OHR Local News Issues, 02 July 1997

France Press reported that the Hague Tribunal Deputy Prosecutor requested a life sentence for Dusan Tadic, who should be sentenced after the appeal period expires.

General Jacques Klein, the administrator of the UNTAES in Eastern Slavonia to date, was appointed as the new HR Westendorp's Deputy today. Simon Haselock, the OHR Spokesman, said that HR Westendorp requested from the US to appoint a person who has insight to the situation in the region. Haselock quoted Westendorp's statement on the occasion of Klein's appointment, in which he had said that he 'warmly welcomes the appointment of Jacques Klein, who will bring with him a great knowledge of the region, experience, and extraordinary achievements during his work as the interim administrator of Eastern Slavonia. I am looking forward to working with him in the months ahead.' Haselock also said that Klein will be officially appointed as the HR Deputy at the UN HQ in New York today. 2:00

Pale – SFOR Press Conference – The international community representatives strongly support RS President Plavsic and her presidential powers. The UNIPTF Spokesman Ivanko said that UN supports Plavsic and condemns the disrespect of the official policy of the RS President. OHR Spokesman, Haselock said that the OHR is deeply concerned because of the current political situation in the RS, adding that Ambassador Steiner is in contact with the RS officials all the time. SFOR representative said that SFOR intensified their patrolling especially after Plavsic's request for protection late last night. Plavsic held another extraordinary press conference today, condemning Karadzic's acts. Among other things, she said ironically that 'Biljana Plavsic should have run for elections, been elected and become a puppet of the former RS president.'

The US diplomacy is rather interested in the RS current political situation. However, the State Department Spokesman said that they are not surprised by the fact that Karadzic is still the key player, adding that problems occurred when the RS decided not to implement the DPA. The US still keeps its position that the economic pressure is the only instrument of remedying the newly occurred situation. 4:00