

OHR SRT News Summary, 31 march 1998

Headlines

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- RS Government session held in Banja Luka
- Elisabeth Rehn in Banja Luka
- Standing Military Committee session was not held in Lukavica today
- Negotiations on the EU expanding to the east start in Brussels

A regular RS Government session was held in BL today. It discussed numerous issues on the agenda. The RS Government adopted the Protocol on Health Insurance of war invalids, relatives of deceased soldiers and demobilised RS Army soldiers. The RS Government condemned the physical assault against the Deputy Director of the Republic Customs Administration, Vojin Bera.

3:45

RS Prime-Minister Dodik received the UN Secretary General's special envoy, Elisabeth Rehn, in BL today. The subject of the meeting was implementation of the DA regarding freedom of movement. Rehn was interested in the modernisation and training courses for MUP members in RS. As a sign of support for this process, she presented the RS MUP with six vehicles for police duties, according to a press release from Dodik's Cabinet.

1:00

The Standing Military Committee session was not held because Alija Izetbegovic failed to attend. The session was supposed to be held in Lukavica, a Serb part of SA. Krajisnik assessed Alija Izetbegovic's non-arrival as obstruction, accusing him of deliberately avoiding the sessions which are held in Serb territory.

1:30

The RS NA Speaker, Dragan Kalinic, received the Russian Foreign Minister in Pale today. They talked about co-operation of the RS and Russian Federation Parliaments, functioning of the RS National Assembly, as well as DA implementation.

1:55

EU Foreign Ministers announced in Brussels today that additional sanctions would be imposed against the FRY unless they fully implement IC demands, that is, to move immediately special Serb police forces from Kosovo and start a dialogue without pre-conditions.

4:00

The HR, Carlos Westendorp, and the OSCE Head of Mission, Robert Barry, made the second arbitration decision regarding the holding of the municipal assembly constitutive session in Srebrenica. According to that decision, it is forbidden to play the Serb anthem and to display any kind of Serb national symbols or flag in the building where the session is to be held. The Serb side rejected the proposal to hold the session today under such conditions, which they assessed as unacceptable, reports Tanjug.

0:35

Representatives of international organisations held a press conference in Mostar today. They condemned the incidents which took place in Stolac in the course of last week, when 10 mainly Bosniak houses were destroyed or damaged and when a bus carrying returnees was stoned. The Head of the OHR regional office in Mostar, Sir Martin Garrod, stated today that negotiations regarding the return plan to the six Mostar municipalities were still going on, which was one positive fact.

1:25