and development of Croatia.

GLUMINA BANK

ZAGREB (HINA) - The Croatian national Bank Council convened on Wednesday to discuss current economic and monetary trends, the situation in Glumina Bank and the initiation of bankruptcy proceeding in Ilirija Bank and the Gradjanska bank.

The Council was appraised of a rehabilitation and restructuring proposal filed by Glumina Bank. Central Bank experts are reviewing the situation in the bank and can be expected to make definite report by the end of August, the Council heard.

The Council approved the initiation of bankruptcy proceedings in Ilirija Bank and the Gradjanska savings bank.

Since they were minor financial institutions whose bankruptcy was not likely to throw the Croatian financial system off kilter, the Council took the view that the closing down of

unsuccessful commercial banks and savings banks was “necessary” and would “stimulate the efficiency and credibility of Croatian banking”.

Montserrat
Caballe to sing in
Dubrovnik

ZAGREB (HINA) - Famous world opera diva Montserrat Caballe will hold a charity concert in the southern Croatian port city of Dubrovnik on September 1.

Concert proceeds will go towards the restoration of Knezev Dvor palace, a monument of world heritage which is also listed with UNESCO. It was once the seat of the Rector of Dubrovnik and is now a museum.

An amabasador of good will with the UNESCO and UNICEF, Caballe offered her assistance for the reconstruction of Dubrovnik’s cultural heritage, **which perished in Serbian aggression on Croatia**, during a concert she held in Zagreb last year.

EXPLOSION IN
KAKANJ

SARAJEVO (HINA) - An explosion rocked the Saints Peter and Paul’s, a Catholic church in Kakanj, early Wednesday morning.

There were no casualties but considerable damage was done.

Shortly after 1 am a strong explosion erupted, smashing all church windows as well as heavily damaging on of the Church’s supporting walls, under which the explosives was most probably planted, priest Ivo Bozic told Hina.

Extradition of
Nada Sakic

ZAGREB (HINA) - The Croatian Justice Ministry forwarded a request to the Republic of Argentina to extradite Nada Esperanza Tambic de Bilanovic Sakic, the Justice Ministry said in a statement.

The extradition is sought in order to conduct criminal proceedings against Nada Sakic, who is suspected of having committed crimes against humanity and international law.

HINA (July 17-31/98)

July 18/98 PASJAK / RUPA, During last night and today about 55,000 foreign tourists entered Croatia via the country’s busiest border crossings Pasjak and Rupa, according to border police officers. Most of the guests are from Austria, Germany, Italy, the Czech Republic and Slovenia. VUKOVAR, Croatian National Parliament Vice-President Vladimir Seks stated on Friday that the local authorities could not cope with the problems of the eastern Croatian city of Vukovar on their own. Therefore, we shall inform the Council for Strategic Decisions lead by President Franjo Tudjman of the problems regarding reconstruction, development and the return of the refugees into the city and propose the establishment of the State Directorate for reconstruction and Development of Vukovar, Seks said.

July 19,1998 Osijek county Court President Petar Kljajic on Saturday confirmed that the Court, by applying the General Amnesty Law, recently discontin Kljajic said also that despite the mentioned discontinuance of the imprisonment sentence against Seselj, the charges against him for war crimes against civilians still stand, as they do not fall under the General Amnesty Law.ued imprisonment proceedings against Vojislav Seselj, Milan Paroski and Jovan Ostojic, who were accused of inciting armed revolts, race and religious hatred, dissention and intolerance.

July 20/98 OSIJEK, According to Nada Arbanas, head of the Osijek regional office for refugees and displaced persons “8,209 persons with returnee-status returned to the Osijek-Baranja area (...) and it is estimated that about 2,500 more, who are in the process of acquiring the returnee-status, are temporarily residing in the Danube river region..... According to the Karlovac County administration, 5400 Serb returnees have returned to this central Croatian county. Most of them returned to the town of Karlovac and surrounding villages, and to Vojnic and Plaski.....ZAGREB, The Croatian Government’s commission for detained and missing persons possesses evidence that at least 300 Croats who were imprisoned in Serbia after the Serbian aggression on Croatia in 1991 are buried there, commission president Ivan Grujic said on Monday. Yugoslavia claims no data on these people exits. The evidence was put forward to the International Commission for Missing Persons and the UN Commission for Human Rights, Grujic told reporters in Zagreb before a continued closed two-day meeting with the Yugoslav Commission for Humanitarian Issues and Missing Persons.

July 21,1998, Zagreb, Washington - Croatian Foreign Minister Mate Granic arrived in Washington on Tuesday afternoon for a three-day visit to the United States at the invitation of Secretary of State Madelaine Albright.... A donor’s reconstruction of major buildings in Vukovar began on Tuesday with the signing of contracts for the reconstruction of 10 public buildings. ... Both Croat and Serb councilors have criticized the reconstruction of Vukovar, demanding that after the process the Eastern Croatian city look the same way it did before the war. The reconstruction law should be amended, because it allowed for the construction of houses that are several times smaller than those that had been destroyed... An investigating team of the Prosecutor’s office at the International War Crimes Tribunal in the Hague completed exhumation of a fifth mass grave believed to contain the victims of the Srebrenica tragedy.

July 22/98 Washington,Madelaine Albright and Croatian Foreign Minister Mr. Mate Granic released a joint statement on Wednesday following their meeting in Washington.... OSCE told mines are biggest obstacles to return in Karlovac. Former Jasenovac camp inmate testifies in Sakic’ trial. CEI (Central European Initiative) supports an international presence in Kosovo.

July 23,1998 Granic: Donors Conference will facilitate an all out return of refugees and displaces persons to Croatia, as the past level of international aid was not sufficient to complete that goal.ICTY ends investigation into Dokmanovic suicide - it laos found Dokmanovic’ suicide was not the result of negligence and disrespect of prison personnel. (he killed himself by a tie wrapped around a cupboard door hinge in his cell)

July 24,1998 A 15.6 km long section of a future highway between Zagreb and Gorican on Croatia’s border with Hungary, was opened on Friday... Kosovo Liberation Army released 35 Serb prisoners, including 7 monks and one nun, the ICRC said on Friday...War crimes tribunal slams Serb authorities over wrong arrests... Hague Tribunal investigators visit southern Croatia for unofficial talks about events in the Dubrovnik area during the Serbian-Montenegrin aggression on Croatia in 1991-92.

July 25,1998 A total of 50,810 foreign tourists, mostly Austrians, Germans, Italians, and Slovenes, entered Croatia across the busiest border crossings at Pasjak and Rupa on Friday night and Saturday morning. According to data of the border police, some 15,000 tourists left the country in the same period.Croatian Health Minister Zeljko Rainer on Saturday opened works on the building of a new hospital in Topusko.... The Croatian Ministry of Justice will initiate proceedings for the extradition of Esperanza Nada Sakic

July 26,1998 Some 136,000 foreign tourists entered Croatia through the three border crossings in the north-western coastal county of Istria between Friday and 1PM Sunday... Heavy fighting rages in Kosovo... The Belgrade regime has stepped up its campaign against humanitarian activists and former Albanian political prisoners, the Kosovo Human Rights Protection Committee said in the statement on Saturday.

July 26,1998 Croatian Post and Telecommunications (HPT) has released a new series of stamps featuring the country’s football team which has won the bronze medal at the 1998 World Cup.... Croatia wins bronze in Cyprus too.

July 27.1998 Representatives of the Jewish organization B’Nai B’rith have arrived in Croatia to closely follow the resumed investigation of former World War II Jasenovac concentration camp commander Dinko Sakic..... Osijek County Court president Petar Kljajic on Monday confirmed he had asked the Croatian Interior Minister to maintain sentences against remaining members of the so-called Sodalovac Group.

July 28,1998 The Croatian Justice Ministry on Tuesday forwarded a request to the Republic of Argentina to extradite Nada Esperanza Tambic de Bilanovic Sakic, the Justice Ministry said in the statement. ... In the first half of this year Croatia was visited by 1.65 millkñion tourists, which is 5.8 per cent more than in the same period last year.

July 29, 1998 The Hague, The prosecution in the trial against General Blaskic om Wednesday presented its last witness, before the procedure takes a break until August 24 when the defence will begin presenting its evidence.

PLANINARSKI KUTIĆ

VELEBIT

Ono što je Olimp Grcima ili Triglav Slovencima, to je Velebit Hrvatima. Velebit je najveća hrvatska planina, pa iako ne imponira visinom svojih vrhova, on je snagom svoje pojave i nedoglednom dužinom urezao dubok trag u fizičkoj i psihičkoj kulturi našeg naroda, u njegovoj povijesti, književnosti, privredi i znanosti. Od davnine privlači istraživače raznih struka svojim izvanredno zanimljivim prirodnim osobinama, položajem uz more i kontrastom svoje primorske i ličke padine. Veliki broj ljubitelja Velebita i uglednih stručnjanka velebitologa stvorio je svojim terenskim istraživanjem i publiciranim nalazima zaokružen skup znanja koji bismo mogli nazvati velebitologijom. Velebit je najduža planina Dinarskog sustava. Vapnenačke je gradje i strmih strana. Pruža se u smjeru sjever zapad - jug istok., zahvaćajući tri hrvatske pokrajine- Liku, Dalmaciju i Hrvatsko Primorje. Prirodne medje su mu jasno izražene- s jedne strane je Velebitski kanal Jadranskoga mora, a s druge strane ličko-gacka zaravan. Na jugu je omedjen kanjonom Zrmanje, a na sjeveru ga dijeli od ogranaka Kapele duboko urezan prijevoj Vratnik. Od Vratnika do Zrmanje povije se u blagom luku dužine 145 km. Zračna linija na tom potezu iznosi 132 km. Šitina planine veoma varira- od 30 kmna liniji Zavižan - Markoviceva rudina, do 10 km na liniji Bojin kuk - Počitelj. Velebit zauzima 2274 km (2).

