

OHR BiH TV News Summary, 7 July 1998

Reconstructed Mostar Airport 'Ortiješ' was reopened today, with the presence of HR Westendorp, US Special Envoy, Gelbard and Herzegovina/Neretva Canton highest officials. HR Westendorp, Mostar Mayor Orucevic, and deputy Prskalo carried out the ceremony of ribbon cutting, and at noon, the first aeroplane of 'Croatia Airlines' landed at the airport, followed by 'Air Bosnia' aeroplane. (BiH TV also brought excerpts from Gelbard's speech, unlike HR Westendorp).

3:00

BiH Presidency member Zubak received visit of US Special Envoy Gelbard, discussing the matters of DPA implementation, and political situation in BiH in the sense of the forthcoming elections. Zubak stressed that RTV BiH restructuring has to be carried out prior to elections.

1:00

BiH delegation yesterday met with representatives of the Paris Club. As announced from CoM Co-chairman cabinet, the possibility of reduction of BiH debt for 67% was indicated.

2:00

OSCE Parliament Assembly session commenced in Copenhagen today. BiH delegation at the session is led by FA Minister Prlic. The Assembly will consider matters of OSCE structures and institutions development.

1:00

Federal Government held a session, chaired by the Prime Minister Bicakcic. The main subject at the session was the draft law on rights of veterans, invalids and killed soldiers families.

2:00

BiH Federation Constitutional Court, chaired by Moamer Herceglijica, held a public discussion on the subject that contains demand for determining the constituency of regulations of Western Herzegovina Canton Constitution.

2:00

European Parliament Assembly Commission Ad Hoc representatives for the matters of culture, education and media met in Sarajevo with journalists and representatives of some political parties in the BiH Parliament. Main subject of the discussion was the situation in BiH media. European representatives expressed their concern about functioning of BiH media.

2:00

At the session of the Pension and Invalids Social Fund, it was announced that distribution of pensions for May will begin tomorrow.

2:00

UNHCR announced that they are preparing for possible new violence after incidents in Stolac after the football match when Croatian won. About 200 Croats were throwing stones and demolishing Bosniak houses, destroyed water tank, and two UNHCR buses, used for transportation of Bosniak refugees.

2:00

HR Westendorp has objections to behaviour of Mostar Vice Mayor Prskalo and the letter Prskalo recently addressed to OHR regional head, Sir Martin Garrod. As said by OHR spokesman Haselock, Westendorp stresses that local authorities must know they are responsible for what they are saying. Haselock repeated that HR Westendorp, in accordance with Bonn and Luxembourg declarations, has the authority to replace people who do not co-operate from their positions.

1:00

UNHCR spokeswoman, Quentier said that return of 650 refugees from Berlin to the area of Tuzla was not organised well. Most of the returnees are settled with their friends.

0:30