

OHR SRT News Summary, 13 December 1998

Headlines

- The RS delegation to travel tomorrow to Madrid to the international conference on peace implementation in B&H
- Madrid Conference will confirm basic principles of the Dayton Accords- Radisic says
- Decreasing humanitarian help to refugees
- The Judicial Committee of the U.S. Congress decided to start impeachment procedures against President Clinton
- Clinton says: "I do not even think about resigning".

The RS delegation travels tomorrow to Madrid where the conference of the Peace Implementation Council is going to take place on December 15 and 16, 1998. The declaration on standing positions for further implementation of the DA should be adopted. The RS delegation consists of the RS President, Nikola Poplasen, RS Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik, Presiding in the B&H Presidency, Zivko Radisic, and co-chairman in the Council of Ministers, Boro Bosic. A report on what has happened since the Bonn conference will be given by the High Representative, Carlos Westendorp.

1:35

The President of the B&H Presidency, Zivko Radisic expressed the hope that the Madrid Conference would confirm determination to implement basic Dayton principles. In an interview with the Beta agency he explained that recently there had been some attempts to additionally interpret Dayton in terms of revision of common B&H institutions' jurisdictions which were declared central institutions. Radisic emphasised that the RS delegation will come up with the joint platform which was adopted at the RS NA session. The RS delegation will initiate the establishment of customs union among the former Yugoslavia countries, which does not represent resurrection of some new Yugoslavia but the interest of all. Radisic expressed the hope that the Madrid Conference would not increase the powers of the High Representative.

2:41

It is estimated that there are more than 450,000 DP's and around 60,000 refugees from Croatia in the Republika Srpska. As the UNHCR stated today in Geneva, the budget envisaged for next year will decrease by 10% in comparison to this year.

0:17

Elizabeth Rehn visited Stolac, a town under Croat control, due to the recent worsening of the security situation for IPTF members – Sarajevo media report. She talked with IPTF representatives in the Stolac area, so they could give more security guarantees to the Bosniak returnees.

0:23

The Banja Luka Payment operation service will receive the first KM pfennigs tomorrow, after which the delivery of pfennigs will be conducted throughout the RS – Central Bank Spokesperson, Chris Simon stated. According to his words the RS would receive 340,000 10-pfennig coins, 570,000 20-pfennig coins, and 920,000 50-pfennig coins. He said that the release of KM pfennig coins should be completed around December 25 in the whole of B&H.

0:43

Kosovo related issues:

- Last night, in the attack on the police patrol on the Djakovica-Decani road in Dujak, one police officer was slightly injured – Pristina Media Centre reports.
- Richard Holbrooke said that he thought about visiting Belgrade in order to put some life into the negotiating process on Kosovo.
- Slobodan Milosevic told the Washington Post that Kosovo problems cannot be resolved with a

solution imposed from outside.