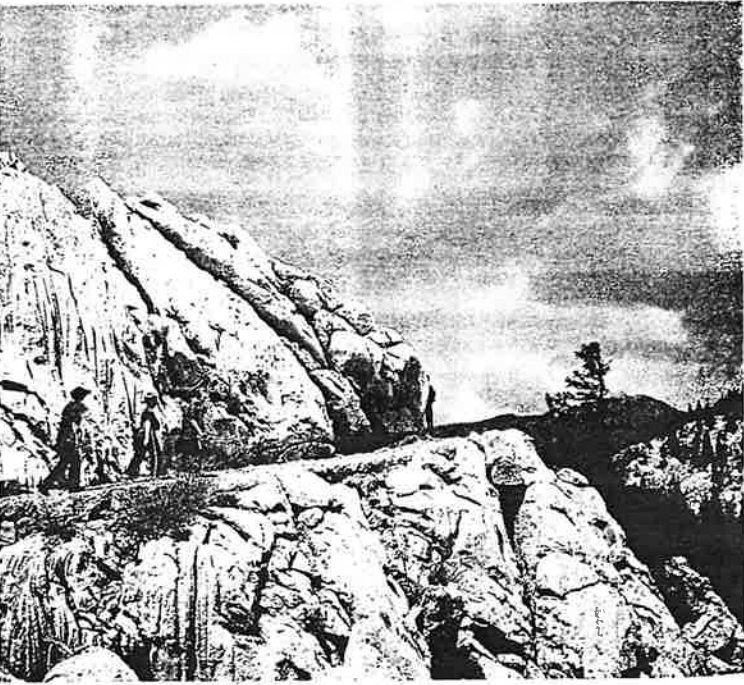
Reljefno, Velebit ima vrlo jednostavan oblik- dvije jasno ocrtane padine i širok hrbat. Primorska padina kao cjelina ima dvije uzdužne terase, koje se poput golemih stepenica pružaju podnožjem i sredinom planine. Ona na podnožju, u blizini mora, poznata je pod imenom Podgorje. Započinje kod Jurjeva, iznad Jablanca je najšira (oko 3 km), a južno od Velebita gubi se na prostranoj sjevernodalmatinskoj zaravni u koju je usječen kanjon Zrmanje. Druga je stepenica na visini od 800 - 900 m. Od donje stepenice dijeli je strma, kamenita padina nastala uzduž rasjedne pukotine.

Velebit je izgrađen od naslaga mladjeg paleozoika, mezozoika, mladjeg paleogena i kvartara. Od ruda se pokušavalo eksploatirati hematit, a od 1947 barit od Sv. Roka do Gračaca. U naše doba pokušavalo se s eksploatacijom boksita, ali su nalazišta brzo iscrpljena.

Temperaturne razlike u toku dana veoma su izrazite. U godini je 158 dana s minimalnom temperaturom nižom od ledišta, a u ponikvama je usred noći i do - 6 (tzv. mrazišta). Najveća je naoblaka u studenom i prosincu, ali manje nego u ličkoj dolini. Najpovoljniji su za posjet srpanj, kolovoz i rujan. U to doba je najmanje oborina, magle, grmljavine i vjetrova. Za visinsko je područje karakterističan velik broj dana s maglom (187 dana u godini). Srednje trajanje neprekidnog snježnog prekrivača je 132 dana. Najveću visinu snijeg doseže sredinom ožujka (112 cm).

Flora i fauna Velebita veoma su zanimljive sa znanstvenog gledišta. U ovoj se planini sukobljavaju dvije vegetacijske oblasti- srednjoeuropska i mediteranska. Najzanimljivije su Degenia velebitica, Sibiraea croatica, Seseli Malvi itd, kao i runolist, rododendron, klekovina bor, itd. U vegetaciji razlikuju se primorska, visinska i kontinentalna oblast, svaka sa svojim karakteristikama. Velebitska fauna je posebno zanimljiva. Leptiri su velebitski specijaliteti. Za planinare je važno da računaju na opasnost od zmija otrovnica. Vukovi ljeti ne znače nikakvu

opasnost. Od lovne divljači poznat je medvjed, ima nešto srneće divljači, i nešto malo jelena. Poznate velebitske divokoze su, nažalost, nestale prije pedeset godina. Tetrijeb je u opadanju. Divlja svinja u porastu.



Premužićeva staza u Rožanskim kukovima

Dr. Željko Poljak

Značenje imena Velebit nepoznato je. Već je Petar Zoranić, prije više od 400 godina, pokušavao ime izvesti iz slijeda Velevij, Velevid, Velebil itd ali izgleda da je u hrvatskom jeziku, prije nekoliko stoljeća, riječ “velebič” značila općenito planina.

Velebit je prirodna tvrdjava, s brojnim strateški važnim visinskim točkama, a osim toga je prepun skrovitih puteljaka i zakutaka koje pružaju goleme taktičke mogućnosti. Od davnine je Velebit služio kao utočište hajducima, koji su goleme jade zadavali turskim osvajačima. U sjevernom Velebitu bili su najpoznatiji senjski uskoci. U najnovije doba godine 1991, pobunili su se protiv osamostaljenja Hrvatske stanovnici srpskih sela na ličkom podnožju Velebita, južno od Gospića i uz pomoć JNA sraznili sa zemljom sva susjedna hrvatska sela. Nakon hrvatske oslobodilačke akcije “Oluja” 1995 izbjeglo je preko noći pučanstvo iz tih srpskih naselja, ali su sama naselja ostala sačuvana.

Planinarske mogućnosti na Velebitu neiscrpne su i raznovrsne. Velebit je po dužini najveća hrvatska planina. Njegove su osobitosti bogatsvo kraških oblika, kontrasti primorske i kopnene padine, jedinsto kopna i riora, botanički i zoološki rariteti, vrlo dobri i brojni prilazi, 500 km šumskih cesta, petnaestak prihvatnih objekata, nacionalni park i prirodni rezervati, dobro markiran uzdužni “Velebitski planinarski put” i, posebno vrijedna, uzdužna turistička “Premužićeva staza” kroz sjeverni i srednji Velebit, s fenomenalnim vidicima na more iz plićje perspektive, kojoj po ljepoti i dužini (50 km!) nema premca u našoj zemlji i nadaleko izvan nje.

HRVATSKE PLANINE

Dr. Željko Poljak

str. 327 - 334

posjetitelji Carabrama uživali su u našem paviljonu, ali da su bili tamo kad je “Marjan” dobio prvu nagradu za svoj rad - tek onda bi vidjeli što znači slaviti, kako mi Hrvati slavimo! Mi znamo raditi, ali znamo i slaviti Bio je pravi hrvatski “štimum” !! U hrvatskom paviljonu na Carabramu mogli ste pročitati prekrasnu pjesmu, koja govori što nama Hrvatima znači licitarsko srce -

*Flower of friendship blossomed for thee,
The rights of thy nation - a sacred law to thee,
The most precious treasure for everyone to see -
Honesty, integrity and liberty.*

Jedna od sudkinja gdja. Ann Murphy rekla je u svom govoru, kad je govorila o hrvatskom paviljonu “... Every nation should follow the words of this poem”

Ponosni smo na Vas, Hrvate Bramptona ! Čestitamo ! (Nije ni čudo da većina od Vas. nakon ovakve časti, nije ni danas previše “prizemljena” !!!!) (VK)



Štovani gosp. Ljubas, dragi prijatelju,

Iako ste tako daleko od nas, blizu ste nam u srcima i često mislimo na Vas. Hvala Vam na svakoj lijepoj riječi, koju ste uputili našoj udruzi “Bedemu Ljubavi” - svaka sitnica, i svaka topla želja velika su nam radost. Zato Vam danas šaljemo našu **HRVATSKU ISKRU** i nadamo se da će Vas razveseliti, a umjesto daljnjih riječi jedna pjesma koja svima nama puno znači -

MOJ DOM
Silvije Strahimir Kranjčević

*Ja domovinu imam ;tek u srcu je nosim,
I brda joj i dol ;
Gdje raj da ovaj prostrem, uzalud svijet prosim,
I gutam svoju bol!
I sve što po njoj gazi, po momemu srcu pleše,
Njen rug je i moj rug;
Mom otkinuše bicu sve njojzi što uzéše
I ne vraćaju dug.
Ja nosim boštvo ovo - ko zapis čudotvorni,
Ko žica zadnji dah ;
I da mi ono pane pod nokat sverazorni,
Ja past ću utomâ.
Ah, ništa više nemam ;to sve je što sam spaso,
A spasoh u tome sve,
U čemu v’jek mi negda vas srećan se je glaso
Kroz čarne, mlade sne!
Kroz požar, koji suklja, da oprži mi krila
Ja obraz pron’jeh njen;
Na svom srcu grijem već klonula joj bila
I ljubim njenu sjen.
I kralje izn’jeh njene i velike joj bane,
Svih pradjedova prah,
Nepogažene gore i šaren-dulistane
I morske vile dah.*

*....Ja domovinu imam - tek u grud sam je skrio
I bježat moram sv’jet -
U v’jencu mojih sanja već je sve pogazio,
Al ovaj nije cv’jet.
On vreba, vreba, vreba ... a ja je grlim mukom-
Na javi i u snu.
I preplašen se trzam i skrbno pipam rukom-
O je li jošte tu ?!
Slobode koji nema, taj o slobodi sanja
Ah ponajljepši san -
I moja žedna duša tom sankom joj se klanja
I pozdravlja joj dan.
U osamničkom kutu ja slušam trubu njenu
I krunidbeni pir,
I jedro gdje joj bojno nad šumnu strmi pjenu
U pōla mora šir!
Sve, cvjetno kopno ovo i veliko joj more
Posvećuje mi grud -
Ko zv’jezda sam, na kojoj tek njeni dusi zbore,
I lutam kđjekûd.
Tek kad mi jednom s dušom po svemiru krene,
Zaorit će ko grom -
O, gledajte ju divnu, vi zv’jezde udivljene,
To moj je, moj je dom !*

Ova pjesma je od svih nas iz naše udruge, koji Vas znamo ili ne ! Neka Vam ova pjesma prenese sve naše pozdrave,i dobre želje,
Valentina

Za naše čitatelje - naš prijatelj gosp. Ante Ljubas nalazi se u U.S.A., u zatvoru kao jedan od naših patriota. Želite li mu se osobno javiti, evo adrese -

ANTE LJUBAS
89239 -024 -AUS.
3150 NORTON RD.
FORT WORTH, TX 76119 U.S.A.



