**STAGE FLASH**

**Date: 25 April 2021**

**Day: 4 Flash N°: 20**

**Special stage: SS19 Bliznec - Pila 2 Distance: 25.20 km**

**Weather: Bright, blue skies, 16 degrees**

**Road conditions: Dry, largely clean but gravel dragged onto road in some sections**

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**Car #7. PIERRE-LOUIS LOUBET/VINCENT LANDAIS**

“It was better but in this stage in some parts you have a lot of gravel and I was a bit careful I think. The tyre was working well.”

**Car #42. CRAIG BREEN/PAUL NAGLE**

“I still struggle with this problem, it seems to be getting slightly worse in every stage. It’s just very upsetting in some places and the car is doing some strange things. We have to check it out.” Breen suggested a possible transmission issue on SS18.

**Car #18. TAKAMOTO KATSUTA/DANIEL BARRITT**

“I really focus on my job, I don’t care for the position. Like I said this rally is very tricky anyway.”

**Car #44. GUS GREENSMITH/CHRIS PATTERSON**

“We managed to fix [the hydraulics] but still not managed to fix the brakes yet so we’ll try again before the Power Stage.”

**Car #16. ADRIEN FOURMAUX/RENAUD JAMOUL**

“It’s really difficult because we lost the tyres after 18ks I would say and after the car is really unprecise and moving.

I don’t know if we continue to push or if we have to get back a bit in the pace. I just wanted to have a tidy drive to not push too much on the tyres. I was quite happy with the car and I was enjoying also compared this morning, I was okay, I need to drive a little bit more and it’s good.”

**Car #8. OTT TÄNAK/MARTIN JÄRVEOJA**

“[My ambition] is to finish the rally.”

**Car #11. THIERRY NEUVILLE/MARTIJN WYDAEGHE**

“To be honest I gave it everything in there. The car was working nice, the pacenotes were good. I can’t do more, I can’t do more.”

**Car #33. ELFYN EVANS/SCOTT MARTIN**

“Obviously pushing pretty hard. It’s not so easy with all that downhill section trying to guess how much gravel there is, obviously no gravel crews in this stage but all okay.”

**Car #1. SÉBASTIEN OGIER/JULIEN INGRASSIA**

“I don’t know [what the challenges are due to the car damage]. We have some wind coming in.”

**COMMENTS**

Thierry Neuville/Martijn Wydaeghe have won the penultimate stage of the Croatia Rally in their Hyundai i20 Coupe WRC. They were 0.4s quicker than Elfyn Evans/Scott Martin and 1.5s faster than Sébastien Ogier/Julien Ingrassia over the 25.20-kilometre stage. With just the Wolf Power Stage remaining, Evans/Martin lead their Toyota team-mates Ogier/Ingrassia by 3.9s with Neuville/Wydaeghe 4.1s behind Ogier/Ingrassia as 8.0s covers the top three. Nikolay Gryazin/Konstantin Aleksandrov are reported to have stopped in the stage.