

usha Village Fired Upon by Serbs Overnight,
newsletter, KIC, 21.07.1998, HLC-29372.

Mexhit (Brahim) Kurti

(born 5/09/1935, Albanian from Mitrovicë/Kosovska Mitrovica, unemployed, three children)

Mexhit was born in Çabër/Čabar [Zubin Potok municipality]. He had worked as a postman in Mitrovicë/Kosovska Mitrovica until 1990, when he was fired, along with other Albanian employees, by the Serb authorities. He and his wife Mevlyde had two sons, Ibrahim and Blerim, and a daughter, Shpresa. Mexhit was diabetic.

Mexhit's sister Kada lived in the village of Kuçicë/Kučica, near which fighting raged in July 1998 between the KLA and Serb forces. Worried about Kada's safety, Mexhit went to see her on **20 July 1998**, at around midday. He took a bus to Klinë e Epërme/Gornja Klina, and thence continued on foot towards Kuçicë/Kučica. On entering **Kuçicë/Kučica**, near a bridge, he heard the order "Halt!" shouted in Serbian. Mexhit halted. He saw members of Serb forces on a nearby hill. A minute later and without any warning, they opened fire on him, wounding him in both legs. Mexhit lay there wounded for about half an hour, before a village resident carried him into his house, after the Serb soldiers had left. He dressed his wounds, after which some village residents transported him to the KLA field hospital in Likoc/Likovac. After being treated for five weeks in hospital, his sons took him back home. Mexhit succumbed to his wounds on 9 September 1998. His family buried him later that same day in the cemetery of the village of Shupkofc/Šupkovac.

Sources: statement of S.M, HLC-37121; photograph, HLC-20698.

Azize (Hajzer Mala) Hajdini

(born 12/01/1954, Albanian woman from Klinë e Poshtme/Donja Klina, Skënderaj/Srbica municipality, housewife, five children)

In July 1998, Azize and her husband Fazli moved their children to safety with Fazli's sister in Prekaz i Epërm/Gornje Prekaze,

and then returned to their home village. On the morning of **25 July 1998**, at about 08:00h, Serb forces began opening fire on the houses. In the afternoon, Azize and Fazli decided to try to get to Prekaz i Epërm/Gornje Prekaze, taking side roads. When they reached the place called *Lluga e Gjate/Duga Dolina (Long Valley)* [**Klinë e Ulët/Donja Klina**], Serb forces opened fire on them. As Azize and Fazli ran away, Azize was hit in the neck, chest and leg. She died soon afterwards. When the shooting stopped, Fazli hid her body in a bush and ran away. Some time later, after things had simmered down, he returned in his tractor to collect the body. The Hajdinis buried Azize the next day in the cemetery of her native village of Rezallë/Rezala, where she rests today.

Sources: statement of F.H, HLC-17261; *Serb Forces Embark on Large-Scale Attack in Drenica*, newsletter, KIC, 27.07.1998, HLC-29378.

Shiqeri (Azem) Ahmeti

(born 1942, Albanian from Radishevë/Radiševo, Skënderaj/Srbica municipality, store manager, seven children)

Haxhi (Imer) Ahmeti

(born 1942, Albanian from Radishevë/Radiševo, Skënderaj/Srbica municipality, geography teacher, seven children)

Alban (Muhamet) Ahmeti

(born 12/12/1981, Albanian from Radishevë/Radiševo, Skënderaj/Srbica municipality, IT high school student, member of KLA)

In June 1998 Serb forces took up positions around Radishevë/Radiševo. The women and children left the village, leaving behind the elderly villagers and KLA soldiers. When Serb forces began their attack on the village in the early morning of **25 July 1998**, the cousins Shiqeri, Haxhi and Alban fled to a wood with a group of men, and then on towards the nearby village of Kotorr/Kotore. Near *Kroni i Smakës/Izvor Smake (Smakës Spring)*, they encountered members of Serb forces, who opened fire on them. The men scattered and ran away. Two weeks later, village residents and KLA members went in search of them. The bo-