

OHR BiH TV News Summary, 9 June 1998

Peace implementation Council Steering Board held a session in Luxembourg. BiH Presidency President Izetbegovic and BiH high state officials were also present at the meeting. HR Westendorp submitted his report on the status of peace implementation in BiH. Izetbegovic also held a speech at the meeting, and said, among other things, that if parties who does not support BiH win the elections, the Bosniak side will demand revision of the Dayton Agreement. HR Westendorp said that refugee return is the key priority for this year and added that so-called minority returns represent the biggest priority in the forthcoming period. The matter of succession of property between former SFRY countries was also discussed and Westendorp announced three-week continuous meeting of negotiating sides for September. Izetbegovic also objected on Special Declaration on relations between the EU and BiH, saying that the declaration does not mention Srebrenica missing persons and (non)implementation of election results in this town.

10:00

RTV BiH Trade Union Main Board announced signing of the Memorandum on Understanding about RTV BiH restructuring for this morning at 10:00. OHR representative Attarashany brought the recent version of the MoU, which the President of Trade Union, Oljaca was ready to sign. However, several workers initiated a discussion that delayed signing of MoU until standpoints of both sides are accorded. The first objection was that when the Trade Union signs the MoU, signatures of the Presidency members are not necessary. Attarashany who said that the most important signer of the MoU is the Trade Union and that the Presidency may sign or not sign also confirmed this. The second objection was in regard with Article 3 of the MoU that says that a "public corporation for RTV program broadcasting in BiH" is being established. Asked why the title does not say "production and broadcasting of RTV program," Attarashany said that this was a matter of translation. RTV BiH employees will be informed on the contents of MoU tomorrow.

3:30

Iranian Ambassador to BiH, Taherian addressed a letter of support to RTV BiH acting general manager, Omersoftic. In his letter, Taherian expresses his gratitude to Omersoftic and RTV BiH employees for maintaining the voice of democracy and independence.

0:30

Federation Parliament House of People did not vote on draft Criminal Law, and the Draft Law on Criminal Procedure, although it was scheduled. The session was ceased in order to give time to the Government to make standpoint on about 60 amendments on these laws.

3:00

Federal Minister of Defense representative, Prca and MoD deputy, Mahmuljin held a meeting with members of the Federation Parliament Commission for Security and Defence, discussing the status and activities of the FMoD and the Federation Army. It was stressed that the law on serving the army is missing and that civilian command over the Army is not clearly defined.

2:00

Yugoslav Army shelled villages at borderline with Albania, in Kosovo province. According to Albanian sources, number of Albanian casualties was not confirmed, while one Yugoslav Army soldier was killed and three wounded.

3:30

After a meeting with regional OHR head Sir Martin Garrod, Bosniak and Croat authorities from Mostar agreed to open Mostar airport "Ortije" for civilian flights. The airport will be opened on June 19 1998.

2:00