

# **OHR SRT News Summary, 11 Feb. 1998**

## **Headlines**

- RS Prime Minister and Yugoslav Foreign Minister Jovanovic meet in Belgrade
- Botic's Letter to International Officials Demands Release of Vasic
- Russia Insists on Political Solution to Iraq Crisis

RS Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik, and FRY Minister of Foreign Affairs, Zivadin Jovanovic, talked today in Belgrade about improving relations between the RS and FRY.

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Co-Chairman of the BiH Council of Ministers, Boro Botic, addressed a letter to international officials, demanding the release of a Serb, Goran Vasic. He also requested severe sanctions to be imposed on Federation officials responsible for the arrest, as they had violated the Dayton Accord and the rules of police behaviour in civilized society.

The letter was addressed to the Deputy High Representative, Jacques Klein, SFOR Commander, Eric Shinseky, Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General, Elisabeth Rehn, and to IPTF Commander, Manfred Seitner.

1:30

Citizens of Serb Sarajevo today destroyed a wall in Dobrinja, which had been built yesterday as a protest against the action of the Federal police which arrested Vasic on Serb territory on February 6th. Chairman of the protest board, Dragan Savic, said "This is a magnificent gesture of the Serb people, in the name of peace, the Dayton Agreement and a better future." During her visit to Sarajevo, Elizabeth Rehn removed the first brick from the wall.

1:05

Igor Radojicic, Spokesman of the SPRS, stated today in Banja Luka that the arrest of Vasic represented a flagrant violation of the Dayton Agreement, and that Vasic should be placed in the custody of the RS judiciary. He added that the SPRS was disappointed at the behaviour of the IC in the Vasic case. Radojicic said that another violation of the RS Constitution and Dayton Agreement was the attempt to change the adopted design of the passport.

0:45

Ostoja Knezevic, Vice President of the SNS, said today at an SNS meeting in Banja Luka that the forthcoming elections would be democratic with not only a united Ministry of Interior, but with a united media system too.

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Milovan Stankovic, RS Minister of Interior, visited the Ministry of Interior education centre in Banja Luka today. He stated that the Ministry of Interior had to be a non-party and non-political organisation, working exclusively on the basis of the Constitution and the Law.

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At today's meeting of the B&H Standing Military Committee held in Sarajevo, a decision was adopted on the start of an amnesty on February 19th for citizens who hand over weapons, mines or explosives. Armies and Ministries of Interior of the RS and BiH will carry out the task, in co-operation with SFOR.

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