

# OHR BiH TV News Summary, 21 August 2000

## News Headlines:

- 118-member crew of Russian nuclear submarine Kursk perishes – Commander of Russian Northern Fleet confirms tragedy
- Report on two serious car accidents in Austria
- Report on fires throughout BiH: fighting of fire in Goričevac region, Bihać Municipality, very danger due to surrounding minefields
- OHR supports Banja Luka refugee demands – OHR spokesperson Milisic
- SDA condemns objection of RS Prime Minister Dodik to return of Bosniaks to Banja Luka to tent settlements, and it is high time for IC to take punitive measures against practices legalising ethnic cleansing
- SDP Sarajevo Canton Board condemns Dodik reaction to announced tent settlement, assessing that he does not have sense enough to resolve refugee problems, human rights and property laws
- Erection of tent settlement in Banja Luka and other towns represents desperate cry of refugees to return to their homes, in spite of inhumane conditions – Banja Luka Bishop Monsignor Komarica
- Erection of tent settlements are preventing those who are suppose to implement refugee return process – HNV member, Friar Luka Markesic
- Responsibility for poor results in refugee return process, besides BiH officials, is borne by IC because it supports such officials – Circle 99 Independent Intellectuals member Vlatko Dolocek
- There is lack of will of authorities in RS to ensure refugee return – Congress Council of Bosniak

Intellectuals (VKBI) President Atif Purivatra

- Responsibility for non-return of refugees is borne by representatives of authorities – Serb Civic Council (SNV) representative Vignjevic
- Society for Threaten Peoples addresses protest letter to Petritsch concerning statement of RS Prime Minister Dodik, that he will prevent erection of tent settlement in Banja Luka
- [SFOR](#) blocks all access roads to Glamoc due to latest incident of torching Bosniak house, explains deteriorating security situation in that town as reason for action
- Konjic Municipality representatives claim that problems in two-way return are caused by vacant apartments, returnees keeping former property after they have returned to their own
- BiH Federation Securities Commission brings decision determining deadline dates for citizens to pay for their shares in Privatisation Investment Funds
- Banja Luka pensioners hold protest rally, send message they will block RS National Assembly, if this becomes necessary
- Strike board of transport instruments factory in Tuzla not satisfied with results of negotiations with representatives of Tuzla Canton Government
- Donji Vakuf sawmill workers start strike
- BNT workers decide to freeze strike until 31 August
- Reconstruction and development of BiH were main topics of meeting between SDP and German Defence Minister Rudolph Scharping
- PDP President Ivanic calls on Radisic to initiate investigation into legality and constitutionality of provision of BiH Federation law on socially-owned apartments, according to which returnees must spend at least two years in residence before they are free to dispose of their property as they see fit
- LDS requests BiH Federation Government to guarantee

- price reduction of mobile telephony by 10%
- Bosnian Party (BOSS) condemns destruction of bust of Josip Broz Tito in Tuzla Partisan Cemetery
- US Government fully supports work of senior Mostar officials Orucevic and Tomic – Miller
- Miller meets with Mostar University Chancellor Tadic
- Kostunica criticises ruling parties in Serbia for past ten-year ruination of people and country, as well as capitulation in Kosovo
- Djukanovic rejects assertion that his party (DSP) will support election list of united Serbian opposition
- World news
- Construction of hydro power plant in Duge village causing arguments between investors and inhabitants of this village, it is impossible to resolve this problem
- Sports
- Weather

## **News Summary:**

OHR supports Banja Luka refugee demands – OHR spokesperson Milisic (01:55) OHR spokesperson Oleg Milisic said the OHR supports the demands of refugees from Banja Luka because their demands relate to return to pre-war homes. Milisic said that RS Prime Minister Milorad Dodik's statement on refugees using camping grounds is, on the one hand, insulting because these people have the right to return to their homes, not to camps. The OHR is working stubbornly to help all people return to their homes, which is why the OHR brought laws that clearly explain the jurisdiction of each institution, and the way in which the return process would be implemented, said Milisic.