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<b>CASE/AFFAIRE NO.</b> IT-04-74-T		<b>DATE</b> 10 July 2007	
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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

Case No.: IT-04-74-T  
Date: 11 June 2007  
Original: ENGLISH  
French

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**IN TRIAL CHAMBER III**

**Before:** Judge Jean-Claude Antonetti  
Judge Árpád Prandler  
Judge Stefan Trechsel  
Reserve Judge Antoine Kesia-Mbe Mindua

**Registrar:** Mr Hans Holthuis

**Decision of:** 11 June 2007

**THE PROSECUTOR**

**v.**

**Jadranko PRLIĆ  
Bruno STOJIC  
Slobodan PRALJAK  
Milivoj PETKOVIĆ  
Valentin ĆORIĆ  
Berislav PUŠIĆ**

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***CONFIDENTIAL ANNEX***

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**DECISION ON THE MOTION FOR PROVISIONAL RELEASE OF THE  
ACCUSED PRALJAK**

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**The Office of the Prosecutor:**

Mr Kenneth Scott

**Counsel for the Accused:**

Mr Božidar Kovačić and Ms Nika Pinter for Slobodan Praljak

**The Republic of Croatia**

**TRIAL CHAMBER III** (“Chamber”) of 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”);

**SEIZED** of “Slobodan Praljak’s Motion for Provisional Release” and its annex, filed confidentially by Counsel for the Accused Slobodan Praljak (“Defence for the Accused Praljak”) on 15 May 2007 (“Accused Praljak’s Motion”), whereby the Defence for the Accused Praljak requests his provisional release to the Republic of Croatia during the summer 2007 judicial recess,

**NOTING** the “Prosecution Consolidated Response to Defence Applications for Provisional Release During Summer Holiday” and its two annexes, filed confidentially by the Prosecution on 1 June 2007 (“Response”),

**CONSIDERING** that in support of the Motion, the Defence for the Accused Praljak submits that: (1) the Accused Praljak surrendered voluntarily to the Tribunal; (2) while on earlier releases the Accused Praljak fully complied with the conditions imposed by the Trial Chamber in its decisions on provisional release; (3) in a letter of 3 May 2007, the Government of the Republic of Croatia pledged that the Accused Praljak would comply with the conditions imposed by the Tribunal should the application for provisional release be granted by the Chamber and guaranteed that the Accused Praljak would return to The Hague at the request of the Chamber; (4) the Accused Praljak personally pledged to fully comply with all the conditions of provisional release imposed by the Tribunal, and finally (5) the Accused Praljak wishes to deal with some administrative matters, undergo some medical tests, and visit with his family,

**CONSIDERING** that in its Response, the Prosecution again opposes the provisional release of all the Accused because none of the reasons given by the Accused in support of their motions for provisional release constitute humanitarian grounds for release,

**CONSIDERING** alternatively that should the Chamber grant the Accused Praljak's Motion, the Prosecution requests that: (1) the Accused Praljak be prohibited from

setting foot or travelling in Bosnia and Herzegovina; (2) the Accused Praljak be prohibited from having any contact with any witness, potential witness or victim; (3) the Accused Praljak be prohibited from discussing the case with anyone other than his Counsel and from having any contact with the media, and (4) the period of provisional release be significantly reduced,

**CONSIDERING** that pursuant to Rule 65 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence (“Rules”) the Chamber may order provisional release “only if it is satisfied that the accused will appear for trial and, if released, will not pose a danger to any victim, witness or other person”,

**CONSIDERING** that the Accused Praljak, while on earlier release, complied with all the conditions imposed by the Trial Chambers in their orders and decisions dated 30 July 2004,<sup>1</sup> 1 July 2005,<sup>2</sup> 14 October 2005,<sup>3</sup> 26 June 2006,<sup>4</sup> and 8 December 2006,<sup>5</sup>

**CONSIDERING** that the host country has not objected to any possible provisional release proceedings,<sup>6</sup>

**CONSIDERING** that in its letter of 3 May 2007, the Government of the Republic of Croatia provided guarantees to the effect that the Accused Praljak would return to The Hague and would not abscond,

**CONSIDERING** that the Accused Praljak pledges to fully comply with all the conditions for provisional release imposed by the Tribunal,

**CONSIDERING** in addition that, given the Accused’s appropriate behaviour on previous occasions, the Chamber is satisfied that, if released, the Accused Praljak will not pose a danger to any victim, witness or other person,

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<sup>1</sup> *The Prosecutor v. Prlić et al.*, Case No. IT-04-74-PT, Order on Provisional Release of Slobodan Praljak, 30 July 2004.

<sup>2</sup> *The Prosecutor v. Prlić et al.*, Case No. IT-04-74-PT, Order on Slobodan Praljak’s Motion for Variation of Conditions of Provisional Release, 1 July 2005.

<sup>3</sup> *The Prosecutor v. Prlić et al.*, Case No. IT-04-74-T, Decision to Grant Accused Slobodan Praljak’s Supplemental Application for Variation of Conditions of Provisional Release, 14 October 2005.

<sup>4</sup> *The Prosecutor v. Prlić et al.*, Case No. IT-04-74-T, Decision on Motion for Provisional Release of the Accused Praljak, 26 June 2006.

<sup>5</sup> *The Prosecutor v. Prlić et al.*, Case No. IT-04-74-T, Decision on the Motion for Provisional Release of the Accused Praljak, 8 December 2006.

<sup>6</sup> See letter from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs dated 23 May 2007.

**CONSIDERING** that the Chamber will adjourn proceedings for the summer judicial recess and that the presence of the Accused Praljak will therefore not be required in court,

**CONSIDERING** that the Accused Praljak's request to deal with administrative matters and to undergo medical tests may justify the granting of a short period of provisional release,

**CONSIDERING** that the conditions set out in Rule 65 of the Rules have been met,

**CONSIDERING**, however, that the provisional release should be limited to a short period, which will be enough for him to deal with his administrative and medical issues,

**CONSIDERING** that such a short visit will enable the police authorities of the Republic of Croatia to carry out effective surveillance of the Accused Praljak, thereby providing an additional guarantee that he will appear for trial after the judicial recess,

**CONSIDERING** that the Chamber is of the opinion that during his stay in the Republic of Croatia the Accused Praljak must be under continuous surveillance by the authorities of the Republic of Croatia in order to guarantee his safety and appearance for the resumption of trial,

**CONSIDERING** therefore that the Accused Praljak will be provisionally released during the dates and subject to the conditions set out in the confidential annex to this decision,

**FOR THE FOREGOING REASONS,**

**PURSUANT TO** Rule 65 of the Rules,

**GRANTS** the Accused Praljak's Motion in part,

**JUDGE ANTONETTI** appending a partially dissenting opinion as regards the partly confidential nature of the present decision and,

**ORDERS** the provisional release of the Accused Praljak during the dates and subject to the conditions set out in the confidential annex to this decision.

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

*/signed/*

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Jean-Claude Antonetti  
Presiding Judge

Done this eleventh day of June 2007  
At The Hague  
The Netherlands

**[Seal of the Tribunal]**