OHR RTRS News Summary, 23 February 2000

News Headlines

- OSCE mission to BiH announces start of pre-election campaign for local elections
- BiH Commission for Refugees and Displaced Persons holds first formative session in Lukavica
- Saros Refugee and DP Association lists conditions for return to Srebrenica
- Hocu kuci Refugee and DP Association says that 500 Serbs should return to homes in Croatia annually
- Croatian Prime Minister Racan comments on 16,500 Serb returns to Croatia
- Deputy Croatian Foreign Minister Josip Poro comments on financial assistance for Serb returns
- USAID official and Brcko Mayor open Brcko bus station
- RS Association of Veterans organizes protest against evictions of veterans, invalids and families of fallen solders on Krajina Square in Banja Luka
- Sloga Veterans Associations agrees with Dodik that RS Government hold session to discuss veteran issues
- RS Privatization Agency statement on extra 2 KM payment for war veterans
- ICTY examines possibility of carrying out certain inquires in BiH
- Clark announces SFOR reduction
- SFOR Commander Adams meets with representatives of Trebinje Municipality
- Deputy RS Assembly Speaker condemns Dodik statement that municipalities in which SDS wins will not receive financial aid
- SDS holds press conference on government crisis, Kalinic says RS Government is illegal

- RS Serb Party holds press conference on Sloga Coalition and relations with IC
- Party of Democratic Progress states concern over political crisis in RS
- Advisor to BiH Presidency Chairman Alija Izetbegovic, Ademir Jerkovic supports BiH cantonization
- BiH House of Representatives deputy Azra Hadziahmetovic comments on economic situation in BiH during press conference
- Ganic says Stability Pact accepted project to return 100,000 refugees in BiH
- HN Canton Interior Ministry not integrated – UN mission to Mostar
- OHR comments on double occupancy issue in Mostar
- BiH Railways denies that EBRD approved loans
- RS and Serbian syndicate representatives request reinstatement of economic relations
- Serbian Chamber of Commerce issues operating licenses for bus lines between Serbia and RS
- NATO Council discuses possible reinforcement of KFOR
- Kosovska Mitrovica Serbs are in contact with Serbian secret police – NATO sources
- Kosovo Interim Administrative Council requests removal of obstruction to reunification of Kosovska Mitrovica and Kosovo
- US State Department spokesman James Rubin accuses Belgrade regime for problems in Kosovo
- KFOR searches for illegal weapons in Kosovska Mitrovica
- Russia UN Representative Sergey Lavrov says UN Resolution on Kosovo not fully implemented
- KFOR Commander Reinhardt opens construction of new bridge in Kosovska Mitrovica
- NATO's Robertson says KFOR will stay in Kosovo for 5 years
- South Kosovska Mitrovica Mayor Redxepi asks for moratorium on rallies
- 496 Albanians released from Serbian prisons – UN

- World News
- RS Chamber of Commerce discusses situation in metal and electric industries
- Strike in Bratunac Technical and Maintenance Enterprise continuing
- Banja Luka Clinical Center decides that staff no longer permitted to work in private practice
- Gypsy Kings concert in Banja Luka
- Sports and Weather
- OSCE mission to BiH announces start of pre-election campaign for local elections
- BiH Presidency session on New York Declaration and BiH participation in Stability Pact scheduled in Sarajevo on 24 February
- Serbian National Assembly President Zivojin Mitrovic accuses Kouchner and Albanian extremists of violence in Kosovska Mitrovica
- EU states that Kosovo political leadership responsible for riots in Kosovo
- US KFOR soldiers leave Kosovska Mitrovica
- First Eurocorps officers to arrive in Kosovo on 13 March – KFOR
- World News
- Sports

News Summary

RS Serb Party holds press conference on Sloga Coalition and relations with

IC Recent events in the SPRS have shown that the RS Serb Party was right in breaking cooperation with the SPRS Banja Luka City Board, said Ljubomir Puvacic, a RS Serb Party Main Board member. The Banja Luka SPRS is ready to take directives from the OHR, even at the price of the destruction of the party and its personal interests. The IC is not guilty for dismissal of RS President Nikola Poplasen and Banja Luka Assembly President Djordje Umicevic, but the Sloga Coalition at the entity level,

and the Democratic Patriotic Party, Serb Patriotic Party and SPRS at the local level, because they uncritically accepted IC directives and desires. “Our former coalition partner has only one opportunity open to them – to form a new government with the help of the CD Coalition, he said.

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