

OHR Local News Issues, 7 April 1997

In a bus attack which happened this morning in Han Derventa, near Sarajevo on the Serb controlled territory, three men were injured. Two unidentified men hijacked the bus while it was stopped while the drivers were fitting tire chains. They beat some of the passengers and extorted money and other valuables.

2'00"

A Collegiate body of the Federal Assembly's House of Representatives decided to hold the fifth session of this House on 16 April to discuss laws on Privatisation, property ownership and Health. If amendments to these laws cannot be agreed, which would also constitutionally confirm the multi-ethnicity of Sarajevo and Mostar, they will be discussed at the meeting.

2'30"

Relating to the death of three children killed by a mine, Alex Ivanko told Press Conference that the International Community partly bears responsibility for this tragedy. Talking of the attack on the monastery in Kraljeva Sutjeska, he said that the local police had enough men and money to prevent such incidents. David Foley told Press Conf. that Sunday's Oslobodjenje comment on the new election rules was a general non understanding of what Robert Frowick said of Mostar municipalities election.

1'00"

An attack on one of the Catholic sanctuaries such as Kraljeva Sutjeska, is not only a terrorist act, but a series of shots on our past and the future, Gradimir Gojer, SDP Vice President told Press Conference. He demanded from the authorities more than just taking stance in the incident.

1'30"

The media in the Serb entity said that a loan which the RS representatives along with the BiH Ministry for Foreign Trade discussed with the WB, was granted. Hasan Muratovic explained in an interview that it was not the case since the Serb entity has to fulfil the certain pre-conditions to be granted this loan for the reconstruction of housing, economy and water resources management.

2'30"

BiH Federal President, Edhem Bicakcic and Federation Acting President, Ejup Ganic are paying visit to the Tuzla-Podrinje Canton to discuss a set of the vital questions with the local authorities - heavy destroyed economic capacities, low employment, low percentage of Bosniaks represented in the authorities and police in relation to the election results, problems of refugees and displaced persons, demobilized soldiers and war invalids, shheid families, etc.

3'30"

Following an extraordinary Bishop's Conference in Sarajevo, Cardinal Vinko Puljic together with his colleagues visited Kosevo stadium and praised the preparing works for Pope's visit, which will be, despite cold weather, finished in time. Bishop Sudar pointed out that Biljana Plavsic promised him to do her best that the pilgrims trip to Sarajevo to see Pope passes without problems on a Serb entity territory.

2'00"

Pope's visit to Sarajevo and BiH must not be only an act of good will, solemn act and parade but the real change and new start in the relations among Judaism, Christianity and Islam in BiH, Marko Orsolic, director of the International, Multi-religious and Intercultural Center Zajedno in Sarajevo said to BiH Press.

1'30"

Relating to the delay of the Donor Conference for BiH, the BiH Trade Union sent an energetic protest to the HR Carl Bildt, his Principal Deputy, Ambassador Steiner and World Bank Director for BiH, Rory O'Sullivan demanding their personal effort and applying of the sanctions against those who are blocking a fulfillment of the pre-conditions for the Conference.

1'30"

Summary SRT News

Pale – RS Defence Ministry members and RS Army HQ generals met an OSCE delegation for military issues to discuss further implementation of the DPA. Since the RS fully implemented the military aspect of the DPA, the international community insists on development of the inter-Entity trust and strengthening of security in the RS. The OSCE delegation congratulate the RS team for good cooperation.

3:00

Nasa Borba – an interview with RS Foreign Minister, Buha – Buha emphasised that the RS-FRY Agreement should have had a military defence alliance between the RS and FRY, clause on the double citizenship for Serbs in the RS, but not a clause which would have this document ratified by the BiH Parliament. On the question who needed the Agreement signed so urgently, Buha said: 'While listening to different explanations, once I think that the FRY needed it so urgently, whereas next time I think that the RS needed it. The truth is probably somewhere in between.' Buha confirmed that the Agreement caused conflict within the RS leadership, and he said that it should have been signed by the RS President Biljana Plavsic. Buha confirmed that there are a lot of irregularities in the Agreement but he also said that the RS will have profit out of it. With regard to the alleged arrest of Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic, Buha said that that would cause another war. 'I do hope that the world has taken into consideration piles of documents regarding the two of them, and in order to be fair and just they should lift the charges.'

2:00

Serbs in Zenica – life for more than 400 Zenica Serbs is getting more and more harder while the Muslim authorities and police more often break into Serb houses and apartments torturing them and confiscating their belongings, one of the Zenica Serbs, who left the town three days ago said for the SRT. Zenica Serbs are staying without their jobs and being evicted from their flats.

3:00

The Washington Post – the international community should allow democratic disintegration of BiH and let all three peoples in BiH to vote for the political system and country they wish to live. Nothing has been changed by the DPA and its implementation, except that the war was stopped. The Muslims are seriously preparing themselves for a new military conflict because of their loss. The Washington Post reported that the Muslim leader Alija Izetbegovic did not hide his intentions during his latest visit to the USA, when he threatened the West with establishment of the Islamic state with or without their permission. The Islamic state would be economically, military and politically supported by Turkey, Iran and Saudi Arabia. Since the west does not like the idea on establishment of the Islamic state on the Balkans, but however, it is more than evident that neither Serbs, Croats nor Muslims can continue living together, the Washington Post foresees the solution in democratic disintegration and decentralisation of BiH. The Newspaper thinks that if only a one of the three peoples [the Serbs in particular, but soon followed by the Croats] decides to separate, the international community should respect that.

3:00

Eastern Slavonia – at the referendum held yesterday in this region, more than 99,51% of the population voted for unity of the region after the reintegration with Croatia

2:00

Pale – The Serb Press Agency 'SRNA' celebrated its 5th anniversary today.