

1991 Declaration of Independence

Croatian transcript:

I onda, znači, dolazimo do toga '91. kad je Hrvatska proglasila samostalnost, koja je priznata od jedne grupe zemalja 15. siječnja '92, i to je mislim nekakav bitan datum. Ne znam sad točno, cijela neka grupa zemalja, mislim da je ili Island ili Bugarska, ovako neko, neko ne baš... Ono, prvi parlament koji je ratificirao, mislim da je Island. Islandani imaju taj najstariji parlament, ali to isto nije tema naše emisije.

I ovaj, i tako, to je što se tiče postanka, i sad bio je taj rat za nezavisnost, jer to nije samo tako prošlo, nego su bile neke ratne operacije u prvoj polovici '91. godine, znači negdje od tog takozvanog „Krvavog Uskrsa“, gdje je poginuo neki prvi, prva žrtva pala, ovaj, u tom ratu, i do primirja negdje do Nove godine '92. kada dolaze UN snage i indijski general jedan, Satish Nambiar. I onda je došlo nekakvo primirje, i rat se punom žestinom prenio na Bosnu, jer se, ovaj, u Hrvatskoj su se oslobodile te postrojbe vojne i tehnika itd. To je nekako i pogoršalo stanje u Bosni.

English translation:

So, we reached 1991 when Croatia declared its independence, which was then recognized by a group of countries on January 15, 1992, which I think is an important date. I'm not sure who it was, it was a large number of countries, although I think it was either Iceland or Bulgaria... I mean, their parliament was the first one to ratify our independence. I think it was Iceland. Iceland has the oldest parliament in the world by the way, but that's not the topic of today's show¹.

So, that's what originally took place. It was followed by a war for independence because it couldn't happen peacefully. Instead, war operations took place in the first half of 1991, so somewhere from the "Bloody Easter,"² when the first victim of war was killed, until the truce somewhere around 1992 New Year's Day, when the UN forces arrived under the command of an Indian general, Satish Nambiar. So, a ceasefire was agreed upon, and

¹ *To nije tema današnje emisije* ("That's not the topic of today's show") is a phrase often used to mock someone or oneself when they go off on a tangent. It's also a reference to a widely-popular Yugoslav and Bosnian and Herzegovinian TV comedy show from the 80s, *Top lista nadrealista*, where this phrase was first used, after which it came into common use.

² The Plitvice Lakes incident, or Plitvice Bloody Easter (Croatian: "Plitvice Bloody Easter") was an incident that took place on March 31, 1991 between Croatian police forces and Serb gunmen, who were armed and controlled by politicians in Belgrade, then Federal republic of Yugoslavia and the remnants of the Yugoslav People's Army. The single casualty of the incident was a Croatian policeman, Josip Jović, who was shot in the clash and subsequently died on his way to the hospital. Jović is considered to be the first victim of the Croatian Independence War.

the war moved on to Bosnia with full force because military units and equipment, etc. were liberated in Croatia, which only made matters in Bosnia worse.

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