

THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL
FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

CASE No. IT-95-5/18-T

IN TRIAL CHAMBER No. 3

Before: Judge O-Gon Kwon, Presiding
Judge Howard Morrison
Judge Melville Baird
Judge Flavia Lattanzi, Reserve Judge

Registrar: Mr. John Hocking

Date: 8 October 2015

THE PROSECUTOR

v.

RADOVAN KARADZIC

Public

LETTER TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The Office of the Prosecutor:
Mr. Alan Tieger
Ms. Hildegard Uertz-Retzlaff

United Nations Secretary General

The Accused:
Radovan Karadzic

Radovan Karadzic
United Nations Detention Unit
International Criminal Tribunal for
the former Yugoslavia
Churchillplein 1
2517 JW The Hague
The Netherlands

8 October 2015

The Honorable Ban Ki Moon
Secretary General
United Nations
46th Street & 1st Avenue
New York, NY 10017

Re: Serious Illnesses in United Nations Detention Unit in The Hague

Dear Mr. Secretary,

I am convinced that you are very well informed about this UN project called the ICTY, i.e. the first *ad hoc* attempt at international justice that preceded the International Criminal Court.

I know that you and the Security Council receive semi-annual reports from the two branches of the ICTY—the Judges and Prosecution, but you never receive any information on behalf of the accused persons.

I am writing to you to bring to your attention a most serious matter concerning the health of those accused persons who are in the care of the United Nations at the UN Detention Unit in The Hague. I have raised these issues with the administration of the Detention Unit, the Registrar, and my Trial Chamber, with each organ declining to take responsibility for the situation. Therefore, this letter had to be addressed to you. Finally, it is the United Nations' responsibility and you are the one ultimately responsible.

I doubt that you and the UN had been informed about the state of health of the detainees in the UN Detention Unit in The Hague, because otherwise I believe you would have already acted. There have been two sudden deaths, two suicides, and eleven detainees have contracted life-threatening diseases such as cancer and leukemia while at the Detention Unit. I, myself, recently underwent emergency gall bladder surgery and have diabetes-level blood sugar after living 63 years in perfect health before coming to the Detention Unit.

The Honorable Ban Ki Moon

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Such a high incidence of malignant diseases among approximately 100 people who stayed in the Detention Unit should have already led to investigations by the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the World Health Organisation.

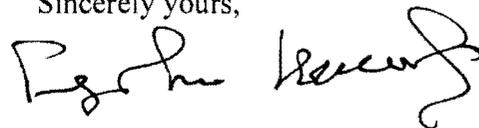
Finally, the families of the deceased, as well as of those who are undergoing expensive and complex therapy procedures, deserve every attention and support from all of us, particularly from the United Nations.

Those of us who have been taken from our own society, culture, and legal system, and brought to The Hague by the United Nations have had to suffer through many irregularities, including:

- trials under the judicial system that is completely unknown and strange to the people from the former Yugoslavia, used to have an investigating judge, which meant that the accused were handicapped and dependent on the goodwill of the Prosecution to timely disclose all exculpatory documents and facts;
- trials in a foreign language, which resulted in a numerous semantic errors, always to the detriment of the accused. No matter how many of those misunderstandings are corrected, there are still too many that go unnoticed and uncorrected;
- a complete lack of knowledge of our constitutions, laws and regulations by the ICTY Prosecution, which brought many accusations of wrongdoing based on acts and conduct which were not only allowed, but obligatory according to our laws, and many other uncommon elements, strange to the defendants from the Balkans;
- very long trials, with a very long stay in the Detention Unit, and finally, serving sentences in foreign countries which gives an impression of victor's justice.

I hope that you will take the time to understand the problems faced by organs other than the Judges and the Prosecution, and launch an investigation into the serious issues faced by those of us who are your unwilling guests in The Hague.

Sincerely yours,



Radovan Karadzic