OHR RTRS News Summary, 11 December 1999

News Headlines

- Tudjman dies in Zagreb Clinic
- Croatian Government declares three days of mourning
- Jelavic and Luzanski send condolences to Pavletic
- Petritsch sends condolences to Tudjman family
- World leaders send condolences to Tudjman family
- 80th session of RS Government scheduled for 12 December in Banja Luka
- BiH Parliamentary Assembly expected to adopt draft election law in beginning of next year
- Schwartz-Shilling holds press conference on results of his mission in BiH
- 60 houses built for refugees in Gacko not yet in use due to incomplete work on infrastructure
- 314 Bosniak applications for property return submitted in Ugljevik
- Stories on joint BiH army unacceptable to us RS Defense Minister Milovanovic
- RS Army recruits take oaths throughout RS
- IC will ignore 22 dismissed BiH officials Ferguson
- Draskovic invites Serbian authorities to state before 15
 December whether they want extraordinary elections –
 BETA
- Yugoslav Army will not interfere in political differences in Montenegro – Yugoslav Prime Minister Bulatovic
- 26 Serbs and one Turk go on hunger strike in Kosovska Mitrovica prison BETA
- KFOR arrests seven persons in Kosovo for illegal possession of weapons
- KFOR arrests two persons for robbery in Pristina KFOR

spokesperson Lavoir

- <u>EU</u> warns Kosovo Albanian politicians that their disputes with <u>UN</u> could lead to loss of <u>EU</u> support
- Kosovo Government Prime Minister Thaci accuses Rugova and Kouchner of opposing establishment of joint administration in Kosovo — BETA
- Rugova invites Kosovo citizens to cooperate with Kosovo authorities, KFOR and <u>UN</u> against violence
- World News
- Banja Luka Jelsingrad could be declared enterprise of strategic importance by RS Government
- Milk production in RS
- Dangers of firecrackers, especially for children
- Milosevic sends condolences to Tudjman family Tanjug
- SDP BiH adopts platform for assisting refugee returns
- Gnjilane Serbs refuse to meet with Kouchner due to their dissatisfaction with UN work in Kosovo
- Albania does not support idea of Greater Albania –
 Albanian Foreign Minister
- Commemorations observed for Tudjman throughout BiH
 Federation
- Djukanovic addresses letter of condolences to Croat people
- Announcement for TV BiH show 'Svijet'
- Sports
- Weather

News Summary

Schwartz-Schilling holds press conference on results of his mission in BiH

International Mediator for RS and BiH Federation Christian Schwartz-Schilling held a press conference on the results of his mission. He welcomes High Representative Wolfgang Petritsch's decision on the dismissal of 22 BiH officials. He also pointed to the agreement signed by international officials and RS Refugee and DPs Ministry and Banja Luka

Assembly, after the dismissal of Banja Luka Mayor Umicevic. In his opinion, all problems should be resolved by local politicians through negotiations and agreements. "The mediator is not an arbitrator and does not pass any decrees. If this process is not successful then the citizens can react through elections, or the High Representative can do so by using his authority" he said.

00:39

IC will ignore 22 dismissed BiH officials — Ferguson

OHR spokesman James Ferguson stated that the IC is going to ignore the municipal officials dismissed by High Representative Wolfgang Petritsch and OSCE Head of Mission Robert Barry. According to ONASA, Ferguson said that the dismissed officials violated Annex 7 of the Dayton Agreement and obstructed refugee returns. He added that the OHR decision on suspending the Skelani Municipality was brought in order to enable refugee returns. "Such decisions could be also brought for some BiH Federation municipalities, such as Mostar, Zepce and Zavidovici" he said.

00:43