

# **OHR SRT News Summary, 14 January 1999**

## **Headlines**

The Serb Orthodox Church and Orthodox Serbs today celebrated the beginning of a new calendar year. 14th January is also the day of St. Vasyl the Great.

0:53

Amongst those who were the first to wish RS citizens a good New Year's Day were President Poplasen and PM Dodik. President Poplasen wished 1999 to be a year of peace, tolerance and understanding for nations across the world. PM Dodik also wished 1999 to be a year of peace and happiness for RS people and people throughout the world. The Greek Ambassador in BiH who celebrated New Year's Eve with PM Dodik joined him in his wishes for peace and happiness.

2:27

Report on how RS politicians and high-level officials celebrated New Year's Eve across the RS, including greetings by the Speaker of the RS Parliament, Petar Djokic, the RS Vice- President, Mirko Sarovic, the Co-chairman of the BiH CoM, Boro Bosic, the Russian Ambassador in BiH, the Mayor of Banja Luka, Djordje Umicevic and others.

04:05

Report on how citizens of the RS celebrated New Year's Eve in BL, Brcko, Dobo, Prijedor, Bijeljina, Serb Sarajevo

05:02

Report on New Year's Eve celebrations in Russia and elsewhere abroad, including Belgrade and Montenegro

1:43

The RS PM, Milorad Dodik, met with representatives of the RS Association of Farmers in BL today. The meeting discussed the situation in the field of agriculture and problems faced by farmers and concluded that the largest number of problems were caused by lack of financial resources. Thanks to the RS Government and its efforts to support agriculture the first credit worth US\$10 million will shortly be allocated to help rehabilitate RS agricultural production.

1:59

The new RS PM designate, Brane Miljus, in an interview given to the Banja Luka-based "Reporter" bi-weekly newspaper, stated that he had not taken a single wrong step since he was designated as a possible new RS PM and added that intense consultations were still ongoing. "After the consultations have ended, I will present the RS NA with all the facts, deliver my expose and seek their support". Miljus was confident that he was going to obtain the necessary majority support at the RS NA.

0:36

An SDS high-level official denied a statement by the new RS PM designate claiming that he had visited Pale last night "to calm the SDS down". According to the SDS official, the SDS will have no motive not to support Miljus as the new RS PM, provided that he revises some of his statements and positions expressed on the Hague Tribunal, a multi-ethnic government of the RS and the return of refugees and, also, provided that he respects the concept of a new RS government that will have SDS ministers sitting in it.

0:46

The new RS PM designate, Brane Miljus, today stated he had not offered ministerial posts to any RS parliamentary party. Stressing that his first round of political negotiations was still ongoing, Miljus claimed that leaders of the "Sloga" Coalition were waging a sort of special war against him. In a statement given to BETA, Miljus also confirmed that he had visited Pale last night to calm the SDS down and that he had succeeded in that.

0:29

An SRT crew visited the location in the vicinity of Bileca where a piloteless aircraft, most likely an SFOR one,

crashed some 30 hours ago. According to unconfirmed information, the aircraft was collecting data for the needs of SFOR. The SRT team was only allowed to reach a point some 30 metres from the scene of the crash. As we learnt after the SRT team returned from the spot, a special SFOR unit arrived there to remove the remains of the aircraft.

1:33

Kosovo related-news

3:20

The dead body of a Serb, Borislav Pudar, born in 1945, was found in Mostar today. A police report released on the murder claimed that Pudar had been killed in an explosion caused by an explosive device of unidentified type and strength.

0:17

The Head of the OSCE mission in BiH, Ambassador Robert Barry, today stated that activities were ongoing to redesign the BiH Election Law to make it possible for refugees to have the right to vote in places where they had been expelled from.

0:25

Federation-related news

1:24