

# Kosovar Faces 37 U.N. Counts of War Crimes Against Serbs

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THE HAGUE, March 10 (AP) - Ramush Haradinaj, the former prime minister of Kosovo, was charged by a United Nations tribunal on Thursday with 37 war crimes counts that include atrocities against Serbs like murder and rape. He could face life in prison if convicted on a single count.

Mr. Haradinaj, a former commander of the ethnic Albanian rebels who fought Serbian forces in Kosovo's 1998-99 war, surrendered to the court on Wednesday after resigning as prime minister. Two other Kosovo Albanian rebel commanders also turned themselves in.

In the indictment unsealed by United Nations judges, Mr. Haradinaj faces 17 counts of crimes against humanity for murder, rape, persecution, inhumane acts, unlawful detention and deportation or forcible transfer of civilians. He also faces 20 counts of violations of the laws or customs of war for cruel treatment, murder and rape.

As the commander of the Kosovo Liberation Army, Mr. Haradinaj "personally ordered, controlled and participated in beatings" of civilians, according to the indictment.

Mr. Haradinaj, 36, is expected to appear in court in the coming days, when he will be asked to plea to the charges.

Lahi Brahimaj, another suspect named in the indictment, traveled to the court with Mr. Haradinaj. Mr. Brahimaj was a rebel and a member of the Kosovo Protection Corps, a civilian emergency group made up of ethnic Albanian former rebels. A third former rebel, Idriz Balaj, was also indicted by the court and surrendered Wednesday.

International officials praised Mr. Haradinaj - a seasoned battlefield commander with a fiery temper and a loyal following - for his decision to cooperate with the court, and called on other countries in the region to follow his example.

The indictment said Mr. Haradinaj's forces drove Serbian and Gypsy civilians from villages "and killed those civilians that remained behind."

Mr. Balaj, serving under Mr. Haradinaj, ran a special unit known as the Black Eagles, which "repeatedly abducted, beat, mutilated, tortured and murdered civilians and detained persons taking no active part in hostilities," the indictment said.

It charged that Mr. Balaj raped a Gypsy woman and tortured a prisoner at a detention center, and tried to cover up civilian murders by having victims' bodies thrown into a lake.

In the second half of May 1998, "a makeshift detention center was established at the K.L.A. (Kosovo Liberation Army) headquarters in Jablanica where at least 16 noncombatants were detained, beaten and tortured," the indictment said. "One is known to have died while the others are still missing."

Bosnian Serb Surrenders to U.N.

BELGRADE, Serbia, March 10 (Reuters) - Mica Stanisic , a former Bosnian Serb minister, will surrender to the United Nations war crimes tribunal in The Hague on Friday, according to a Serbian government statement on Thursday.

A tribunal statement said Mr. Stanisic, who was the interior minister in the breakaway Bosnian Serb republic during the 1992-95 Bosnian war, faced 10 counts of crimes against humanity and three of violations of the laws or customs of war.

The charges include murder, torture and deportation committed by Bosnian Serb security services under his command as part of a campaign of "ethnic cleansing" to force out Bosnian Muslims, Bosnian Croats and other non-Serbs.

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