Iz jednog parka u Hrvatskom Zagorju

MADELAINE ALBRIGHT AND MATE GRANIC RELEASE JOINT STATEMENT

Washington, July 22,1998

American Secretary of State Madelaine Albright and Croatian Foreign Minister Mate Granic released a joint statement on Wednesday following their meeting in Washington. Hina will release the entire text of the statement, which reads as follows:

“Secretary of State Albright and Minister of Foreign Affairs Granic discussed a broad range of bilateral issues and expressed satisfaction with recent developments on issues of importance to the international community and to bilateral relations of the two countries. They reaffirmed Croatia’s commitment to facilitate the return of refugees to Croatia, to fully implement Dayton Accords and to build a democratic and civil society in Croatia. They reiterated the joint statement by Deputy Secretary (Strobe) Talbott and former (Croatian) Defense Minister (Gojko) Susak made on January 30, 1998 and committed to the rapid implementation of its provisions. Secretary Albright comprehensively discussed with Minister Granic the steps Croatia needs to take to fully implement the Dayton Accords. She also delivered to Minister Granic a list of areas where Croatia is expected to improve its Dayton compliance.

A major topic of the meeting was eventual Croatian membership in (NATO’s) Partnership for Peace (programme) (PtP) as the next significant step towards Croatia’s full integration into Euro-Atlantic organizations. Minister Granic emphasized on behalf of the Government of Croatia that Croatia will take all necessary steps to meet the requirements stated in the PtP road map in forthcoming months. Secretary Albright emphasized that complete fulfillment of these commitments, especially in the areas of Dayton implementations, return and confidence building among ethnic groups, and democratization will lead to full US support for Croatia’s membership in PtP. Both sides expressed hope that this would be accomplished by the end of the calendar year.

Both sides agreed on the fundamental right of return for all refugees and displaced persons in Croatia and the region as expressed in both Dayton and Erdut Agreements, and reiterated their firm commitment toward this end. The Secretary congratulated Minister Granic on the successful development of Croatia’s plans and procedures for the return of refugees and displaced persons. Minister Granic pledged that Croatia will take immediate steps to resolve any problems in the implementation of the Government’s return procedures. Minister Granic and Secretary Albright agreed to continue working intensively to ensure that the programme on returns is fully implemented and that the rate of actual returns is accelerated. Foreign Minister Granic reaffirmed his government’s commitment to establish the security conditions and economic development necessary to allow all citizens of Croatia, including those in Eastern Slavonia, to remain in their homeland.

The secretary reviewed US Government concerns on the need to continue the ongoing process of building democracy and civil society in Croatia. In particular, Secretary Albright noted the need for a completely free and independent media, especially in electronic media. She also stressed that the election laws need to be substantially changed. She emphasized that those improvements are necessary to ensure beyond doubt that the next Croatian elections are both free and fair.

Both Secretary Albright and Minister Granic reiterated their commitment to all aspects of the Dayton Agreement and rejected any suggestion that the agreement be changed or modified. Foreign Minister Granic assured Secretary Albright that the Government of Croatia would continue to play a positive role in facilitating progress on police integration and the complete dismantling of remaining parallel institutions in the (Croat-Muslim) Federation (of Bosnia-Herzegovina). Secretary Albright assured Minister Granic that the US Government is insisting that all parties dismantle those pre-Dayton institutions which violate the Accords. The Government of Croatia expressed full support for the current election process underway in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and pledged to do everything possible to ensure that free and fair elections are successfully carried out and the results implemented fully. Minister Granic and the Secretary expressed their full support for the return of all displaced persons throughout Bosnia-Herzegovina, including to the (Bosnian Serb entity) Republika Srpska. Both condemned the recent acts of violence against returnees in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The Secretary welcomed the Croatian Government’s commitment to create and enforce a uniform border regime with Bosnia-Herzegovina and to resolve all outstanding territorial issues on the basis of mutual respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of each country. Minister Granic noted the importance of completing negotiations regarding the port of Ploce to enhance its commercial use for the benefit of the region and said the Government of Croatia will move quickly to sign an agreement with the Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

In light of recent extension of the UN Mission on (the) Prevlaka (peninsula), Secretary Albright reiterated US support for Croatia’s territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders and the US view that all of the parties must work to bring the mission to a satisfactory conclusion in a reasonable time.

Minister Granic expressed Croatia’s support for the Hague Tribunal, and reiterated former Defense Minister Susak’s pledge to deputy Secretary Talbott to cooperate on all investigations and prosecutions.

The Secretary commended the Government of Croatia on its decision to request the extradition of and try World War II Jasenovac concentration camp commander Dinko Sakic. Minister Granic assured her that the Government is fully committed to seeing that justice is done and that the trial will be fair, thorough, transparent, and take advantage of all possible witnesses.

Secretary Albright reiterated to Minister Granic that progress in these areas remains essential to meeting the requirements for US support for Croatian membership in PtP. Secretary Albright also made clear that the US government looks forward to rapid implementation of the refugee return plan and the development of a reconstruction plan so that the US can actively support a donor’s conference, and develop broader economic and political relations with Croatia”, the joint statement ended.

(Hina, July 22,1998)

LETTER TO AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS: ICTY SHOULD PURSUE ITS MANDATE RATHER THAN MISEMPLOY ITS COMMISSION AND AUTHORITY

Badurina & Associates has forwarded an open response to American Jewish leaders who were signatories of a letter to President Clinton Re: War Criminals in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The group included the American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, B'nai B'rith International, and sixteen other Jewish Organisations. The letter sent was as follows.

Dear Concerned American Jewish Leaders:

Badurina & Associates agrees with your statement that "NATO forces in the former Yugoslavia be directed to arrest the indicted war criminals still at large in Bosnia," and applaud your efforts to bring this critical issue to President Clinton's attention for action.

In October, 1997, our firm's research showed that since the creation of the International War Crimes Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), 78 people had been publicly indicted --- 57 Serbs, 18 Croats and 3 Bosniaks. All but one of those still remaining at large are Serbs. At that time, we called for the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republika Srpska to follow the Republic of Croatia's lead and apprehend and turn over for trial the remaining indicted Serb war criminals.

Radovan Karadzic continues to live freely in Bosnia, unfortunately due to acts of omission and commission in addition to a seeming lack of resolve on the part of NATO. Ratko Mladic lives in Serbia in freedom and security knowing he can blithely ignore NATO, the United Nations, and the ICTY. He has thumbed his nose repeatedly at the international community with blatant public displays including prominently entertaining at his son's wedding at a large hotel in Belgrade and vacationing in Montenegro. Three indicted Serbs accused of massacres in Vukovar, Croatia, are still active officers in the Serbian army living within the protective boundaries of Serbia!

Meanwhile, the Bosnian Croats who surrendered last October with the understanding that they would be given a speedy trial are still awaiting their day in court. One Bosnian Croat was held for over 18 months before his trial began. Three Bosnian Croats were released because of complete lack of evidence. However, on May 8, 1998, fourteen Bosnian Serbs accused of raping, beating, and killing prisoners had the charges dropped by the ICTY's Chief Prosecutor, Louis Arbour, not for lack of evidence, but because the ICTY wants to concentrate on prosecuting more senior suspects --- like Karadzic and Mladic, who aren't even in custody. What's wrong with this picture?

Instead of following the rules of policy for which the ICTY was created and prosecuting indictees, the ICTY now wants Croatia to supply information regarding the military operations that Croatia launched on its own internationally recognised sovereign territory

to stop the Serbs continuing attacks on Croatian civilians. The Serbians shelled many Croatian towns and cities including the capital, Zagreb, where Serb missiles struck the National Theatre; the Academy of Arts and Sciences; the Children's Hospital (narrowly missing the American Embassy) resulting in thousands of dead, wounded and homeless civilians.

David J. Scheffer, the Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Issues spoke to the inappropriateness and danger of this ICTY action when discussing a proposed permanent court. He said: ".....(the court) must not become a political forum in which to challenge controversial actions of responsible government by targeting their military personnel for criminal investigation and prosecution. The U. S. Government, including the Defence Department, has very good reason to be concerned about this potential misuse of the court.....".

Had Israel's successful Six Day War in the late 1960's occurred in the 1990's, the Israeli government and its military would be subject to ICT probes and investigations. If subpoenaed today would Israel provide an ICT probe with sensitive military documents from the 1960's? Croatia's successful lightening military actions occurred in response to Serbian aggression and invasion of Croatian territory. Not one piece of Serbian soil was ever touched, no blade of Serbian grass was ever bent by the Croatian army.

The world seems to have a short memory about the war in the former Yugoslavia. It was Serbia who invaded Croatia in 1991 and began the horrible precursor of Bosnia-Herzegovina and now Kosovo. As Margaret Thatcher wrote to the President of Croatia after the successful conclusion of reintegration in the Croatian region of Eastern Slavonia, ".....our joy will also be mixed with sorrow as we recall the terrible events of 1991, and particularly the fate of Vukovar and its inhabitants. Had the international community moved resolutely to prevent that aggression, thousands of Croats would not have lost their lives, their limbs, their dear ones or their homes. And had the Serbian aggression not been allowed to succeed against Vukovar and elsewhere, the authors of that aggression in Belgrade would not have been encouraged to move against Bosnia, and so that terrible, continuing tragedy would have been averted.....".

The international community never seems to learn. Had the world intervened before or immediately after Germany invaded the Rhineland, or Czechoslovakia or Poland, that evil, un-speakable tragedy --- the Holocaust --- would not have occurred.

Our firm has always insisted and agrees with you that the United States should help "....ensure that the pursuit of justice in Bosnia is not abandoned and those charged with horrendous crimes be arrested and delivered up for trial without further delay." However, the ICTY should pursue its mandate, prosecute indicted individuals and not digress, either unintentionally or otherwise, into areas where it may misemploy its commission and authority.

- Continues on page

mnogo Kanadana, i tek pokoji Hrvat. Zahvaljujuci Modern Age Plastics inc. (čiji vlasnici su Gosp. Bob Galamaga i gosp. Stanko Trtanj), začetnici ovog hvale vrijednog projekta u koji su se kasnije uključile i druge firme, kao veći i manji sponsori - mi danas imamo jedan zaista izvrsno organiziran događaj koji svake godine donosi veliku svotu novaca za Dorinu djecu.

