OBN News Review, 21 July 2000

Headlines

- Thousands of people protested in the Brcko District, demanding permanent accommodation for refugees
- Contracts on formation of a B&H fund for loan guarantees and on privatisation of the Kakanj cement factory were signed
- Employees of the "Zenicatrans" organised a one-hour warning strike
- G8 Summit started in Okinawa

Brcko

After yesterday's protest, when the protestors burned the B&H flag, thousands of people gathered in Brcko again, demanding permanent accommodation for refugees. The Chairman of the RS Assembly, Petar Dokic addressed the protestors. He announced quick implementation of the project "Brcko 2000". The multi ethnic commission for flats will be transformed into a commission controlled by the District Government. Construction of 60 flats for refugees was completed in the Brcko suburb Grbavica 2. The report was produced by Slobodanka Radojkovic.

Sarajevo

"OHR condemns burning of the flag, and investigation is underway. The situation is under control, and we are not worried about security", said the OHR Spokesman, Chris Bird. Reported by Vedran Persic.

Banja Luka

The Chairman of the B&H Council of Ministers, Spasoje Tusevljak met the B&H Presidency member, Zivko Radisic and the RS Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik. "I supported Mr. Tusevljak and the Council of Ministers.", Mr. Radisic said. "The success of the Council of Ministers will depend on a successful cooperation of the Council with the RS and the Federation Governments, as well as other institutions", Radisic added. As for the possible unification of the B&H Army, Mr. Tusevljak said that the Dayton Peace Agreement should be observed in all issues. The RS Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik said that formation of a unified Army, and dismissal of the RS Army would be unacceptable. Tatjana Lajsic produced the report.

Sarajevo

The B&H Foreign Minister, Jadranko Prlic and representatives of the German Institution for Loan Guarantees signed a contract on formation of a B&H Fund for loan guarantees. The initial capital would be DM 20 million. The aim of the programme is to help development of small and medium enterprises. Reported by Anes Alic.

Sarajevo

The largest Austrian private bank group "RZB" bought 90% of shares of the "Market Banka" from Sarajevo. Austrians announced that their primary task would be to find investors for B&H, Amarildo Gutic confirmed.

Zenica

A contract on privatisation of the Kakanj cement factory was signed today. The world company "Heidelberger Cement" gave the best offer. The Federation Prime Minister, Edhem Bicakcic and a representative of the "Heidelberger Cement" signed the contract. Reported by Zeljka Bajramovic and Hajrudin Durakovic.

Sarajevo

The road Sarajevo-Pale has not functioned for 8 months, because of a land-slide. Although this slowed down economic co-operation and the return process, no one has started any activities in reconstruction of the road so far. The Head of the <u>UN</u> Mission in B&H, Jacques Klein and the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Spasoje Tusevljak visited the sight today. Mr. Klein promised that the international community would provide 1/3 of financial resources for the road reconstruction. Mirna Sadikovic produced the report.

Zenica

Employees of the company "Zenicatrans" organised a one-hour warning strike today. Their main request was replacement of the Director and several management members. They announced that they would start a general strike, if the authorities did not fulfil their requests. Reported by Ninoslava Kolar and Hajrudin Durakovic.

Mostar

The Vice-President of HDZ, Dragan Covic confirmed today that Mr. Jadranko Prlic would stay the HDZ member in the future.

World

The <u>ICTY</u> rejected an appeal of the B&H Croat, Ante Furundzija and confirmed their sentence to 10 years in prison for rapes in B&H during the war.

G8 Summit started in Okinawa today. The Russian President, Vladimir Putin attended such a session for the first time.

The Israeli-Palestinian negotiations in Camp David continue. According to the Israeli Government, the Israeli Prime Minister accepted the American compromise for a joint Israeli-Palestinian administration in the east Jerusalem. Yasser Arafat rejected the plan. OBN reporter Adis Saranovic produced the report on world events.

Sarajevo

The Federation Army Commander, General Rasim Delic officially

retired today. General Atif Dudakovic took over the duty at today's ceremony. Mr. Dudakovic is the SDA member. According to <u>OSCE</u> legal experts, he cannot be the General of the Army and a party member at the same time, Vedran Persic confirmed.

Sarajevo

Sevko Bajic produced a piece on the spread of Q-fever in B&H, and conditions for medical treatment of the disease in the country.

Fojnica

The International Youth Camp was opened in Fojnica. The camp is one of the Dutch projects for development of the municipality. Reported by Ana Drmac.

Sport

Reports on international tennis, the Tour de France and the NBA league were presented.