

# **OHR SRT News Summary, 10 Feb. 1998**

## **Headlines**

- President Plavsic and Prime Minister Dodik Participate in Work of Arbitration Tribunal for Brcko Area
- UN Officials Worried About Way Serb Goran Vasic was arrested
- Solution to America-Iraq Crisis Imminent
- Some Improvement in Electric Power Situation in Krajina, Posavina and Semberija

President of the RS, Biljana Plavsic, met today in Vienna with Wolfgang Schussel, Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs. The discussion centered on the issues of Brcko and Kosovo. Plavsic will take the witness stand tomorrow in Vienna before the Arbitration Tribunal for Brcko.

1:10

Prime Minister of the RS, Milorad Dodik, spoke today in Vienna at the Arbitration Tribunal for Brcko. The former Chairman of the Brcko Municipal Council, the current Mayor of Brcko and the Manager of Brcko Port testified today before the Tribunal.

0:55

The UN Security Council called on the RS and the BiH Federation to redouble their efforts to strengthen the functioning of the joint institutions and overcome ethnic divisions. The High Representative, Carlos Westendorp, stated that ethnic minorities should be fully represented in the RS and Federation authorities.

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German Foreign Minister, Klaus Kinkel, will visit Banja Luka on February 16th. He will meet with the RS President, RS Prime Minister, and heads of religious Communities.

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The World Bank has estimated, in a financial report to donors, that a minimum of \$357 million in credits is necessary for reconstruction of the RS and the BiH Federation, in 16 priority sectors. Those priorities include renewal of BiH industry, complete reconstruction of the electricity supply industry, transport and roads, renewal of hospitals and reconstruction of the complete water power network in BiH.

0:50

Nikola Poplasen, Deputy Speaker of the RS National Assembly and President of the SRS, met today in Banja Luka with the Hungarian Ambassador, Kalman Kocsiz, and his associates. They discussed political and economic co-operation between the two Governments. Poplasen explained the SRS attitude that implementation of the Dayton Accords should not be prevented by various annexes, like those from Sintra, Bonn or London.

1:10

Branko Dokic, Vice President of the SNSD, stated today in Banja Luka that his party does not agree with change of passports announced by the High Representative to BiH, Carlos Westendorp. The party is also unhappy with the proposed solution for the BiH flag and about the new authority invested in Westendorp by the Bonn Conference.

1:05

A press release from the RS Ministry of Interior on the arrest of Goran Vasic states that the action was carried out by members of the BiH Intelligence Service, AID, using long barreled guns.

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