UNITED **NATIONS**



International Tribunal for the

Prosecution of Persons

Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law

Committed in the Territory of

Former Yugoslavia since 1991

Case No.

IT-04-79-PT

Date:

8 February 2007

Original:

English

IN TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before:

Judge Krister Thelin, Pre-Trial Judge

Registrar:

Mr. Hans Holthuis

Order of:

8 February 2007

PROSECUTOR

v.

MIĆO STANIŠIĆ

ORDER ON PROSECUTION'S REQUEST FOR LEAVE TO EXCEED WORD LIMIT FOR A PRE-TRIAL BRIEF

The Office of the Prosecutor:

Mr. Alan Tieger

Ms. Anna Richterova

Counsel for the Accused:

Mr. Stevo Bezbradica

Case No.: IT-04-79-PT

8 February 2007

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I, Judge Krister Thelin, Judge at the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons

Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory

of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 ("Tribunal") and Pre-Trial Judge in these proceedings,

NOTING "Prosecution's Request for Leave to Exceed Word Limit for Revised Pre-Trial Brief"

filed on 5 February 2007 ("Motion"), whereby the Prosecution requests to exceed the maximum

word limit for pre-trial briefs provided in the Tribunal's Practice Direction on Length of Briefs and

Motions ("Practice Direction") with respect to a revised pre-trial brief ("Pre-Trial Brief") that the

Prosecution was instructed to file pursuant to an oral order dated 18 January 2007,

NOTING that the Practice Direction provides, *inter alia*, that pre-trial briefs will not exceed 15,000

words and that a party must seek authorization in advance from the Chamber to exceed the word

limits in the Practice Direction and must provide an explanation of the exceptional circumstances

that necessitate the oversized filing,¹

NOTING that in the Motion, the Prosecution submits that it needs to exceed the word limit of the

Pre-Trial Brief to 20,000 words so that it can appropriately comply with the requirements of Rule

65ter(E)(i) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence ("Rules"), and, notably submits that the

temporal and geographic scope of the case, the gravity and complexity of the crimes alleged, and

the complexity of the forms of liability alleged in the indictment against Mićo Stanišić warrant the

extension requested,

NOTING "Defence Response to Prosecution's Request for Leave to Exceed Word Limit for

Revised Pre-Trial Brief" filed on 8 February 2007, whereby defence counsel for Mićo Stanišić

("Defence") opposes the Motion as exceptional circumstances have not been shown,

CONSIDERING that I am of the view that the reasons given for the variation of word limit are

sufficient to allow the Prosecution to file a Pre-Trial Brief of 20,000 words, and that a clear, precise

and complete submission pursuant to Rule 65ter(E)(i) will not result in prejudice to the Defence,

For the foregoing reasons, **PURSUANT TO** Rule 54 of the Rules and the Practice Direction,

GRANT the Motion, and AUTHORIZE the Prosecution to file a Pre-Trial Brief not exceeding

20,000 words.

¹ Paras 3 and 7 of the Practice Direction.

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Done in English and French, the English version being authoritative.

Dated this 8th day of February 2007 At The Hague The Netherlands

> Judge Krister Thelin Pre-Trial Judge

[Seal of the Tribunal]