

OHR SRT News Summary, 22 Feb. 1998

Headlines

- Positive assessment of RS Prime Minister Milorad Dodik's visit to Washington
- Delegation of the European Parliaments in BL
- American envoy Robert Gelbard in Kosovo
- Meeting Annan-Hussein with no concrete results
- Olympic games completed

RS has gained a big advantage on its road to democracy in relation to the Federation, stated RS President Plavsic on the occasion of Dodik's visit to Washington. She said it was evident that the IC would not allow the RS to lag behind the Federation, as has been the case so far. The American administration is extremely satisfied with Dodik's visit.

2:35

The main topic of conversation between the European Parliament and the RS Government was IC assistance to the RS. The President of the Commission for External Affairs of the European Parliament stated that they were trying to find the most efficient means of support. Milos Prica stated after this meeting that the RS saw itself within Europe in the future, as part of the EU.

1:54

People of the municipality of Srpski Sanski Most talked with the OHR envoy from the BL office, Nils Kastberg, and with IPTF representatives today about transferring the village of Koprivna into the RS. They were seeking answers on the status of Koprivna from Nils Kastberg. He informed them that the Federation Government had signed an agreement a few weeks before and that OHR was now seeking legal opinion on whether the CoM should approve this document or not. The people of Koprivna asked the IC to accelerate this procedure.

1:56

American envoy, Robert Gelbard, visited Pristina, where he talked with local authority representatives and with the Albanian leader, Ibrahim Rugova. Gelbard said that the USA did not support secession and condemned terrorism in Kosovo. They all agreed that education was very important and had to be resolved urgently.

1:20

On the occasion of his visit to Mostar, Westendorp stated that local authorities should agree on the resolution of their increasing problems or he would find solutions by making an arbitration decision. Non-functioning of the single administration and the judiciary system, as well as non-implementation of the election results, were some of the problems that had to be resolved, said Westendorp. He also had some objections to the work of the federal partners due to the non-opening of Mostar airport. The deadline for this was February 12th 1998.

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