## Headlines

- Expectations of our delegation in Vienna: Brcko stays within the RS
- Dodik, RS Prime Minister: International assistance primarily intended for economic revitalisation
- The RS Government and Japanese representatives in BL
- China supports diplomatic solution to the Iraq crisis 40"

## **Top stories**

The Brcko Arbitration hearing continued in Vienna today: Supervisor Farrand spoke for several hours. His testimony is considered to be of great importance to the process. The RS Vice President, D. Mirjanic – the leader of the RS delegation – stated that Mr. Farrand's speech was very detailed and correct.

1:00

RS President, B. Plavsic, spoke today in BL with the Italian Ambassador to B&H about the current situation in the RS and the political situation after election of the new Government. The Italian Ambassador expressed the readiness of the Italian Government to facilitate economic recovery in the RS. 1:00

RS Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik, stated today for Tages Spiegel that a considerable amount of international financial assistance would be invested in the infrastructure and revitalisation of the RS economy. "The RS Government has to ensure that there will be no misuse of that money," the RS Prime Minister emphasised. 0:35

A delegation from Japan visited BL today. Tihomir Gligoric, the RS Government Deputy President, and Miladin Radicevic, RS Minister for Refugees, received the Japanese delegation, which expressed readiness to help refugees and DP's in the RS. The RS Government Deputy President expressed the readiness of the Serb side to fulfill the stipulations of the DA which refer to refugee issues. The Japanese delegation visited two out of 66 collective centres in the RS.

1:30

Slavko Mitrovic, the RS Prime Minister's advisor for the economy, spoke today in BL with experts of the IC about privatisation. The meeting was attended by USAID, OHR, WB and British Government representatives. Mitrovic's assessment was that privatisation was an important element of democratisation and that the Government was keen to introduce it as soon as possible. 2:00

"We are not aware that the HR, Carlos Westendorp, has made any decision on deleting the name of the Entity on the common B&H passport," chief of Boro Bosic's cabinet, Zeljko Travar, stated tonight for the Flesh agency. 0:25

The B&H Council of Ministers should decide on the Law on the CoM at the next session scheduled for February 10th. At today's session the CoM failed to agree. Talking about implementation of the laws on travel documents, Boro Bosic, CoM co-president, stated that OHR planned to impose a decision themselves and to simplify Article 6 of that Law, if implementation did not meet the Bonn deadlines. 1:00

A US Embassy delegation spoke today in BL with representatives of BL University. 1:40

The RS Minister for Refugees and DPs and the Minister for Urbanisation and Construction today received a delegation from Denmark. They discussed the concrete assistance of the Danish Government to the RS. 1:30

The Spanish Ambassador to B&H spoke with the mayor of Trebinje today. The possibilities of economic and cultural co-operation and joint investments were discussed, stated the mayor of Trebinje after the meeting. 2:30

The current political situation was discussed at a meeting in Gacko attended by representatives of eight municipalities of eastern Herzegovina. They expressed their disagreement with the latest decisions of the RS Government.

2:20

The joint Military Commission, consisting of representatives of the VRS and B&H Federation Army, met today at the SFOR base in Ramici near BL.

3:00