Ove godine bila sam u Hrvatskoj kad je bio turnir, tako da nisam prisustvovala ni igranju golfa, ni večeri, no iz raznih izvora čujem - bilo je izvrsno. Vrijeme je bilo kišno - stalno je padalo, ali kad se igra za Dorinu djecu - golferi su se osjećali kao da ih sunce grije. Kiša uopće nije djelovala ni na igru, ni na događaj, ni na raspoloženje, koje je bilo na visini. Učesnika samog golfa bilo je 184, uglavnom Kanadani, veoma malo Hrvata. Jedan od dragih posjetitelja bio je i naš konzul gosp. Picukarić, koji je nakon nekog vremena rekao da će i on početi igrati golf i sudjelovati druge godine u turniru. Tako i treba!

Poslije turnira svi učesnici našli su se na prijemu, večeri i podjeli nagrada - koje su bile brojne i više nego bogate - u Croatia banquet Hall-u. Opet - koliko čujem - svatko je dobio nešto, tako da nitko nije otišao kući praznih ruku. Čak sam i ja danas, kad sam posjetila gosp. Trtnja da o svemu malo porazgovaramo - dobila prekrasno pero od "rosewood"-a, kao uspomenu na ovaj 6. golf turnir za Dorinu djecu.

Svi, koji su sudjelovali u turniru bili su pobjednici, ali ipak najbolji golfer bio je gosp. Art Thomas. Na večeri su izvučene razne nagrade, koje su poklonile razne firme i pojedinci, a tih ljudi širokog srca, koji su sponzorirali ovaj 6. Dorin golf turnir je previše da bi ih sve spomenuli. Prva nagrada, 4-dnevni weekend u Las Vegasu dobio je gosp. Kevin Daly (koji radi u firmi gosp. Gregurica). Za ostale nagrade - kojih je bilo mnogo - nemamo dovoljno mjesta da sve sretne dobitnike spomenemo.

Financijski uspjeh - bruto preko \$ 65,000.00, a nakon svega preostati će oko \$ 28,000.00 (netto), koji će biti poslani u Hrvatsku za Dorinu djecu. Jedan od posebnih projekata ovog golf turnira je i zdravlje male Dinke Cindrić, vukovarčanke, kojoj se od stresa i žalosti poremetila pigmentacija, i upravo sada je u Jerusalemu na liječenju. Eto, i mala Dinka i mnoga druga Dorina djeca će biti opskrbljena zahvaljujući Dori, torontskom predsjedniku Dore, gosp. Stanku Trtnju, njegovoj firmi i njegovom partneru, kao i njegovom snu - "Dorinom" golf turniru - koji ima sve veći i veći uspjeh svake godine. (Da Vas upozorimo, zabilježite na kalendaru - iduće godine golf turnir će biti 15. lipnja 1999, na istom mjestu. Nije li već vrijeme da - uz Kanadane - za Dorinu djecu igra više Hrvata ? U svakom slučaju, pridružiti će nam se i gosp. Picukaric - to je početak novih igrača.)

Malo je reći čestitamo - ponosni smo na Vas, golfere, i hvala Vam svima koji ste sudjelovali na bilo koji način - u ime Dorine djece. (VK)

NAŠI PLESNI ANSAMBLI U WASHINGTONU

Od 3. - 5. srpnja ove godine bio je jedan izuzetak događaj u Washingtonu - pod pokroviteljstvom Hrvatske Bratske

Zajednice održan je slet plesnih ansambla iz cijele Sjeverne Amerike. Došlo je preko 30 plesnih grupa, oko 3,000 posjetitelja, a od toga bilo je bar 1,000 djece koja su plesala, pjevala ili svirala. Sve to se je odvijalo u jednom washingtonskom hotelu, tako da je taj dio grada bio sav u hrvatskom "štimungu". Rečeno mi je da je sve bilo kako treba, izvrsna organizacija, čak će djeca koja su nastupala i platila sve troškove iz svog džepa dobiti nešto novaca natrag - to će sve Hrvatska Bratska Zajednica učiniti.

Ipak, dogodilo se nešto što je zabolilo i učesnike i organizatore. Svi su smatrali da je to dovoljno velik događaj, s dovoljnim brojem Hrvata i onih, koji vole Hrvatsku, da se pojavi i naš hrvatski ambasador u Washingtonu. Nažalost, izgleda da je gosp. Žužul bio veoma zaposlen, i umjesto njega pojavio se njegov zamjenik i nakon kraćeg govora nestao. To je velika šteta, jer mnogo rada, mnogo odricanja, mnogo ljubavi je stavljeno i u organizaciju ovog događaja, u rad s djecom, u pripreme i u putovanja - dakle u sve što je potrebno da se pokaže svijetu tko smo i što smo - zato smatramo da je gosp. Žužul trebao biti tamo, među svojimima, među nama.(VK)

MARJANE, MARJANE

Ponosna sam na grupu ljudi iz Bramptona, nema ih puno, ali ima ih dovoljno. To su Mato, Vilko, Nick, Ružica, Aleksandra i svi ostali. Nisam ih ni trebala nabrajati, jer to je najnezahvalnije. Trebala sam reći Hrvatima Bramptona, jer to su oni - uporni, vrlo uporni, marljivi ljudi, pravi Hrvati. Jedan od prvih hrvatskih barjaka bio je podignut baš u Bramptonu pred Gradskom Vijecnicom. Taj barjak, barjak slobodne i neovisne države Hrvatske vije se svake godine na Dan Hrvatske Državnosti punih sedam dana.

Ta ista grupa ljudi, koja tako vjerno organizira proslavu Dana Hrvatske Državnosti uključila se je pred par godina u Carabram, ili kako bi naši Dalmatinci rekli, feštu Bramptona - prikazivanje folklora, hrane, izložbe rukotvorina, umjetnina - kratko rečeno prikazivanje Lijepe Naše onakve kakva je - upravo prelijepe, prebogate, prekrasne. Konkurencija nije laka - skoro dvadesetak nacija trudi se da prikaže svoju domovinu u najljepšem svjetlu, tako da se je grupa "Marjan" - organizator hrvatskog paviljona - morao potruditi da naš paviljon bude zaista primjeren. Carabram se je održavao od 10 - 12 srpnja, a hrvatski paviljon bio je u prostorijama škole na 56 Oakley Blvd. Izložba je bila upravo izvrsna, hrana savršena. Hrvati Bramptona, to jest grupa "Marjan" ove su godine dobili prvu nagradu za svoj paviljon - njihov rad bio je okrunjen vrhunskom nagradom, koju izabrani žiri Carabrama dodjeljuje onome čiji paviljon, izložba, sam "image" je nezaboravan. Naši Hrvati Brampton su ostavili poseban utisak na sve posjetitelje, jer ono što su pokazali posjetitelji su odnijeli sa sobom u srcima i sjećanju - Marjan i Hrvati Bramptona su bili zaista najbolji.

Razgovarala sam s jednom od velikih radnica grupa "Marjan" nakon dobivanja te posebne počasti. Ispričala mi je kako su - interesantno - njih četrdesetak iz grupe bili su na svečanoj večeri, i bili gotovo tužni kad su razne druge grupe dobile razne nagrade, a oni ništa. Kad je konačno rečeno da je hrvatski paviljon bio **NAJBOLJI, NAJBOLJI !!!!!** naši i mali i veliki su vrisnuli, iznijeli hrvatske barjake, zaplesali... Do tog dana svi

DOGAĐAJI U NAŠOJ ZAJEDNICI

HODOČAŠĆE U MIDLAND

Kad sam razmišljala kako da Vam predstavim hodočašće u Midland 19. srpnja 1998 - jer zaista je trebalo biti tamo i doživjeti taj zaista lijepi dan - sjetila sam se gotovo posljednjih riječi zagrebačkog nadbiskupa mons. Josipa Bozanića na sv. Misi tog dana pred tisućama i tisućama Hrvata - sloga, vjera u Domovinu i vjera u Katoličku crkvu. Eto, mislim da je moto jučerašnjeg događaja, a to mi je potvrdio i jedan moj prijatelj kad smo kratko razgovarali kako nam je bilo jučer (iako Vi čitate ovaj članak negdje u početku kolovoza, članak je napisan dan nakon hodočašća).. Jučerašnje hodočašće u Midland bilo upravo to - sloga, vjera u domovinu i Katoličku crkvu.

U jutro vrijeme je bilo lijepo, očekivale su se i vrućine, no kasnije sve se pokvarilo, tako da je stalno malo po malo padala kiša, što je znatno pokvarilo raspoloženje svih, a posebno prodavača raznih sitnica koje su uobičajene na proštenjima - od staklovinja, suda, licitara pa do posebnih majica - jasno, s nogometnog prvenstva (koje su bile upravo jezivo skupe, no ljudi su ih ipak kupovali). Ljudi je bilo na tisuće i tisuće, i kad je bila sv. Misa, okrenula sam se i upravo je bilo fantastično vidjeti sve preplavljeno mojim narodom. Zaista mi je bilo toplo pri srcu, kad sam gledala taj silan narod koji je došao od svuda - iz Hamiltona, Toronta, Mississauga, Sudbury-a, Ottawe - svi zajedno - sloga, vjera u Domovinu i Boga. Kažu da nas je bilo oko 7,000. Možda, ali ja mislim da nas je bilo i više.



Mons. Bozanić u Midlandu

Kao što znate svake godine druga župa organizira pohod u Midland. Ove godine organizator je bila župa Hrvatskih Mučenika iz Mississauga, što je bilo vrlo očito u svakom trenu dana. Posebno se je to vidjelo na sretnom, nasmijanom licu našeg popularnog župnika vel. Kecerina, koji je upravo uživao u svemu. Njegovi župljani su dobro organizirali sve - pjevački zbor je bio dobar, muzikaši u narodnim nošnjama isto tako, organizacija same posjete - kako mi kažu oni koji su išli autobusima - bila je izvrsna, a lice vel. Kecerina izražavalo je takvu sreću tom čašcu - da baš oni organiziraju ovo slavlje, kad nam je ovdje dragi gost, nadbiskup zagrebačke biskupije, mons.

