

OHR SRT News Summary, 26 August 1998

Headlines

- Prime Minister Dodik in one-day working visit to Austria
- meeting of President Plavsic and Hungarian Ambassador in Banja Luka
- Christopher Hill in Pristina with a negotiating team of Kosovo Albanians
- chaos on the financial market of Russia continues

"South-eastern Europe and an open society" is the topic of the Congress of the European Forum which is, at the invitation of the Austrian Foreign Minister Wolfgang Schuessel, attended by the RS Prime Minister Milorad Dodik, as well. The RS Prime Minister Milorad Dodik took part in the work of the European Forum and underlined that it would take far more time to transform one society from a war-time society to a peace-time one with a special emphasis on the transition from the war-time economy to the peace-time one. After the meeting, Dodik held a mini press conference at which he emphasized that in the RS a great progress has been made regarding the establishment of the democratic institutions. The Montenegrin President, Milo Djukanovic, participated in the work of the Forum, as well.

2:20

The RS President Biljana Plavsic visited the municipality of Prnjavor today =2E The projects of construction of the three roads, financed by the Government and the Republic Directorate for Roads, are being realized in this municipality at the moment.

2:05

The RS National Assembly Speaker, Petar Djokic, confirmed today that he would do everything in order to enable the special session of the NA, scheduled for August 31, to be held.

0:25

The head of the SNS caucus, Svetozar Mihajlovic, assessed in a statement given to the SRT that there were no reasons for holding a special NA session. According to him, certain political parties, by convening a special session, would like to signal that there is a special situation in the RS and to use the NA session in the pre-election campaign.

1:45

The RS President Biljana Plavsic talked today in Banja Luka with the Hungarian Ambassador to B&H. They discussed the issues of the forthcoming general elections and the future cooperation between the RS and Hungary.

1:05

The review of the situation in Kosovo.

2:55

Representatives of the Independent Media Commission held a press conference in Banja Luka today at which the Association of the RS journalists again made some objections to the code of media behavior released by this Commission. The most discussed issues were the status and the competencies of this Commission which was formed by the decision of the HR, Carlos Westendorp, and in accordance with the Annex 10 of the DPA and the conclusions of the Bonn Conference. The most disputable part was the confiscation of the equipment of the radio and TV stations, which, according to the Independent Media Commission, do not function in accordance with the mentioned code. Journalists insisted upon the fact that, nowhere in the world, a commission has such competencies and that the courts are in charge of it underlining that the code of behavior cannot be imposed but agreed. Journalists also stressed the fact that the journalists from the RS were not proportionally represented in the work of the Commission comparing to the B&H Federation. The representatives of the commission promised to solve that problem soon.

2:15

“A mine less, a life more” is the motto of the great action conducted by the Mine Action Center with the help of the International Community. According to the data, 245 persons were killed by mines in B&H in the past two years.

2:35

Elections:

- – a public tribune in Sipovo, a public tribune in Mrkonjic Grad, a tribune in the village of Velika Ilova near Prnjavor, a public tribune in Prnjavor
- Socialist Party of the RS – a tribune in Han Pijesak, a public tribune in Sekovici
- Independent Social-Democrats – a tribune in Lopare, a public tribune in Ugljevik
- SDS – a public tribune in Banja Luka
- Serb Coalition for the RS – press conference in Banja Luka
- Coalition for the King and Homeland – press conference in Banja Luka
- Pensioners’ Party of the RS – a public tribune in Doboj