OHR SRT News Summary, 7 September 1998

Headlines

- Prime Minister Dodik paid an official visit to Greece
- Milosevic, Shattuck and Dole spoke about peaceful resolution of the Kosovo crisis
- EU supports those who respect the DA
- Yugoslav Airline without flights, it was decided today in Brussels
- Russian DUMA rejected candidacy of Victor Chernomirdin for Prime Minister 0:45

The RS President, Biljana Plavsic, spoke today in Banja Luka to the Russian Ambassador to B&H Philipp Sidorskiy about the September elections and the forthcoming visit of the RS delegation to Moscow. Namely, the RS President and Prime Minister will visit Moscow on September 10/11 at the invitation of the Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Yevgeni Primakov.
0:35

The RS Prime Minister Milorad Dodik spoke today in Athens to the Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs about the improvement of bilateral relations and economic cooperation, cooperation in the field of education and the introduction of the Greek language in schools in the RS, and opening of the consular office in the RS. The RS Prime Minister invited business people and politicians of Greece to visit Banja Luka, adding that Greece had allocated $ 25 million to the B&H so far.
3:00

The European Union has sent a message to B&H citizens saying that this organisation is ready to help their country if they elect those who are going to respect the Dayton Agreement. The European Union has called on the citizens of B&H to elect leaders who are responsible and honest and able to cope with the good management of public duties.
0:35

The member of the B&H Presidency from the RS, Momcilo Krajisnik spoke today with the Head of the OSCE mission to B&H, Robert Barry about the forthcoming elections. “I want to commend cooperation with Mr. Barry and this is what we received today as an explanation – that we shall be able to control and monitor the electoral process in the Federation, and even sleep besides the ballot boxes – which is a big deal, taking into consideration our aim -fair elections” Krajisnik stated after the meeting. The member of the Presidency from the RS informed the OSCE Head about the obstructions that followed the campaign of the SDS and SRS such as the ban on the presentation of candidates of those parties in Milici and removal of two SDS candidates from the list, intimidation, etc.
2:00

The Slovenian President, Milan Kucan visited Sarajevo today and spoke with the leadership of the B&H CoM about political and economic cooperation between two states. According to Boro Bosic, co-chairman of the CoM, they discussed the old foreign currency savings and legal-property matters. The Slovenian President talked afterwards to Kresimir Zubak and Alija Izetbegovic.
1:50

The International Tribunal for War Crimes announced today that it had been ascertained by internal investigation that Dr. Milan Kovacevic had died of natural causes due to rupture of the abdominal artery, not because of medical negligence.
0:30

The RS Prime Minister sent a letter to the Prime Minister of FRY, which, inter alia, says: It is unbelievable that one of the vice presidents of the Serbian Government personally takes part in a pre-electoral rally of the SRS of the RS and on that occasion, with the vocabulary of the street, expresses the inexplicably vulgar and primitive relation towards the reality in the RS...
1:30

The following parties were presented:

1. The SLOGA Coalition – a tribune held yesterday in Brcko
2. The SDS – a rally in Srbinje
3. The SLOGA Coalition – a rally held last night in Kozarska Dubica
4. The SP RS – a public tribune in Prnjavor
5. The Serb Coalition for the RS – public tribunes in Sipovo and Mrkonjic Grad
6. The SDS – a rally in Pale
7. The SNS – a tribune in Lopare
8. The Serb movement of revival of the RS – a rally held tonight in Banja Luka
9. The SDS – a rally held last night in Teslic
10. The Party of Pensioners of the RS – a tribune in Gradiska
11. The SDS – a press conference held today in Banja Luka
12. The SDP B&H of Banja Luka- a meeting on the return of refugees organised today in Banja Luka
13. The Serb Coalition for the RS – a tribune in Laktasi

The SP RS President Zivko Radisic talked today in Banja Luka to the Special Envoy of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Boris Maiorskiy, about the forthcoming elections in B&H.

The electoral HQ of the SLOGA Coalition informs the public about the fact that the top leaders of the SDS and SRS of the RS take the roles of important institutions on themselves and turn into policemen, investigative judges, customs officials and public prosecutors. In that way the SDS and SRS clearly express that they do not respect the legal state institutions and at the same time are trying to present legal actions and procedures suspicious and create the impression that it is a manipulation. It is completely inadmissible that the President of the Presidency of any party, in this very case Dragan Kalinic, states that nobody shot a gun in Pale and that he got that information from the SDS recourse in the RS Ministry of Interior. It is also inadmissible that the President of the SRS Nikola Poplasen “operates” with the fact that the RS Prime Minister was smuggling cigarettes during the war, at pre-electoral rallies and tribunes of this party. The aim of the hazardous activity of Dragan Kalinic is the sowing of discord in the Ministry of Interior. At the same time it shows that the SDS are dealing with some other affairs besides the political ones. It is obvious that he and the SDS know everything about the murder case and that they should be excluded from the political match.

The Serb Coalition for the RS sent a letter to the PEC in which it warns that the rules and regulations of that Commission anticipate that after the expiration of the deadline for registration of the period for appeals, the final list of voters shall be defined. Since that deadline expired on August 16 the Serb Coalition asks OSCE to publicly announce the final list, as prescribed by the rules.

The Head of the OSCE mission to B&H had asked the leadership of the SRP of the RS to deprive the leader of the Serbian Radicals, Vojislav Seselj, from participating in the pre-electoral rallies and tribunes of that party in the RS, an OSCE spokesperson confirmed today at a press conference held in Sarajevo. According to the spokesperson, the main reason the OSCE made this decision is Seselj’s recent statements that the SRS strive to unify all Serb lands, including the RS, which, according to the OSCE Head, is a direct violation of the DA and electoral rules made by OSCE. The OSCE spokesperson also stated that the decision referred only to the participation in the pre-electoral campaign of the RS and that Seselj could come to the RS privately. “In case of non compliance with this rule the SRS of the RS will bear the responsibility” the OSCE spokesperson stated adding that Nikola Poplasen, the President of the SRS of the RS answered to Ambassador Barry that he understood the reasons for making such a decision, saying that Seselj left the RS territory on Sep 6th and will not appear in the campaign of that party.