Josip Bozanić - eto, to je bilo ono što sam osjecala kad sam gledala vel. Kecerina.

Naš dragi gost, nadbiskup mons. Josip Bozanić je predvodio sv. Misu i molitvu za vrijeme pobožnosti Križnoga Puta. Jučer dok sam ga slušala u sv. Misi i za vrijeme pobožnosti Križnog Puta putu stalno sam čekala da čujem pravoga mons. Bozanića - to jest njegov prekrasan govor i naglasak iz njegovog rodnog mjesta. Jučer se je on trudio iz sve snage da govori lijepim čistim hrvatskim bez svog prekrasnog dijalekta i to mi je bilo nedostajalo. U sv. Misi učestvovali su svi naši svećenici, i nema riječi kojima bih mogla izreći to zadovoljstvo kad smo vidjeli sve naše svećenike zajedno s našim nadbiskupom Josipom Bozanicem i toliko naroda oko njih - sloga, vjera u domovinu i Boga (možda ne u tom redu) ! Svoju propovijed mons. Bozanić je počeo riječima misnog Evanđelja “Što god vam rekne, učinite !” - poveavši ove riječi sa životom, posebno se osvrnuvši na najvećeg Hrvata ovog stoljeća Sluge Božjega kardinala Alojzija Stepinca, koji će 3. listopada biti proglašen blaženim u Marijanskom svetištu na Mariji Bistrici prigodom posjete Sv. Oca Ivana Pavla II. Hrvatskoj.

Na kraju sv. Mise par riječi rekao je i vel. Gjuran, kojemu je ovo zadnje hodočašće u Midland (bar za sada) jer se vraća u Domovinu. Vrlo pažljivo je birao riječi oproštaja sa prisutnima, koje su mu bile teško izreći i u glasu smo čuli suze (iako on to kasnije nije priznao). Kad je rekao da se vraća u Domovinu nakon tako dugog vremena bar da umre tamo, kad već nije tamo živio, oko mene su se čule jecaji. Ljudi oko mene - uključujući i mene - plakali su, jer koliko god da nam je drago da se vel. Gjuran vraća doma, jako ce nam nedostajati. Pljesak za mons. Bozanića bio je upravo veliki kad je rekao da se ne moramo brinuti za vel. Gjurana, jer u Domovini već imaju posao za njega.

Previše lijepih stvari se je dogodilo u Midlandu, a mjesta na papiru toliko malo. Iako je kišilo, ni to nam nije pokvarilo zadovoljstvo svega - sv. Mise, susreta s zagrebačkim nadbiskupom, oproštaja s vel. Gjuranom, susreta s prijateljima koje nismo dugo vidjeli, novih dragih poznanstava (pozdravljam sve one koje sam jučer upoznala), osmijeh svakoga prisutnoga, a posebno moram naglasiti nešto što me je do dna duše dirnulo, i za to veliko hvala organizatorima - izbor naše prekrasne hrvatske muzike za vrijeme sv. Mise i za vrijeme Križnog puta. Zbor je bio veoma dobar, no svima je stalo u grlu kad su se začuli prvi taktovi “Bože, čuvaj Hrvatsku” ili naše prelijepe himne. Cijeli Midland je zvonio kad je usred proloma kiše iz grla tisuće ljudi zvonila “Rajska djevo Kraljice Hrvata”, koji su stajali čvrsto zbijeni oko oltara bez obzira na kišu i loše vrijeme. Lice vel. Kecerina i svih onih koji su stajajali oko njega i nisu se dali pomaći rekla su sve - sloga, vjera u Domovinu i Boga. Hvala župi Hrvatskih Mučenika na dobroj organizaciji hodočašća u Midland. (VK)

6. GODIŠNJI GOLF TURNIR

Vrijeme: 16. lipnja 1998

Mjesto: Royal Woodbine Golf Club

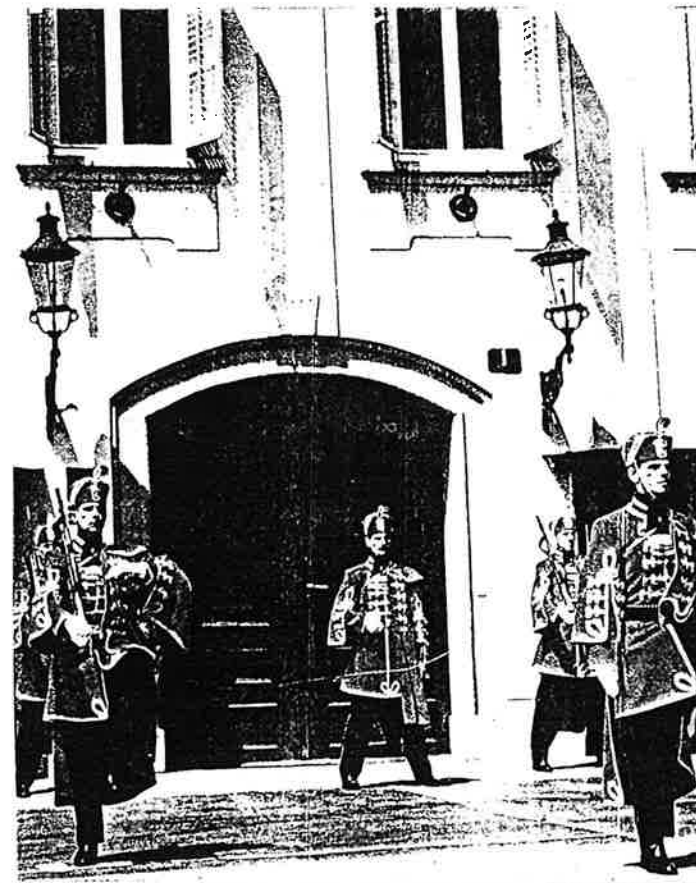
I ovaj, šesti po redu, Dorin golf turnir je uspio iznad očekivanja - ili bolje rečeno - najveći uspjeh do sada, kaže mi gosp. Stanko Trtnaj, jedan od organizatora ovog turnira, u kojem sudjeluje

Badurina & Associates also believe that the work of the ICTY must be open and transparent. Sealed indictments have not led to many arrests. On the contrary, there seem to be fewer arrests due to the uncertainty raised by the possibility that high government officials in charge of implementing the Dayton and Washington accords are in fact under sealed indictment as war criminals. While the United States has touted Republika Srpska President Biljana Plavsic and Premier Milorad Dodik as "...a breath of fresh air," individuals familiar with the work of the ICTY have claimed that Plavsic and hand picked members of Dodik's government are subjects of possible action by the ICTY. It was widely reported in Europe that the ICTY withdrew an indictment against Plavsic when she started to co-operate with the international community.

As the leaders of the American Jewish community we thank you again for the positive endorsement you have given the work of the ICTY. We ask that you support full and transparent disclosure of all the workings of the ICTY, including current indictments. We also ask that you consider supporting the Republic of Croatia's position regarding the ICTY's inappropriate efforts to probe into a sovereign nation's affairs which could result in, as Ambassador Scheffer stated, "...a court whose challenges of responsible governments' controversial actions undermines efforts to confront the worst assaults on humankind."

Badurina & Associates is a Washington area think tank whose focus is United States --- Croatia relations.

Submitted by Dr. Darko Desaty



BANSKI DVORI - POČASNA STRAŽA
ZAGREB - CROATIA

RESTORATION OF IVAN MESTROVIC'S MAUSOLEUM IN OTAVICE IS COMPLETE

Anita Grcic, *Slobodna Dalmacija*, (translated by *Croatia Weekly*), June 5, 1998, p. 16.

The restoration of the Holy Redeemer Church in Otavice, which was devastated during the war, has recently been finished. The church is best known for housing the mausoleum of the family of world famous Croatian sculptor Ivan Mestrovic.

The reconstruction of Ivan Mestrovic's damaged works in the Holy Redeemer Church in the village of Otavice has recently been completed. The works were carried out by the restoration workers in cooperation with the Ivan Mestrovic Foundation in Split. Horrible crimes that are completely incomprehensible to the rational mind were committed against this sanctuary and its surroundings during the Serbian occupation. The church was completely destroyed, the tombs were opened and the remains of the deceased were defiled.

The Holy Redeemer Church in Otavice is a unique architectural monument made by renowned sculptor Ivan Mestrovic. It is a modest yet easily recognisable feature of the area as well as a final proof of Mestrovic's patriotic sentiments. After the liberation of the area, the church and its surroundings were found in a severely damaged state. The bridge leading from the village to the church was damaged, the area around the church was mined and cut up with trenches and bunkers and the nearby trees were set afire.

The stairway leading to the church was completely destroyed, and the church itself has suffered much damage: the bronze doorposts with portraits of Mestrovic family members have been removed and the reliefs have been stolen, as well as the bell above the entry doors. The church's floor was also damaged, and the alabaster plates above the windows were crushed. The monstrance from the altar was stolen together with an oil-lamp that was hooked to the top of the church cupola. Even the wall reliefs were severely damaged. The toes of the seraphim around the crucifix were crushed, as well as the toes of evangelists Matthew, John and Luke. Reliefs showing the scenes of Nativity and the Pieta were desecrated, while the left hand of the mother and child in the Nativity scene were also damaged. Fortunately, the moulds still exist, so that the reconstruction of these reliefs was recently completed. The reconstruction of the bridge leading to the church, and the planting of new trees at the site of the forest that was burned down on Mestroviceva Glavica hill, mean that the majority of the restoration works in and around the Holy Redeemer Church have been completed.

Whether or not the damaged reliefs should have been left as they were to serve as a symbol of the darkness that engulfed this area and all of Croatia was the subject of some debate at the Ivan Mestrovic Foundation for a long time. The decision to renew the reliefs was finally made, while the new trees planted around the church testify to the horrible crimes committed here. The young saplings, much smaller than the old ones that 'survived' the destruction unscathed, will be a memento to remind everyone of a period of evil and destruction. When the Ivan Mestrovic Foundation appoints a suitable person to take care of the church and its surroundings, the church will once more be opened to visitors.

