

16/12/2017

## **"THEIR LEGS WERE FULL OF BLEEDING WOUNDS AND SCRATCHES AFTER THE DOG-ATTACK, AND THEY WERE CRYING AND SHOUTING BECAUSE OF THE PAIN."**

**Date and time:** December 16, 2017 03:00

**Location:** close to Bácsszentgyörgy, Hungary

**Coordinates:** 45.9662530209121 , 19.031925201416016

**Push-back from:** Hungary

**Push-back to:** Serbia

**Demographics:** 15 person(s), age: unknown , from: Afghanistan, Pakistan

**Minors involved?** Yes

**Violence used:** beating (with batons/hands/other), kicking, dog attacks, destruction of personal belongings, theft of personal belongings

**Police involved:** about 10 Hungarian police officers (male, in uniforms) with police dogs (more than 5, one with and others without masks), violence from all of them, pictures taken by some officers (in civilian clothes, one civil car), once in a while some Hungarian army personnel and international police officers

**Taken to a police station?:** unknown

**Was the intention to ask for asylum expressed?:** Yes

**Reported by:** Rigardu

### **ORIGINAL REPORT**

On December 16th., 2017 at night, 16 men, (5 from Afghanistan and others from Pakistan, 7 minors about 14-15 years) walked from Sombor, Serbia across the Serbian-Hungarian border between Rastina, Serbia and Bácsszentgyörgy, Hungary. They continued for about 15 min. within Hungarian territory, before getting caught by Hungarian police officers. The police asked them to sit down, and after a few minutes more officers arrived, so that there were about 10 Hungarian police officers (all male, in uniforms), with police dogs.

The men expressed their intention to seek asylum, and the officers answered that the border is closed and that it's not possible to seek for asylum in Hungary. They didn't ask or write down anything, nor did they take any fingerprints. The police proceeded to violently attack them. They released their dogs (more than 5 police dogs), and ordered them to attack the men and scratch them on all parts of their bodies for about 15-45 min. Their legs were full of bleeding wounds and scratches after the dog-attack, and they were crying and shouting because of the pain.

Afterwards the men tried to defend themselves, but the officers started to kick them. They kicked the interviewee in the right side of his chest. He had significant pain afterwards, and he consulted a doctor who treated him. Some ribs were broken and needed weeks to heal (X-ray and other medical records from the hospital). Next the officers searched their bodies and belongings of the men. They looked through their mobile phone files and wrote down the names of the owners and numbers of their sim cards. Then the officers either broke or threw away good phones (4 phones in total) and gave the worse ones back to the owners. They took shoes from some of the men, for example from the man interviewed.

Once in a while international police officers visited the place, and at this time the Hungarian officers paused the violent treatment and behaved properly. The 'international' officers interrogated the men and ordered them to return back to Serbia, recommending them to go another way in the future. Some Hungarian army personnel were also present. The Hungarian officials called for one civil car of some officials, in civilian clothes, to arrive and take pictures of every man.

In the end the police officials used pepper spray in the eyes of the men, causing severe irritation and the couldn't see for a while. After for about 1-2 hours at the place, the police announced that they were deporting the men, and they were transported directly to the border near there. The police ordered the men to go back to Serbia, so they did. When the interviewee managed to go back to Sombor, he had such severe pain in his chest that he needed to consult doctors.