

terwards, Abedin's acquaintance Rexhep came by the Shalas' place on his way to Studenčan/Studenčane. Shortly after this, Abedin and Rexhep were shot at from the direction of Agim Shala's house, located some 50 metres away. Abedin was shot fatally, while Rexhep, who was injured in the leg, made it to Abedin's house. Before long, Serb police showed up, entered the yard, harassed the Shala family members they found inside the house and then forced them out into the street. The next day, Abedin's son Nebih, accompanied by several other men, buried his father, with the permission of the Serb police, in the cemetery in Suharekë/Suva Reka.

Sources: statement of V.S, HLC-32550; statement of A.H, HLC-10112; ICTY, IT-05-87 (M. Milutinović et al.), Ex.D.00697, HLC-35626; ICTY, IT-02-54 (S. Milošević), Ex.241 A, HLC-5838; *At least 2 Killed and 5 Wounded in Suhareka Area in the Past 24 Hours*, newsletter, KIC, 24/08/1998, HLC- 29504.

Jetish (Shaip) Sylaj

(born 1927, Albanian from Sllapuzhan/Slapuzhane, Suharekë/Suva Reka municipality, farmer, three children)

Serb forces shelled **Sllapuzhan/Slapuzhane** on **23 August 1998**. After Jetish's elder grandson was wounded while in the yard, the Sylajs fled the village. Jetish, an aged and immobile man, stayed behind. Ten days later, after the situation had simmered down a little, Jetish's son Shaip returned to the village to see how his father was doing. He found the house burned and Jetish's mortal remains inside it. He buried them later that day at the place called *Te ara e Bugunit/Kod Bugunove njive (By Bogun's Field)*.

In early July 1999 the Sylajs returned from Albania, where they had been deported to, and transferred Jetish's mortal remains to the village cemetery.

Sources: statement of I.S, HLC-10672; ICTY, IT-02-54 (S. Milošević), Ex.241 A, HLC-5838; ICTY, IT-05-87 (M. Milutinović et al.), Ex.D00697, HLC-35626; photography, HLC-20985.

Bislim (Latif) Zekolli

(born 18/05/1953, Albanian from Bllacë/Blace, Suharekë/Suva Reka municipality, typist, seven children, member of KLA)

Bislim joined the KLA in March 1998. In Bllacë/Blace he formed a unit he dubbed *Këpuca/Cipela (The Shoe)*. He was killed on **23 August 1998** next to the place called *Vrbe Blaca (Bllacë Willows)* by the blast of a shell during clashes with Serb forces in **Bllacë/Blace**. He was buried on the night of 25-26 August 1998 in Bllacë/Blace. After the war, Bislim's mortal remains were transferred to the Cemetery for Fallen Combatants in Kleckë/Klečka [Lipjan/Lipljan municipality].

Sources: <http://www.theranda.com/webi/typography.html#item12>, HLC-36833; ICTY, IT-02-54 (S. Milošević), Ex.241 A, HLC-5838; photography, HLC-20988; photography, HLC-21012; SHFĐUČK, *Feniksët...5*, 71-74; J. Martinsen, *List..*, HLC-26092; UČK, *Lista e deshmëve...*, HLC-36427.

Vesel (Ramadan) Sopaj

(born 13/05/1938, Albanian from Suharekë/Suva Reka, guardian, seven children)

Vesel went to work on the morning of **23 August 1998**. He worked as the guardian on a construction site near his home in the *Rruga e Rreshtanit/Reštanski put (Rreshtan Road neighbourhood) [Suharekë/Suva Reka]*. That same day Vesel's wife and sons left town, and were never to see Vesel again. They subsequently found out that Vesel had telephoned his brother Muhamet in Germany that day, saying that he was hiding in the basement at the construction site and that he was surrounded on all sides. Three days later, after the Serb police and Yugoslav Army offensive was over, some of Vesel's personal belongings – a hat, a vest and a cigarette-roller - were found on the construction site, which had been burnt down. But Vesel was nowhere to be found. His family is still looking for him. Vesel is registered on the ICRC list of missing persons under BLG-801978-01.

Sources: statement of A.S, HLC-32552; ICRC, *Persons missing...*, HLC-9795; ICTY, IT-02-54 (S. Milošević), Ex.241 A, HLC-5838; Hazer