Priredio: Dr. Darko Desaty

EIGHTEEN IRON DOORS TO FREEDOM

Prof. Kornelija Pejcinovic, a librarian in the Medvescak Library in Zagreb, has been corresponding with the detained Croatsians at the Hague prison for over a half year.

On July 2, 1998, she gave an interview to Z. Despot of Zagreb daily *Vecernji list* and explained how she came into contact with them and what they write in their letters to her.

Q: What made you begin writing to the detained Croatsians at the Hague?

A: In October of last year in the *Hrvatsko slovo* newspaper I read an interview with a well known computer expert, Tomislav Nuerenberger. He mentioned that Croatsians are not aware of the dangers and lack the courage to defend their people, rather they give their heroes to others and forget about them. When he heard Tihomir Blaskic was extradited to the Hague, he sent him a postcard with his support. This was a personal shock to me and I organised greeting card mailings to our boys at the Hague with another lady. After the new year, I received a thank you from Blaskic and Kordic, as well as a letter from Zdravko Pave Mucic.

Q: What do they write to you about?

A: These letters are exceptionally inspirational and I have to admit that, in a way, I have changed because of them. This is how I began to write support letters to them and I was happy to learn that they all read them. From their letters, it is clear how much they are suffering, but on the other, hand they are keeping their faith strong.

Q: How do they describe their life in jail at the Hague?

A: The conditions there are inhuman. Blaskic, Aleksovski and Mucic are spending their third years in rooms where the windows do not open and the only air they get is through the air conditioning vents. The conditions are very claustrophobic and there are 18 iron doors separating them from freedom. Furthermore, they are constantly being monitored by electronic bugs and pace around a seven metre times three metre wire cage, like animals in a zoo. When they are being taken to court, their faces are covered with a mask, blindfolded and handcuffed. The entire regime in the jail is geared toward keeping the situation in a constant state of tension. Their basic human rights have been trampled on: clean air and defence.

Q: Have they requested their fates be made known to the public in their letters?

A: This was my intention. To warn people to what degree Croatia can be co-operative. In the end, if an extradition for Ante Gotovina is being requested, what will happen is that all the people who took part in the Homeland War will end up at the Hague. The Croatsians there have to answer for crimes committed during the "Yugo-Chetnik" aggression. For an example, for Mucic, the prosecution witnesses only use superlatives to describe him and none of them gave testimony against him. If they will be convicted of crimes on the territory of the former Yugoslavia, then we can expect Croatia to be accused of being the aggressor. This is why I ask myself: until when will Croatsians continue to passively follow

Strana 10

the events at the ICTY? It is a strange custom that Croatsians keep dealing with their victims from the past, not seeing the victims who are currently in need of being rescued. Where are the fighters for human rights and an independent judicial system?

Q: Are your exchanged letters subject to any form of censorship?

A: I do not know, but they are obviously receiving them. I found out from Mucic that a number of his letters disappeared. That is to say that he complained to the authorities in the jail that some of them were confiscated by lower ranked personnel.

PIRIEDIO: Dr. D. Desaty



CROATIAN STATE HONOURS FOR PROFESSOR C. MICHAEL MCADAMS

By BADURINA & ASSOCIATES, June 29, 1998

ZAGREB - Professor C. Michael McAdams was recently the recipient of the Republic of Croatia's State Honours conferred on behalf of President Franjo Tudjman. The Honour was presented to this distinguished educator, scholar, administrator and author in recognition of his many years of courageous, outstanding and tireless work in researching, supporting, and defending the Croatian nation's right to self-determination as a free, independent democracy.

McAdams is Regional Director of the University of San Francisco, Central Valley Regional Campus, a position he has held since 1978. He is a prominent authority in Croatian and South Slavic studies and author of the well-known monograph, *Croatia Myth and Reality*. As a recognised expert in his field, Professor McAdams has served as a consultant and expert witness for many prestigious firms, and legislative and judicial entities. He has received numerous awards and honours including the Order of Danica, Marko Marulic Class, from the Republic of Croatia in 1995 and has been affiliated with many academic, humanitarian and cultural organisations and institutions.

He received his undergraduate degree from the University of the Pacific with studies in 20th Century German and Croatian History and Holocaust Studies. He continued his specialisation in Croatian studies for his post graduate degree at John Carroll University. While Professor McAdams' American roots are deep they also resonate with ethnic empathy. His paternal North Carolina, Scot side of the family (MacAdams was altered to McAdams in the late 19th century) is part of the famous clan, MacGregor and his maternal line descends from notable ante-bellum Southern Jewish families, the Carmichael's and Goldman's.

The award ceremony took place at the Embassy of the Republic of Croatia in Washington, D.C. on June 29, 1998. Professor McAdams was unable to attend the ceremony and Drucilla Badurina, President of Badurina & Associates, accepted the award on his behalf.

indescribable beauty of the houses that were witnesses of Croatia's glorious past, which is so evident all over Zagreb. Few days ago I walked there with a friend of mine and it was so normal, so natural to see a man lighting gas lights one by one. Where else can you find this but in Zagreb?

Every time when we Croats talk about Croatia and Zagreb we talk about St. Marko's church - an absolutely wonderful church that will make you stop in your tracks when you see it, because of its roof. Today it is almost renovated completely, and once it is completed it will be one of the most photographed spots of the world.

We, who were either born or lived here in Zagreb are extremely proud of our city as every person is of his or her town - yet I think Zagreb is special for every Croat. We all dream of living in Zagreb, or sending our child to school to Zagreb and visiting it often. One of the most visited places where you see the beauty of Zagreb in its fullest meaning of the word is Strossmayer's promenade. The view you encounter is magnificent - something not too many cities can boast of. You cannot decide when is it the best - during the day or at night. Right in front of you the town is prostrated - with its old and new roofs, small, large and numerous houses, buildings, cathedrals, churches, cupolas.... How many times lovers in the midst of their kisses glance at this beauty which has been looked at by so many generations of Croats before them, and just as their forefathers did, these young lovers of today gaze on the cupolas of the city, buildings here and there, the lights that are fading, the beauty which is slowly falling under the moon rays... How breath-taking!

Many times people talk about beauty of Vienna, Prague or Pariz!. Granted, all of these cities are beautiful, but Zagreb is just as beautiful. Now, when the pride of Croatsians is restored Zagrebians proudly show off clean and beautiful facades of their houses. Many of those we have missed in the past - buildings that are just as intricate and architecturally interesting as in any city of the world. I better not touch the beauty of the churches, because I will never finish this article, yet allow me to tell you just about one church - beside our famous St. Stephen's

Cathedral. Our Cathedral with two tall towers defines our city. Should you walk in and if you were a part of the celebration of the st. Mass and also lucky enough to hear the music of the choir - you know what it means to be in Heaven. Probably Heaven must be a place similar to our Cathedral - gorgeous windows, altar with indescribable figurines, serenity in its glory and - yes, the music. The music of the choirs of the Cathedral must not be missed should you come to Zagreb, but after Cathedral just go on walking to the Church of Ivan Krstitelj and then talk to me about some churches in some distant part of the world ! Although I am biased - since I love Zagreb and Croatia above everything - to experience the beauty of the absolutely magnificent church is to walk in this one - a quaint place with glorious, wonderful story of the past. It is lovely.



The Arcades of Mirogoj Cemetary

My city - my Zagreb - is a gem of architecture, and after so many words about Zagreb - this early morning I once again plan to walk and enjoy it thoroughly, for who knows when shall I see it next time ! Zagreb is the best, no question about it ! You, who were born or lived in Zagreb just like I did - please do go back once again and take a stroll through its streets and enjoy its beauty to its fullest. You, who were not lucky enough to have seen it yet - do come. It's worth your coming here. We, Croats, would like to share our city with you.

Am I biased? Yes, but this is how I see and feel my country and its capital Zagreb - through my eyes (and my heart).
Valentina

ZAGREBU

August Senoa

*Povrh starog Griča brda
Kao junak lijep i mlad
Smjele glave, čela tvrda
Slavni stoji Zagreb-grad
Živ, ponosit,
Jak, prkosit,
Kad slobode plane boj,
Tko tu kliko ne bi;
Slava, slava tebi,
Zagreb-grade divni moj!
Mnoge bure povrh njega
Prosu svijeta udes ljut,
Al' pod krilom našeg stijega
On stajaše tvrd i krut.
Ljutit stresa
Juriš bijesa
I razmrvi vraga roj.
Tko tu kliko ne bi;
Slava, slava tebi,
Zagreb-grade divni moj!*

*Nad njim bljesnu zlatna zvijezda,
Da ugleda druga drug.
Kao soko iz svog gnijezda,
U daleki prhnu jug.
Glas hrvatstva,
Doziv bratstva,
Preni mi se, rode moj!
Tko tu kliko ne bi;
Slava, slava tebi,
Zagreb-grade divni moj!
Ti uskrisi naše pleme,
Ti rastjeraj duha noc,
Ti nam siješ znanja sjeme,
Ti nam dižeš roda moć.
Svjetlobornih,
Umotvornih
Glava radaš silan broj.
Tko tu kliko ne bi;
Slava, slava tebi,
Zagreb-grade divni moj!*

*Kad zarudi mlada zora,
A iz zore dvor i hram,
Zlatno polje, zelen-gora
Sjajna Sava, laze plam
Od miline
Duša gine,
Po krasoti bludeč toj.
Tko tu kliko ne bi;
Slava, slava tebi,
Zagreb-grade divni moj!
Zagreb-grade, naša glavo,
Zagreb-grade, šite naš,
Zagreb-grade, naša slavo,
Kao sunce ti nam sjaš.
Budi velik,
Jak ko čelik,
Tisuć ljeta slavan stoj!
Tko ti kliko ne bi;
Slava, slava tebi,
Zagreb-grade divni moj!*

THROUGH MY EYES
(AND MY HEART).....

Today an old friend of mine said something very interesting: "When I watched Paris during the soccer tournament it reminded me so much of Zagreb! How true!

