OBN News Review, 16 November 2000

Headlines

- OSCE announced new preliminary election results
- The Election Appeal Commission removed several candidates from voting lists
- The B&H Pensioners' Association demanded that the High Representative cancels the new Law on Pension and Insurance
- Scandal in Turkey: citizens have unknowingly eaten pork for a long time

Sarajevo

More than 90% of ballots have been counted so far. OSCE announced new preliminary election results. The results have not changed significantly: SDP, SDA and HDZ won the largest number of votes in the Federation, and SDS leads in the RS. Reported by Zeljka Lekic.

Sarajevo

The Election Appeal Sub-Commission removed several HDZ candidates from voting lists, because this party supported the Croat referendum during the pre-election silence. The Commission also sanctioned SDA, Party for B&H and SDS in the same way, due to violation of the election rules, Zeljka Lekic reported.

Sarajevo

"By removing SDA candidate, Sefik Dzaferovic from the lists, OSCE once more openly took SDP's side", the SDA Spokesman, Sulejman Tihic said. "SDA submitted 45 complaints against other parties so far, but OSCE did not react", Mr. Tihic added.

HDZ announced that they would not participate in forming governments in any level, unless the Commission withdrew its decision on removal of 13 HDZ candidates from voting lists. HDZ standpoint is that the decision of the Commission is the worst kind of protectorate. Sanjin Beciragic produced the report.

The OHR announced that SDS presidential candidate, Mirko Sarovic might be proclaimed ineligible, if his alleged statement to a Moscow newspaper on possible Serb referendum in B&H proves to be true. Mr. Sarovic issued an announcement, denying that he gave any such statement, and confirming his support for the Dayton Peace Accords.

Banja Luka

SDS organised a press conference in Banja Luka today. "We will organise the SDS Presidency session tomorrow, and check all facts in Srebrenica regarding the removal of several SDS candidates form voting lists in this area", the SDS member, Vojislav Gligic said. Reported by Dragan Stanimirovic.

Sarajevo

"SDA is not satisfied with election victory of nationalist parties in the RS and Herzegovina", the SDA Spokesman, Sefik Dzaferovic said. "We are not satisfied with counting of votes in Marijin Dvor municipality in Sarajevo, and we demand hand count", the SDA Spokesman, Sulejman Tihic said. Svjetlana Celic produced the report.

Sarajevo

The B&H Pensioners' Association demanded that the High Representative cancels the new Law on pensions and insurance, that he recently proclaimed. If this does not take place, pensioners demand Petritsch's resignation, Anes Alic reported.

Dayton

Tomorrow will be five years since signing of the Dayton Peace Accords. On this occasion, a conference "Construction of Lasting Peace in the Balkans — Recommendations for a New US Administration" will take place in Dayton. Several officials from the former Yugoslavia have been invited. The US Ambassador to the <u>UN</u>, Richard Holbrooke will open the Conference. Reported by Gordana Frimel.

World

Four soldiers were seriously injured, and 17 suffered minor injuries in an explosion in the military barracks in Ogulin, Croatia this morning.

Clashes between Israelis and Palestinians intensify.

The Court Dispute on the US presidential election continues in Florida. Announcement of final results is expected on Saturday.

"The Yugoslav Government renewed diplomatic relations with the USA, Great Britain, France and Germany, which were suspended during the Kosovo crisis", the Yugoslav Prime Minister, Zoran Zizic said.

23 smugglers of pork were arrested in Turkey. The sale of meat decreased by 50% in some areas, after the news had been published. Gordana Frimel produced the report on world events.

Mostar

The Croatian writer, Dubravko Horvatic (for the novel "Svjetionik") and B&H writer, Zeljko Ivankovic (the novel "Dogledi III") received the literary award "Antun Branko Simic" today. Misijana Brkic produced the report.

Sarajevo

The book "Legal Nature of B&H War" by Sakib Softic was promoted today in Sarajevo, Meliha Hasanbegovic reported.

Sport

Reports on international tennis and football, and NBA league were presented.