

OHR SRT News Summary, 02 Oct. 1997

Banja Luka – RS President Plavsic held separate meetings with the head of OSCE mission to BiH, Frowick and US Ambassador to Austria, Hunt, Italian Ambassador to BiH Union, and Polish Ambassador to BiH Union.

With Frowick and Hunt, Plavsic talked about implementation of the local election results, the process of democratisation and security in the region. Plavsic said that they also talked about women's rights. Frowick stated that OSCE has established a precise plan and rules for implementation of the local election results and it will strictly obey these rules. There are two main reasons why OSCE decided to stay in BiH: development of a democratic process and stability in the region, that is, the re-establishment of the trust and security of people, and a decrease of arms.

With Italian and Polish Ambassadors to BiH Union, Plavsic talked about closer economic co-operation and financial support to the RS.

3:00

The RS PEC member, Kovacevic said that the PEC approved election results for 19 municipalities among which three are from the RS – Serb Ilidza (SDS won), Kotor Varos (the Coalition from the Muslim Croat Federation won), and Derventa (SDS won).

2:00

Sarajevo – the CoM session – the CoM discussed the Law on the CoM which was not adopted because of, as Co-chair Botic said, bad relations among the CoM, BiH Presidency, and other BiH institutions. The CoM agreed on signing the MoU with Finnish Government on reconstruction of the water system, worth 10 million DM.

2:00

Pale – CoM Minister of Communication and BiH Deputy Foreign Minister Bozanic talked with EC representative and agreed to establish the internet system to make communication among representatives of the joint BiH institutions easier. However, it remained unclear when this system would become functional among the people.

2:00

Bijeljina – The SCMM meeting – Military representatives of BiH Federation and the RS met for the first time in the RS since the SCMM was established. Also for the first time, the Federation representatives arrived to the meeting without being escorted by SFOR or IPTF. After the meeting, VRS Commander Colic stated that the VRS is for peace as the path of the future. Everybody who wants to talk honestly about peace are more than welcome, said Colic, adding that he suggested that similar meetings should be held at other military levels.

2:00

The Ministry of Interior has learnt that the Pale leadership plans to have 'people happening' (i.e. 'spontaneous' uprising of people) against SFOR and the IC. Using the seizure of the four TV transmitters as an excuse, the Pale leadership prepares for a new conflict. The first preparations were discussed at today's meetings held at police stations which are still under Pale control throughout the RS. Members of SDS were at those meetings as well. They will block main roads from Pale to Derventa with the help of various transportation companies. However, managers of those companies don't have the vaguest idea what is really hidden behind the Pale leadership request for them to go out and drive. This plan is totally against the DPA and represents a fragrant violation of freedom of movement, and free movement of goods. MUP also underlines that there is no need for panic because members of the legal Ministry of Interior will take measures to stop these negative occurrences and provide security.

3:00

Pale – the item from Pale studio – Krajisnik met the OSCE political representative, Kuznecev, and discussed the forthcoming elections in the RS. Kuznecev said that the elections are the solution for the crisis in the RS, as well as that the Belgrade Agreement must be respected since it maintains the unity of the RS.

2:00

Pale – RS Finance Minister Simic talked with ECMM representative on the WB role in providing aid to the RS, as well as about the conclusions from the IMF and WB Congress that was recently held in Hong Kong. WB approved and already distributed \$28 million to the RS for reconstruction of schools, roads and bridges, and for servicing the

RS foreign debt.
2:00