

to the hospital in Prapaqan/Papracane, where Kujtim died a few hours later. The next day, he was buried, with the assistance of several KLA fighters, in the cemetery at Strelc i Ulët/Donji Streoc, where he rests today.

Sources: statement of H.G, HLC-29920; J. Martinsen, *List.*, HLC-26092.

Gani (Musë) Balaj

(born 18/11/1960, Albanian from Isniq/Istiniç, Deçan/Deçani municipality, worker, three children, member of KLA)

Xhafer (Musë) Balaj

(born 24/11/1971, Albanian from Isniq/Istiniç, Deçan/Deçani municipality, member of KLA)

Gani worked at the auto parts factory in Irzniq/Rznić and lived with his youngest brother in Isniq/Istiniç. They both joined the KLA at the beginning of the war in Kosovo. Gani was the commander of a unit. On **13 June 1998**, the brothers died fighting Serb forces at **Isniq/Istiniç**.

Sources: J. Martinsen, *List.*, HLC-26092; H. Hasani, *Dëshmorët.*, HLC-25596.

Tahir (Rexhep) Alaj

(born 16/02/1940, Albanian from Drenoc/Drenovac, Deçan/Deçani municipality, carpenter, six children, member of KLA)

Tahir worked with wood and owned a small carpenter's shop called *Zakoni Deravice*. His family left Drenoc/Drenovac on 2 June 1998 and went to Albania, while Tahir stayed in the house. In September 1998, Tahir's family returned to Drenoc/Drenovac, but did not find Tahir there. After the war, in September 1999, a man from Pejë/Peć told the family that on 16 June 1998 he was ordered by Serb forces to bury Tahir, whom he knew, in the Town Cemetery of Pejë/Peć, along with some other men. On 23 September 1999, Tahir's son organised an excavation of the grave and found his father's body there. He recognised him by the clothes. Later that day, Tahir was re-buried in the Drenoc/Drenovac cemetery.

Some time later, the family learned from Idriz Balaj, a KLA commander, that Tahir

had been killed by a mortar shell some 200 metres from his house, during the attack by Serb forces on **Drenoc/Drenovac** on **14 June 1998**. Balaj said that Armend Kukleci and Blerim Lokaj had also died in this attack. Serb forces took their bodies and buried them in the Pejë/Peć cemetery.

Sources: statement of R.A, HLC-18697; J. Martinsen, *List.*, HLC-26092.

Armend (Tafil) Kukleci

(born 1/10/1975, Albanian from Pejë/Peć, student, member of KLA)

Armend was a student of English Language at the Faculty of Philology in Prishtinë/Priština. He joined the KLA on 25 April 1998. He completed his military training in Gllogjan/Glodane, whereupon he was assigned to the special response unit called *Shqiponjat e zeza* (*Black Eagles*). His fellow fighters dubbed him "Pećanac" ("the man from Pejë/Peć"). Armend was killed in **Drenoc/Drenovac** in a Serb attack on **14 June 1998**. His body was found after the war in a grave in the Town Cemetery of Pejë/Peć. Armend was re-buried on 24 August 1999 in the Cemetery for Fallen Combatants at Gllogjan/Glodane.

Sources: J. Martinsen, *List.*, HLC-26092; H. Hasani, *Dëshmorët.*, HLC-25596.

Blerim (Selman) Lokaj

(born 14/12/1975, Albanian from Prilep, Deçan/Deçani municipality, student, member of KLA)

Blerim was a student at the Faculty of Physical Culture in Prishtinë/Priština. On 23 April 1998, he and his brother Gazmend joined the KLA. He was a member of the special unit called *Shqiponjat e Zeza* (*Black Eagles*). Blerim was killed in a Serb attack on **14 June 1998**, eight days after his brother Gazmend [see record] was killed in **Drenoc/Drenovac**. Members of Serb forces took his body to Pejë/Peć and had it buried in the local cemetery. After the war, Blerim's mortal remains were transferred to the Cemetery for Fallen Combatants at Prilep.

Sources: J. Martinsen, *List.*, HLC-26092; H. Hasani, *Dëshmorët.*, HLC-25596.
