

SERBIA: Reis-I-ulem Adem Zilkić attacked

Draško Đenović, Centar 9 (www.centar9.info), Belgrade 26 August 2011

Cabinet of the Serbian Reis-I-ulem Adem Zilkić informed the media this morning that the supreme Muslim leader in Serbia had just avoided a 'deadly strike.' In the early morning of 26th of August, at about 01:20 hours, when Zilkić was returning home in his car, a large Audi 6 vehicle (license plates NP-017NC) first piped and scratch his car in passing and later blocked the road Novi Pazar-Raška, close to Raška.



„They blocked the road with their car just ahead of me. Then some young men came out and tried to open my car using force, but I managed to lock the car from inside. Since ahead of me was the Tutin municipality president Bajro Gegić and his driver, in their car, who also managed not to have an accident previously with the same vehicle, I gave them a call on a mobile phone. They instantly turned back and returned to the scene. At that point, these young men left toward Novi Pazar“, Zilkić stated, explaining the attack.

Zilkić's car suffered a significant damage. He was returning home from an iftar dinner, an evening time dinner during the month of Ramadan, held in the American Ambassador's residence in Belgrade. Ms Mary Burce Warlick, the US Ambassador in Serbia, held a dinner with the representatives of the Islamic faith community in Serbia, diplomats from the Islamic countries serving in Belgrade, Serbian ministry of religion, and also representatives of other religious communities.

The Belgrade mufti Mohamad Jusufspahić stated for Centar 9 on 26 August that the police investigation is ongoing: „Although we have an assumption of who might be behind this latest attack, we are leaving that for police to investigate. I am sure I will have more information soon, when Adem Zilkić comes to Belgrade this weekend.“

This is not the first attack on Reis-I-ulem Zilkić. At the end of January 2008, there was a metal barricade set up at the village of Raduhovci, where he was supposed to travel, in order to induce a lethal traffic accident, but a driver managed to stop a vehicle on time.