

U.N. court jails Bosnian Serb for 15 years

by UPI

THE HAGUE - A U.N. tribunal in the Netherlands Wednesday sentenced a Bosnian Serb to 15 years in jail for war crimes including rapes of Muslim girls in 1992.

The U.N. tribunal in The Hague ruled Dragan Zelenovic -- a member of the former Bosnian Serb police and military units -- was guilty of torturing and raping Bosnian Muslim women and a 15-year-old girl in the Serb-taken eastern town of Foca, during the Bosnian ethnic war between 1992-95, the Serbian news agency Tanjug reported.

Zelenovic, 45, confessed before the tribunal's hearing in January that he had participated in rapes in Foca when he was Foca's police chief.

Judge Alphons Orie specified Zelenovic raped the Muslim girl age 15 and participated along with 10 other soldiers in raping a Muslim woman until she fainted.

The women and girls were held captive in humiliating conditions in private houses and motels.

Zelenovic was arrested while hiding in Russia in August 2005. After his extradition to Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Sarajevo government transferred him to The Hague last June.

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