

OBN News Review, 15 February 2000

Headlines

- Sarajevo – work table meeting on security of the Stability Pact for South East Europe begun
- At the donor conference of the Stability Pact, scheduled for the end of March, some 800 million DEM will be asked for BiH
- Guest of TV INFO: Special Co-ordinator of the Stability Pact, Bodo Hombach
- At the meeting with the Russian Deputy Foreign Minister, it was said that relations between BiH and Russia have improved
- Martin Spegelj reveals: “I was offered a position in the office of the Croatian President”
- Federal TV and the PBS will start broadcasting their programming in May

Banja Luka

The Clinic Center in Banja Luka (KBC) is faced with financial collapse because of unpaid debts of the Health Fund. Staff of this medical institution have been warning for a long period of time about a difficult situation in the Center. The most difficult is with surgery where a number of operations had to be reduced. A strike of medical staff from Prijedor has been going on for months and the trade union of medical workers announced a general strike last week. The report was produced by OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Sanela Zivkovic.

Sarajevo

After eight months, the Stability Pact meeting is being held in Sarajevo again. Some 65 delegations and some 200 participants have gathered at the work table meeting on

security. They discussed all aspects of security in South East Europe, OBN reporter, Vedran Persic, confirmed. During the first day of the Conference, participants discussed restructuring of judiciary bodies, de-mining and three different initiatives for the establishment of the regional educational center for police officers.

At the donor, that is financial conference of the Stability Pact, scheduled for March 29th and 30th in Brussels, some 800 million DEM will be asked for Bosnia and Herzegovina. In this so called "a package for a quick start", 1,8 billion EUR0s will be suggested. For the reconstruction o infrastructure, roads and railroads in BiH, some 800 million DEM has been planned. The Special Co-ordinator of the Stability Pact, Bodo Hombach, met with the representatives of BiH joint institutions and entities. Some of them took the opportunity to suggest new projects. The piece was produced by OBN reporter, Sanjin Beciragic.

Special Co-ordinator of the Stability Pact, Bodo Hombach, was the guest of TV INFO, and its presenters, Duska Jurisic and Aleksandar Mlac. OBN presenters asked their guest how much donors were ready to pledge of their money to Bosnia and Herzegovina? Bodo Hombach said that he expected that a number of projects in BiH would be started soon. He stressed the importance of self-initiative in the region and the support of the International Community. Bodo Hombach said that the Pact is not only a source of donations but a political body as well.

Sarajevo

A piece on the session of the Representative House of the BiH Parliamentary Assembly. The Law on the BiH Council of Ministers was not included in the agenda of today's session because the Serb representatives were against it. Although the representatives discussed the permanent election draft law, no concrete results on this were achieved. The report was

produced by OBN reporter, Anes Alic.

This was followed by a report on the session of the Representative House of the BiH Federation Parliament which lasted for the whole day. The representatives discussed the Government's suggestion for economic policy for this year. The BiH Federation Parliament representatives estimated that the suggestion was too general and without concrete suggestions for the improvement of the economy. The eleventh session of the Representative House will be continued tomorrow. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Sevko Bajic.

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Visit

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister, Alexandar Aleksijevic Avdejev, is on a three day visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina. In Sarajevo, he met with local and international officials. He confirmed the support of Russia for the implementation of the Dayton Peace Agreement. He said that as far as the crisis in Chechenya was concerned, Russian activities will be directed in three directions: refugee return, victory over rebels and finding out a formula which would allow autonomy of Chechenya within Russia, OBN reporter, Zeljka Lekic, confirmed.

World

Yugoslav President, Slobodan Milosevic, appointed new Defence Minister, Dragoljub Ojdanic, because the previous Minister, Pavle Bulatovic, was murdered a week ago in Belgrade. General Ojdanic has been indicted for war crimes by the Hague Tribunal. In Kosovo, the Temporary Managing Council adopted a declaration which condemned the recent escalation of violence in Kosovska Mitrovica. The US Government also condemned both parties, Serbs and Kosovo Albanians, for the recent events. The piece on current events in the world was produced by OBN journalist, Gordana Frimel.

Sarajevo

A piece on the promotion of "Rat u Hrvatskoj in BiH od 1991 do 1995" (War in Croatia and BiH between 1991 and 1995). This literary work is a result of the Bucharest round table meeting in 1998. The promotion was marked with polemics between promoters and some of the authors because of information presented in the work. An author from Croatia, Martin Spegelj, attended the promotion. He said for OBN that he was offered a position in the office of the Croatian President but he would have to think about the offer because of his age. The piece was produced by OBN reporter, Mirna Sadikovic.

An item on the announcement of the Founding Board of the Public Broadcast Service that the final phase in the restructuring of the RTVBiH has begun. Radio and Television of the BiH Federation and the Public Broadcast service will probably start broadcasting their programming by May 15th, OBN reporter, Danijela Bozic, confirmed.

Banja Luka / Tuzla (Privatisation)

In the RS, privatisation application forms were submitted by 1,075 companies to the Hub for Privatisation. Only 805 of them submitted programs for privatisation. Up to date, 40 programs were approved, OBN reporter from Banja Luka, Tatjana Lajsic, confirmed. At today's special session of the Tuzla Canton Government, it was reiterated that charges would be raised against those directors and boards, who did not submit their programmes for privatisation and opening balance sheets.

Mostar

After two months investigation as to who was to blame for the flood in Mostar, citizens of the town decided to sue "Elektroprivreda" companies representatives from both banks of the Neretva river. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Senad Efica.

Sarajevo

An item on a meeting organised by the Ministry of Interior Affairs of the Sarajevo Canton because of an increased number of cases threatening death to journalists. The Ministry wanted to try to work out a solution for the problem together with the representatives of media who were invited to the meeting. The report was produced by OBN reporter, Slobodan Maksimovic.

Banja Luka

A piece on the court procedure against two journalists of the independent Banja Luka magazine "Reporter" because of disrespect towards the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Slobodan Milosevic, OBN reporter, Nedeljka Breberina, confirmed.

A report on the international football matches was presented.