If you take a stroll through Zagreb, and raise your eyes a little bit above the shops, you will suddenly notice something which you probably have never noticed before: beautiful buildings and absolutely fascinating facades of the houses. I am not a born Zagrebian, but the one who lived here from a very tender age, went to school, fell in love, married, had kids and then left it for "a better life" in Canada. Yes, I do miss my Zagreb, and perhaps because of my yearning for my Croatia, and especially for Zagreb - the town of my youth and love, every time I visit Zargeb I look at it with "fresh" eyes and and every day I discover once again that my Zagreb is unique and remarkable.

Freedom winds in the beginning of the nineties blew in many changes - the need for showing who and what we Croats were, including showing off our city and our country. I used to travel quite regularly to Croatia before the Homeland War, and yet I do not remember such beauty of my town in such splendor.

Today when I was coming by tram to the main square, I looked around me with fresh eyes: I tried to be here for the first time, and since I am a prolific traveler, I understand what the tourist are told to look for. Should you visit any of the old towns in Europe you would be told: "Watch for the architecture! It is remarkable!"

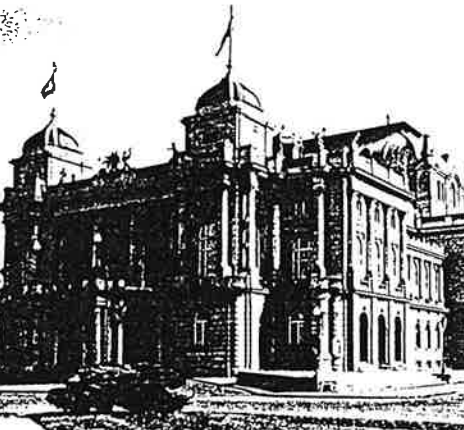


Mimara Museum

The same must be said for Zagreb. If you travel by the tram it gives you time to observe interesting buildings: Mimara Museum, exclusively beautiful building of

the Museum of Crafts and Art, famous Croatian theatre, Zagreb University Rectorate and the faculty of the Law, and at the other side of the street the beautiful building of the headquarters of the Croatian Encyclopedia. Should you have time you should look at the fantastic two houses on Frankopanska Street - on the corner of Dalmatinska - wow!!! Then when you travel toward the Ban Jelacic Square you have to pass Mesnicka and a house at the beginning of it on your left: whoever was the architect of this house must have been special, because this house and its facade is a gem.

Our main square - Ban Jelacic' Square - with the guy on the horse - is something that makes Zagreb special. First there is a busy market so near the heart of the city, which hardly any city of the world has. Every old town is beautiful - yet Zagreb has a rare splendour of the city that has not just one or two special places, but many, many beautiful buildings, parks, churches, arcades of Mirogoj cemetery - absolute architectural bounty and there really aren't too many places in the old world



Croatian National Theatre

that can be compared to Zagreb, because there are so many beautiful buildings on such a small area. Wherever you look you will notice absolutely wonderful architecture - houses with facades scrubbed clean of the grim past and now shining in its imagination and beauty. There are many fantastic houses in the main square - which one is the best? It is hard to say, because the one where the Central Pharmacy is, is remarkable; one

where the Association of the Writers is situated is absolutely wonderful - and you also cannot forget hotel "Dubrovnik" with its stately respect on the other side, or Varteks buildings, or the house next to it. What about the building of Gradska Kavana? Is it less remarkable, or more? Very difficult to decide, and since I am not an architect, and cannot talk about forms or periods, visual beauty is the only criteria for me. The house next to Dubrovnik catches your eye with its beauty of the balcony full of delicate flowers hanging down the railings in the middle of the architecture of the past.



Ban Jelacic Square

If you have a minute go around the corner to Bogoviceva street and look at the gray building of the Swiss Consulate - it is wonderful. Catch a glance of the Square of Flowers - a feast for the eyes!

Should you walk to Jurisiceva street your eye will catch the post office - a very old and stately building - but before it (toward the main square) there is a beautiful building and suddenly you feel as if you are in a story book. Next to it a building with a figure of its previous owner or someone else - just wonderful. Imagine, this house was built more than 100 years ago - a time of crinolines and fans and coaches!

If you are a lover of beautiful houses, please go to the Upper Town. This is the history of Croatia. The best route you should take is (at least for me) through Duga Street (Long Street), through the Stone Gate, where the patrons pray daily to Virgin Mary and the candles are flickering all the time in the somber beauty of the past. As soon as you walk through it you will find yourself in the

Professor McAdams had this to say about the Croatian State Honours: "I deeply regret that I cannot be with you this evening. Thank you for this great honour. This award honours not only myself and the others here tonight, but all who have laboured so long for a free, independent, and democratic Croatia. This recognises those living and those who did not live to see Croatia free. It honours all for how far we have come on this journey. The journey was sometimes difficult, as those who identified themselves as Croatian were ignored at best, or vilified at worst.

This evening, I have been rewarded more dearly than I could have imagined. I have been honoured by the nation and people that I honour most. I have been honoured by those who for years have supported my work. Most of all, I have been honoured and rewarded by lifelong friendships.

Now that Croatia is free, she will have many friends. But there was a time, not too long ago, that supporting a free Croatia was not popular and sometimes dangerous, even in America.

Thank you for this honour which recognises that the Croatian nation had friends defending its right to self-determination, even when it was not a popular undertaking. Today all may join together to build a new, democratic Croatia, at peace with itself and its neighbours. Croatia has always had a proud past, today Croatia also has a bright future. Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of that future."

Other recipients honoured at the ceremony were: former United States Ambassador to the Vatican, Thomas P. Melady; the late former Governor of Minnesota, Rudy Perpich; President of LaRoche College, Msgr. William A. Kerr; member of the Board of Regents of The Catholic University of America, Tatjana Grgich.

PRIREDIO: Dr. D. Desaty



AND THE LAST WORD

July 27,1998 issue of Forbes magazine said in its commentary **KOSOVO, WILL MILOSEVIC BE ALLOWED TO WIN AGAIN?** And I quote: "We have tried for months to look the other way, trying the excuse that these internal conflicts reflect longs standing hatreds etc. Thus we have let Serbia know that we will not do anything effective to deter further violence."

Or Toronto Star, July 30,1998 page A11, "The exact number of people affected by the fighting is unclear, with estimates ranging from 400 to more than 500 killed and from 150,000 to 300,000 displaced."

Many reports are saying that noone is allowed to enter some places recaptured by the Serbs. Some bold eyewitnesses are talking about streets washed off blood before the journalists were let in.

Sounds familiar? Wasn't the same said for us when we were bleeding in Croatia or Bosnia? There was, however, one small difference - we Croats were not silent. We demonstrated, wrote letters, urged Canadians to hear our side of the story, cried openly and never stopped asking for help.

Today once again we are witnesses to a brutal aggression against innocent people who want only freedom, liberty and independence. Someone said to me yesterday (and he should have known better) that we shouldn't urge the aid for Albanians because if they get independence, Republika Srpska goes too. As if it didn't go already !

I am feeling very uncomfortable standing and watching one more nation being decimated by those over the river Drina. Shouldn't we Canadian Croats demand that the slaughter in Kosovo is stopped? Shouldn't our Congress do something? Don't Albanians matter? And we all know that this mess over there is far from over !

Valentina

Pisma uredništvu

Poštovana gospodo Krčmar,

Drago mi je čitati ISKRU. Čitajući ju vidim da se dosta bavite lokalnim vijestima, pa me malo čudi da ste promašili objaviti jednu važnu vijest za nas iseljenike, a posebice umirovljenike. Radi se o članku koji je izašao negdje u ožujku u Slobodnoj Dalmaciji, a prenijela ga je Croatia Weekly u broju od 19. ožujka, a isto tako i Zajedničar pod naslovom "New tourism complex for Croatian emigrants". Članak Vam dostavljam, da ga, ako je to moguće objavite u ISKRI. (primjedba urednika - članak na slijedećoj stranici.

Zadnje četiri godine dosta se piše u hrvatskim medijima o onome što hrvatska diaspora obećava investirati u mega projekte u Hrvatskoj i o brizi da se pomogne povratnicima i penzionerima. Ako se sjećate negdje 1993 gosp. Ante Beljo najavio je izgradnju apartmana hotela (mjesto u Zagrebu) za privremeni smještaj povratnika. Hrvatski Svjetski Kongres na svom prvom zasjedanju obećao je sakupiti US \$ 40,000.000 za pomoc izgradnje otočne mreze. Mreža je izgrađena, ali kampanja za sakupljanje novca kod nas još nije ni započela. Na drugom zasjedanju Kongresa obećano je US \$ 50,000.000 za gradnju nove bolnice u Novoj Bili, a na trećem US \$ 20,000.000 za obnovu bolnice u Vukovaru. Ovi svi projekti mora da su pri nekakvom završetku, pa je razumljivo da ovaj najnoviji mega projekt njih slijedi.

Iz članka u Croatia Weekly vidim da će u ovaj najnoviji projekt biti uloženo US \$ 800,000.000 milijuna. Ako ovo rade pojedinci, čestitam i ovo me veseli. Nisam znao da u našoj sredini imamo tako bogatih osoba, Ako se pak radi o jednom konsorcijumu, onda mi je žao da i ja nisam pozvan da sudjelujem (bavim se gradevinarstvom već 45 godina) i bio bi obećao investiciju od barem deset posto i to ne zato da zaradim, već zbog publiciteta - lijepo je vidjeti i čuti svoje ime u novinama i na televiziji - a i zbog toga da zagrizem u gomojnicu paškog sira prije nego jadne ovce izgube i ovaj pašnjak na Privlaci, a mi gurmani ovu poslasticu - i konačno u nadi da će me domaći partner, na račun mog obećanja, barem jednom počastiti u restoranima ACI u Splitu i Zadru dobrim ručkom. Kod njih je uvijek friška i oborita riba.

1605 godine Servantes u svom romau "Don Quixote" opisao je Don Quixota kako na magarcu putuje Španjolskom, sanja i gradi kule u zraku.

Ovog našeg desetljeća pojavili su se, svi iz iste vreće, novi Don Quixoti, koji putuju Hrvatskom i to bez magarca i obećavaju i grade kule u zraku.

