

# OHR Local News Issues, 8 June 1997

Alija Izetbegovic, BiH State Presidency President went to visit Republic of Turkey on the invitation of the Turkish President Sulejman Demirel. During this visit, Alija Izetbegovic will receive the most important Turkish decoration, given for the foreign officials.

0'30"

BiH Parliamentary session scheduled to be held tomorrow, has been adjourned as the RS deputies have announced their non attendance. At the session the QSP Law was due to be adopted as the final step towards the Donors Conference for BiH. Commenting on the non co-operation of Pale, Haris Silajdzic, BiH CoM Co-Chair said that the Pale leadership in fact, and not people from RS obstruct DPA, since the majority of people wish the normalisation of life. Silajdzic further hoped that the International Community would respect the Sintra Declaration and make financial assistance dependent on the co-operation of the entities. The Donor Conference should be held and a financial assistance should be designated for both entities, he said. But money should not be made operational for the side in BiH which obstructs the DPA. Everybody knows which side that is. If Donors Conference would not be held, and I hope it will, we would be pressured to take help on a bilateral basis from the countries which are ready to do it, Silajdzic ascertained.

3'30"

Haris Silajdzic, Co-Chair of the BiH CoM talked with Ibrahim Taji, Libyan Ambassador. They agreed relations could improve thanks to the natural potentials and the traditional ties of the countries. Silajdzic pointed out the necessity of investing money into large BiH economic enterprises, which have been the key Libyan partners in the past.

0'30"

BiH Professor Rusmir Mahmutcehajic, one of the most prominent speakers foreseen to talk at the conference held last weekend in US, did not obtain a visa to enter US. Together with Peter Galbright, American Ambassador to Croatia he should have talked on Daytonisation of BiH and its neighbours. Ambassador Galbright explained that the political reasons are not among reasons why a person would not be allowed to enter USA. Analysing the reasons for Mahmutcehajic's not obtaining visa, a respectable San Francisco Chronicle newspaper informed the readers that he is a former BiH Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for energy who was responsible for the defence of the country at the beginning of the war. Why not, in the end there were his people's lives put at the stake, the newspaper concluded pointing out that Mahmutcehajic distanced himself from the Government in Sarajevo before the Dayton Accord had been signed assessing that Dayton formula means an end of the multi-ethnic BiH.

3'30"

Five years ago, on 8 June, defenders of Sarajevo: police, territorial units and members of the Patriotic League – proved that by defending Trebevic, Mojmiro, Borije, Dobrinja, Azici and the hill Zuc, could save our town from the aggressor. The battle for a unified Bosnia has not stopped, said Haris Silajdzic at the central rally held in the settlement Hrid calling on the citizens to vote at the local elections.

2'30"

Follow information on the refugees and DP's return and reception they find in various towns of BiH.

## Summary SRT News

**Banja Luka** – RS President Plavsic and Vice-president Mirjanic met the UN Special Envoy for Human Rights, Elizabeth Rehn, and

discussed the implementation of the DPA, particularly with regard to the release of POW's, search for missing persons, and return of refugees. Plavsic said that they talked about establishment of co-operation with regard to the issues above, and that she felt the need to give some explanations and suggestions, which is not the case with anybody else she talked to. They also talked about the establishment of the Ombudspersons Office in the RS.

4:00

#### **Flash news:**

- The issue of return of refugees from Germany and the recent decision of the regional German Ministers of Interior have already been used as the new media offensive against the Serbs and the RS in Austria, Germany and Switzerland. Thus, Germany decided to stop the forced return of those refugees who lived in the RS territory before the war. As was the case with alleged Serb concentration camps and war criminals, this offensive will be used for washing dark stains from the history of those countries. Or maybe this is about some joint US and German schemes and plans with regard to the former BiH.
- German lawyers decided to avoid the term of the so-called 'individual guilt' and instead blame the whole Serb nation in the Djajic case, Ms. Nikolic, a Serb, who attended the trial, said. She noted every single spoken word both in the court room and in the lobby and in detail confirmed that this case is not just against Djajic but against the whole Serb nation.
- Vukovar – Croatian President Tudjman visited the town and held a speech after he was invited by the Serb authorities and Independent Serb Democratic Party. He invited all the Serbs to stay in Croatia and build the future of the country and themselves together with the Croats. Tudjman was welcomed by Administrator Klein who said that establishment of trust was never easy after the war, adding that the time has come for a new chapter

in history, a chapter of reconciliation.

5:00

**Belgrade** – Jerusalem handed as a gift to the Serb Orthodox Church the ancient Orthodox icon which is believed to be miraculous.

4:00

During his visit to Rogatica, the RS Prime Minister Klinkovic said that the RS Government's task is to provide working facilities and accomodation, and only after that to start with the return of refugees, adding that sending of larger groups of minority refugees to this territory is unacceptable. He also said that the return will be carried out in the entity with the ethnic majority first, whereas further stages of return will be based on the reciprocity, adding that this process could last for years, maybe even decades.

2:00

#### **World news:**

**Mostar** – the Muslim and Croat leaders have totally opposite positions with regard to the agreement they signed last week, in accordance with which the six city municipalities should be established. On one hand, Muslims think that the establishment of the municipalities will preserve the multi-ethnicity of the city, but on the other hand, the Croat leaders reminded the Muslims that three municipalities will have the Croat majority.

2:00