



TV

UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

U.N. IN ACTION

Week of 31 March 2003
Programme No. 849
Length: 3'23"

SERBS RETURN TO KOSOVO

VIDEO

BUS TRIP AT BICA (18")

BUS ARRIVAL (8")

COMMANDER LEIVA ON
CAMERA (9")

SETTLEMENT (11")

AUDIO

NARRATION

Returning Serbs to Kosovo is a complex issue. The ethnic division between Albanians and Serbs following the conflict still exists in most regions here. The U.N. Mission in Kosovo, UNMIK, is working steadily to return all internally displaced people, IDPs, to their homes.

Tanya and Milo Totic left Kosovo in 1999. They have now returned home safely. Commander Leiva of Spanish K-FOR:

LEIVA:

"We are not expecting any kind of trouble. People are not against the return of the Serbian people so we are not expecting any problems at all."

NARRATION

Tanya and Milo initially live in tented

accommodation with other returnees. They will be here until their homes are rebuilt. Life is difficult here says returnee Tanya Tosic.

TOSIC: (in Serbian)

TANYA TOSIC ON CAMERA (21") "Coming back here was hard for me. First, we came in another village, not in our village. Those houses are not finished. Somehow, I don't have too much optimism but now I see that it is going quite fast."

NARRATION

REBUILDING HOMES (19") Tanya and Milo's home was reduced to rubble after the conflict. A German governmental organization, THW, is helping to rebuild 14 homes in their village of Grabac, western Kosovo. Steady work means the couple will be able to move out of their tent and into a permanent home soon, says Milo.

MILO TOSIC: (in Serbian)

MILO TOSIC ON CAMERA (19") "As you can see it is being rebuilt and I am very happy, not only for me but all the families who came back. They cannot wait to return to their land. They were born here. There is no place like home."

NARRATION

ZLATKO WORKING (8") Their son, Zlatko, is 21 years old and attends university in Serbia. He did not initially return to Kosovo with his parents.

ZLATKO TOSIC ON CAMERA
(19.5")

ZLATKO TOSIC: (in Serbian)

"My parents came first because of the security to see what is happening here. I came to visit them and now I am working here, spending my time. It is also possible that I will come back here to live.

MOVING IN (19")

NARRATION

The house is ready and Tanya and Milo get ready to move in. It may not be everything they had before, but at least it will be warmer here and over time improvements will be possible. The international community will provide basic supplies for the next few months. Then the IDPs are on their own.

EXTERIORS (16")

In the springtime, cultivation of the land will begin as the IDPs start to implement projects granted through a French NGO, ACTED. It is the beginning of a new life – one that aims at bringing peace and unity between those who were once good neighbours and trusted friends.

LOGO (20")

This report was prepared by Mary Ferreira for the United Nations.