Dušam Bezic



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DOREEN S. HERCEG, E.C.E. Associate Director

A new residential and tourism complex with 1,500 suites will be built near Privlaka, a small settlement in the vicinity of Zadar. The complex is intended for use by Croatian emigrants, particularly for Croatian pensioners from Canada who are investing 800 million Canadian dollars into this project



Croatian emigrants are about to embark on one of their greatest investment projects in Kulin near Privlaka, 25 kilometers from Zadar. Representatives of these Croatian emigrants have recently signed an agreement on the construction of a residential and tourism complex designed primarily for Croatian pensioners from Canada and Croatian pensioners now living in other countries. According to the agreement signed in Split this March, the complex is to be built on an area of 133,000 square meters, while the investment project itself has an estimated value of 800 million Canadian dollars.

Croatian emigrants, particularly the elderly ones, have often expressed their wish to pay more visits to Croatia, so that their idea of spending holidays in Dalmatia, rather than in Florida seemed to be quite reasonable. Similar residential complexes exist in Florida and Canada as well, particularly in the Toronto area. They were built for wealthy pensioners who live there for most of the year when they want to get away from overcrowded and polluted cities. Canadian investors and their Croatian partner Konstruktor Inženjering, based in Split, established a joint venture called Adria Zona, which is also headquartered in Split.

"The basic idea was to build a tourism complex with suites and a number of various facilities such as swimming pools, tennis courts, fine restaurants, a clinic, a chapel and other amenities," said Josip Vinski who, along with the Croatian Credit Union, is now faced with the vital marketing task of motivating Croatian emigrants to invest in this project. According to Vinski, an amount of 100,000 Canadian dollars will be required to purchase a 75 square meter apartment. This should be acceptable to the

already large number of potential investors. The project will commence as soon as all the necessary permits have been obtained. Thus, work on the first project phase may even begin next year.

Thirty years ago the location near Kulin was supposed to be the site of a so-called 'pioneer' complex. However, that project, as well as many similar ones, was never realized and the area near Kulin, i.e. the promontory and the plateau between Nin and the Bridge of Vir, encompassing an area of 13 acres, has been deserted ever since, although it is only two kilometers from the island of Pag.

Shepherds used it as a pasture for their sheep, while during the summer months people would come here, attracted by its beautiful sand beaches and sandshoals that still abound in shells washed up by strong currents. This area is exposed to strong gusts of northeastern winds, but the wind here is no stronger than that in the nearby tourist settlement of Sabunike, located close to Nin. This has not stopped vacationers, who want to enjoy the fresh air and sea, from building holiday homes (1,400 of them) in the Privlaka area.

Kažo Kolanović, the head of the Privlaka municipality, said: "This project is very important to us. The whole complex will be built on municipal land and we have decided that it should be sold at DM 20 per square meter. As provided by our public tender, potential investors may buy only municipal land. We believe that this will bring us more than DM 2.2 million and provide vital help to other projects. Moreover, the tourism complex will provide jobs for 150 people from this area. This is really a lot, particularly if we take into consideration the unemployment rate in this region. Privlaka has always been famous for a high number of emigrants. They live mostly in the United States and Australia. It sometimes seems that there are more people from Privlaka who live abroad than those who live here. The inhabitants of Privlaka once sold sand for a living and were famous for their vintners and sailors. Nowadays people are relying on tourism rather than these traditional jobs."

According to the aforementioned agreement, the project should progress gradually. The Privlaka municipality is expected to take the first step by announcing a public tender for the sale of its municipal land. Potential investors must submit a plan for location permits within a one-year period after obtaining building permits. Should Adria Zona and the Croats from Canada all don the project, the firm Konstruktor will be allowed to fully take it over. The general agreement was signed by Željko Žderić, the general manager of Konstruktor, Mihailo Zorić, the director of Adria Zona, and Kažo Kolanović, the head of the Privlaka municipality.

Once the purchase of the land has been completed, works on the project may begin. They encompass the construction of 1,500 suites and the entire infrastructure, including a road network, a water main and a sewage system connected with the Zadar channel, water treatment equipment and telecommunications and satellite installations.

(Slobodna Dalmacija)

MOTRIŠTA.....

Za mnoge je danas veoma teško živjeti u Hrvatskoj s plaćom koju zaraduju (ili ne zaraduju). I plaće i penzije su uglavnom niske, tek je jedan manji broj hrvatskih građana zadovoljan sa svojim primanjima. Jasno, neka se nitko u Hrvatskoj ne zavarava - rijetko tko od njih radi onako kako mi radimo u zapadnom svijetu, a i prilike su različite, pa mislim da je koji puta neumjesno od nas iz dijaspore suditi o nečemu o čemu uglavnom ne znamo puno. Ove godine mnogi građani Hrvatske ne mogu si dozvoliti odmor - koji se nekako smatra "pravom" (!) svakog zaposlenog u Hrvatskoj - jednostavno novaca nema. Uglavnom oni, koji imaju nešto svojega, ili nekog svog, odlaze na odmor.

Velika većina hrvatskih penzionera ima minimalnu penziju. Velik broj penzionera živi od prosječno 800 kuna mjesečno. Kako je tek onima koji imaju djecu, a djeca stalno nešto trebaju? Kilogram kruha kreće se oko 4 - 8 kuna, mlijeko 4 k, meso oko 40 k, voće, recimo breskve 10 k, jaja 1 k, pilić 1 kilogram 24 k itd. Uz ovo dodajmo stanarine, električnu itd - sve je tako skupo da je skoro nemoguće izlaziti na kraj jednoj prosječnoj obitelji. Istina je da nerijetko vidite starce ili starice kako skupljaju "zelenjavu" pod stolovima na Tržnici nakon 2 sata popodne.

VUKOVAR NAŠ SVAKDAŠNJI

Ako nešto uporno i od sveg srca želiš i čvrsto radiš na ostvarenju tog sna - gotovo je sigurno da ćeš taj san i ostvariti. Vukovar je danas ostvareni san ne samo vukovaraca nego i svih Hrvata u svijetu. No kako to obično biva - stvarnost se u mnogočemu razlikuje od sna. San, na primjer, ne pita za cijenu. U stvarnosti cijena je uvijek presudna za ostvarenje i najmanje težnje. I tako, Vukovar ima cijenu plaćenu životima najhrabrijih Hrvata, djece koja nikada neće odrasti, žena koje više nikoga neće dočekati na pragu doma, očeva, djedova i braca koji nikada više neće zagrliti svoju djecu, unuke, sestre... U cijenu Vukovara danas ulaze stavke onih koji su umrli u nekim tuđim gradovima, onih koje su užasi rata natjerali da svoj dom ponovno osnuju negdje dalje, no najskuplju cijenu platiti će oni koje hrabrost, ljubav, inat ili korijeni tjeraju na povratak. Nezaposlenost, neimaština, život u gradu prepunom ruševina, a bez rasvjeta, uništene vodovodne, električne i telefonske mreže, uništenog povjerenja u susjede, upitno kvalitetnog školskog sustava, uništenih crkava, dječjih vrtića, knjižnica, kazališta i svega inog, što čini gradom i mjestom za život. Ti vukovarci koji su herojstvo obrane platili progonstvom, sada, poput pionira u nepoznatoj zemlji, stvaraju svojim radom uvjete za povratak.

Istina je ovdje jednostavni račun - svaki vukovarac koji se već doselio u Vukovar otvara put cijeloj ulici.

Sada, u povratku, hrabrimo se kao i prije sedam godina prisustvom prijatelja, pravih susjeda, osoba u koje vjerujemo. Namjerno danas ne želim govoriti o komšijama, koji ionako preteške situacije čine još težim, o problemima u vezi s obnovom,

Saznajemo iz hrvatskoga tiska da su znatno povećana primanja našim zastupnicima u Saboru, Ministrima, kao i našem Predsjedniku Dr. Tudjmanu. Po izvještajima saznajemo da je plaća Predsjednika postala jednaka plaći austrijskog i njemačkog predsjednika. Isto tako - upravo sam saznala - da je cijela stvar stavljena u mirovanje (bar za sada), vjerojatno radi neočekivane reakcije Hrvata u domovini i izvan nje.

Naši čelnici trebaju biti pristojno plaćeni za rad koji rade - odgovornost je biti na mjestu ministra, ili zastupnika u Saboru, a da ne govorimo kako nije lako biti predsjednikom hrvatske države danas, u ovim okolnostima. Ipak, dali je ta povišica bila uopće nužna? Iako možda njihove plaće nisu tako visoke (u što osobno sumnjam), svi znamo da su im isplaćivane dnevnice, kao i razne druge privilegije, koje su normalne za ljude tog položaja, tako da oni ne žive samo od svoje mjesečne place, kao drugi prosječni Hrvati.

Mislim da se na ovo nepotrebno povećanje plaća našim čelnicima u Hrvatskoj ne može gledati s financijskog aspekta, već sa moralnog !! Kako su sebi mogli izglasati tako visoke plaće, dok traže od običnih ljudi da se žrtvuju ! Kako bi mi u Kanadi rekli, "thumbs down" što se tiče povećanja plaća našim čelnicima. A što se tiče "stavljanja u mirovanje" tog prijedloga - samo neka tako ostane - u mirovanju !

Valentina



o milijun malih, većih i ogromnih problema s kojima vukovarci dnevno odmjeravaju snagu, strpljenje, živce i svoje platežne sposobnosti. Ti hrabri vukovarci-povratnici čine Vukovar svaki dan sve manje stranim i neprijateljskim mjestom, kakav je sve do nedavno bio, a vjerujte, to je zahtjevan posao za koji im treba odati priznanje.



Pre-war Vukovar

Ne možemo svi biti tamo, no budimo s njima u duhu. Svaka podrška, makar bila i samo lijepa misao, važna je vukovarcima i Vukovaru.

Danas kada dodemo u Vukovar imamo gdje popiti kavu, imamo prilike susresti Hrvate i Hrvatice, imamo priliku prošetati hrvatskom obalom Dunava. A kada već imamo takvu priliku... iskoristimo je najbolje. To je ujedno i najmanje i najviše što možemo pružiti i Hrvatskoj i Vukovaru, a sigurno i sebi samima.

Željka Zgonjanin
Vukovar

