

OHR SRT News Summary, 13 January 1999

Headlines

- Day of mourning in Srbinje – Dragan Gagovic buried
- Most of the political parties still against Brane Miljus
- 8 FRY Army members released thanks to OSCE
- Orthodox New Year's Eve

Dragan Gagovic, who was killed by SFOR on January 9, 1999, was buried today in Srbinje. The RS Vice President, Mirko Sarovic was present at the funeral. Approximately 15,000 citizens and were present. Parents of the children present at the time of Gagovic's murder are to prosecute, before international institutions, the French SFOR soldiers who took part in this action.

1:13

The RS President, Nikola Poplasen held a consultative meeting with Sloga representatives on the election of the PM designate. The meeting, which was held behind closed doors, was attended by the Presidents of the parties constituting the Sloga coalition, SNS-Biljana Plavsic, SPRS- Zivko Radisic and SNSD- Milorad Dodik. The RS President and Sloga representatives stated that Brane Miljus was not Sloga's PM designate, and that some of Miljus' statements were harmful to the RS. Biljana Plavsic reiterated that Sloga's PM designate is still Milorad Dodik. "We asked the President to publicly say, with evidence, why the Sloga's proposal for PM designate is unacceptable". "So far we have not heard a single argument against such a proposal, while we have presented many arguments why we insist on Dodik's election for the Prime Minister" -Plavsic said. "Mr. Poplasen stated that he had no paper, no evidence, and that is not the reason why he did not accept Dodik for the PM". "It was very important for us to hear that" -Plavsic said. On the question of whether Nikola Poplasen listed any reasons for not accepting Milorad Dodik for PM designate, Plavsic said that there were certain political differences between the two Serb coalitions in the RS NA, adding that consultations with the President would be continued.

2:35

The PM designate, Brane Miljus held a consultative meeting with the SRS acting President, Mirko Blagojevic in Banja Luka. "There will be one and maybe two more rounds of talks and we are giving an opportunity to Mr. Miljus to have consultations with other parties and to try to make a government which would be supported by the majority of Serb political parties". "At this moment there are no concrete talks about the number of ministerial seats" - Blagojevic said. "The only thing that I can say is that I am continuing intensive consultations, and consultations I have had so far show that people I have talked with support such a concept of government" - Miljus said.

0:49

The Coalition for Single and Democratic Bosnia will state its official opinion about Miljus as the PM designate on Friday, January 14, 1999 - Safet Bico said to the SRNA agency. Until then the present Coalition position is that it is for Milorad Dodik, Bico said, adding that the Coalition wants a Government without the SDS and SRS.

0:34

Momcilo Krajisnik told the TV station Palma Plus that Muslims and Croats could not enter the RS Government as they advocated a unified BiH. "Unfortunately, we have not seen Muslim-Croat parties in the RS NA which would defend the interests of the RS". According to Krajisnik, the crisis that could occur if the PM designate does not form a government is the result of group interests of some political circles in the RS. He denied that he had arranged the meeting between Miljus and Izetbegovic.

0:57

SPRS will not support Brane Miljus as the new PM - it was stated at the SPRS press conference. SPRS is not familiar with the concept of the government, but if it is as presented by Miljus then it cannot be accepted

- SPRS Spokesperson, Igor Radojicic said.

0:31

Full OHR Press Release regarding Serb Republic was broadcast.

0:24

An aircraft, presumably NATO's, crashed near Bileca. SFOR has banned access to the area.

0:12

Izibegovic said that BiH would not drop charges raised before the International Court of Justice against the FRY.

0:04

Kosovo related issues:

- 8 FRY soldiers kidnapped by KLA were released today.
- 4 police officers were wounded yesterday near Decani by an anti-tank mine.