

31/10/2017

"ALL OF THE POLICE OFFICERS BEAT THE MEN WITH FISTS, STICKS AND KICKING THEM ON ALL PARTS OF THEIR BODY AND IN THE FACE"

Date and time: October 31, 2017 23:00

Location: Tovarnik, Croatia

Coordinates: 45.147575 , 19.164551

Push-back from: Croatia

Push-back to: Serbia

Demographics: 4 person(s), age: 20-35 , from: Afghanistan

Minors involved? No

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

Police involved: 6 Croatian male police officers in blue uniforms and with black masks (only eyes seen)

Taken to a police station?: unknown

Was the intention to ask for asylum expressed?: Yes

Reported by: Rigardu

ORIGINAL REPORT

4 men (23, 35, 32, 20 years old) from Afghanistan, crossed the Serbian-Croatian border by walking from Šid. They were caught by 6 Croatian police officers in blue uniforms with black masks (only eyes seen), about 20 km from the border within Croatian territory, on October 31st. 2017, in the evening. The police asked for their personal details, and the men lied and said that they're from Syria, but stated their real ages.

The police searched their bodies and their bags, and confiscated their phones and all their money (400 euros). The men expressed their intention to seek asylum, so the police called a translator and let the men talk with him. The men explained their route and their need for asylum. In the end the translator talked with the police, after which the men were deported without any registration in to asylum procedures, and without giving them any written documents. The men were transported in a big police van, driven by two of the police officers, accompanied by a small police car, driven by four police officers. They were taken to the Serbian-Croatian border near the train rails between Tovarnik and Šid, and arrived there a few hours later at about at 11pm.

After arriving at this spot, the police officers violently assaulted them. The men were beaten one by one, as they were released from the van on person at a time. All of the police officers beat the men with fists, sticks and kicking them on all parts of their body and in the face. The first three men were beaten to about the same extend, for about 3-4 minutes each. The first man were beaten in both knee joints, resulting in pain and swelling (see Picture) , and the police further beat him in the face, so that he lost a tooth. The second man beaten, received injuries to his left leg and his clothes were ripped. The third person beaten suffered pain to his back as a result. The last man was treated the worst, as he was beaten for about 10 minutes, and he suffered pain and injuries to his face as a result (see Picture). He had bruises and wounds to his cheek, forehead, nose and underneath it. He lost a tooth and his lips were swollen (see Picture), and his tongue was bruised and cut. In the end the police shouted "go back to Serbia".