OHR RTRS News Summary, 8 June 2000

News Headlines

- Ljubisa Savic 'Mauzer' murdered in Bijeljina on 7 June
- Mauzer's funeral to be held on 9 June
- Radisic condemns Mauzer murder
- Dodik condemns Mauzer murder
- RS Association of Veterans condemn Mauzer murder and demand investigation, arrest and punishment of perpetrators
- RS Democratic Party condemns murder of RS Democratic Party President Ljubisa Savic 'Mauzer' and demands investigation
- SDS, SNS, PDP, SRS and RS Radical Party condemn Mauzer murder and demand investigation and punishment of perpetrators
- IPTF does not comment Mauzer murder
- RS National Assembly to hold session on 12 June
- No reason to change date of upcoming 12 June RS National Assembly session to suit the SPRS — Dodik
- Tusevljak and Portuguese Ambassador to BiH hold talks on current situation in BiH Council of Ministers
- Tusevljak and Bicakcic discuss current situation in BiH
 Council of Ministers
- Radisic holds press conference on Tusevljak's election, says it is good for BiH because it will de-block functioning of BiH Council of Ministers
- Tusevljak does not have support of RS Government Dodik
- SRS delegates in BiH House of Representatives voted against Tusevljak election SRS General Secretary Tadic
- Dodik and RS Health Minister Rodic sign collective healthcare agreement
- Banja Luka Hospital Director Lolic, Dodik and RS Health

Minister Rodic discuss situation in Banja Luka Hospital

- General strike in Banja Luka Incel Company to start on 13 June
- Serb refugees from Vozuca village and Bosniak refugees from Kotorsko village hold talks on two-way return to these villages
- UN Mission to BiH requests update on implementation of property laws in Serb Gorazde — Coffman
- Izetbegovic retirement is his own personal affair –
 Radisic
- Early election for entire BiH Presidency (all three members) will not be held, but only for one member (Bosniak member of this collective body) — Radisic
- Brcko District Assembly holds session, three laws adopted
- Vasic comments on OHR/OSCE joint press release
- OHR, <u>OSCE</u> and representatives of governments of BiH entities preparing draft law on freedom of information
- Inhabitants of two Glamoc villages block roads because
 SFOR vehicles damaged these road and should repair them
- HVO First Guards Brigade re-deployed in Livno
- Five representatives of Kosovo Serb National Council visiting New York (UN Security Council)
- NATO Defense Ministers order KFOR to stop spiraling extremism in Kosovo
- Solana condemns violence against Kosovo Serbs
- KFOR withdrawal would not be useful Russian Foreign Minister Ivanov
- <u>OSCE</u> Permanent Council extends <u>OSCE</u> mandate in Kosovo
- Group of Kosovo Albanians beat Russian KFOR soldier in Pristina, Kosovo
- KFOR transfers Kosovo Serb from civilian to KFOR military hospital
- Ibrahim Rugova's bodyguard murdered in Pristina
- Five police officers injured in Konculj
- Two armed persons rob Air Italia office in Belgrade
- World news

- RS Radical Party (RS RS) President Radovanovic press conference to discuss intra-party problems
- Banja Luka celebrates City Day
- Belgrade celebrates City Day
- Sports and weather
- Banja Luka pupils visiting Montenegro
- Tusevljak is not optimal solution for SDA SDA spokesman
- Economic downturn threatens BiH and must be avoided –
 Barry article in Financial Times
- Regional Stability Pact session ongoing in Greece
- Two de-mining machines arrive in Serb Sarajevo
- German Parliament discusses mission of German contingent in KFOR
- Thaci and Rugova condemn violence against Kosovo Serbs
- 2,701 missing Croatian Serbs on list of Belgrade-based
 Veritas Center for Documentation of Crimes Against Serbs
 Veritas representative Strbac
- Russians understand that Milosevic is threat to stability of Balkan peace — Cohen

News Summary

Vasic comments on OHR/OSCE joint press release

In response to an OHR/OSCE joint press release, RS Information Minister Rajko Vasic stated that the joint release of the previously mentioned organizations did not address the news stories he had assessed as false and public manipulation. Vasic also stated that media broadcasting such (false) news information do not confirm this information before broadcasting it. Vasic thinks that highlighting false information and lies is not a violation of human rights or the rights of journalists. Vasic added that he respects human rights, but that he also respects facts. To remind, the OHR and OSCE had requested Vasic to correct the public record on his statement and cancel his request for the RS Public Prosecutor to undertake legal action against journalists whose

reports are accurate, but politically out of favor with RS Information Minister Vasic.

00:47

OHR, <u>OSCE</u> and representatives of governments of BiH entities preparing draft law on freedom of information

The OHR, OSCE, the representatives of the governments of the BiH entities and BiH and international judicial experts established a working group to draft a law on freedom of information. Commenting on a letter by BiH Federation Prime Minister Edhem Bicakcic concerning legislation on defamation and freedom of information, OHR spokesperson Oleg Milisic stated that the OHR expects the draft law to be helpful to entity governments to feel their responsibility for protecting freedom of expression.

00:34 (This excerpt is taken from the daily report of the IMC-led Joint Media Monitoring Group (JMMG)).