OHR SRT News Summary, 1 August 1999

Headlines

- A bomb damaged the Serb orthodox church in Pristina; Kouchner visited the church after the explosion and said that the behaviour like this was not acceptable;
- The RS Ministry of Agriculture cancelled the decision on the ban of imported meat from the Netherlands and France;

Kosovo and FRY related news

SRT carried the news on explosion in orthodox church in Pristina. More than 30 churches and monasteries in Kosovo were destroyed since the FRY Army started withdrawing from Kosovo. Kouchner visited the church after the explosion and expressed his disagreement with this act, which is, according to Kouchner, completely unacceptable.- SRNA

SRT carried the statement of monk Sava who accused the KLA for orchestrated actions of destroying the orthodox churches in Kosovo,

SPO accused KLA for explosion in Serbian orthodox church in Pristina. All representatives of the International Community, who support and encourage this terrorist organisation, should also take the responsibility for this crime, SPO stated.

DSS stated that with this act KLA clearly showed that they do not work only against Serbs and Montenegrins but also against the intentions of the IC to transform Kosovo into stable multiethnic community.

SRT also carried the statements of Jamie Shea on situation in Kosovo (BBC), ND, former Governor of the FRY National Bank

Avramovic who said that nobody had offered him the post of the Head of the caretaker government and Nebojsa Pavkovic (General of the 3 Army).

SRT carried the news on Djukanovic's visiting Russia and talks between Djukanovic and Russian officials (Ivanov and Stepashin) on redefinition of relations between Serbia and Montenegro (BETA). Djukanovic said that he expects Russia to support Montenegrin efforts in democratisation of Yugoslavia. "We proposed the platform which will rearrange the future relations between Serbia and Montenegro. In case Serbia rejects that we will be seeking alternative ways to protect our national interests", added Djukanovic.- BETA

Reconstruction of the RS Government is still one of the most intriguing topics. CD Coalition announced that they would raise the question of CD Coalition participation in the RS Government before the RS Assembly. Bosniaks do not participate in the RS Government because neither "Sloga" coalition nor HR supports the idea, said Sulejman Tihic (CD Coalition deputy). Every time we asked for ministry posts in the RS Government, the representatives of the IC, i.e. OHR would demand us not to insist on it, added Tihic.- Dnevni Avaz

Reactions on the Summit of Stability Pact

Marti Ahtisaari expressed his content with the work of the BiH Presidency during the Summit in Sarajevo and hoped that the good co-operation would be continued in the future. Commenting the absence of the FRY at the Summit Marti Ahtisaari said that all countries that intend to become the Stability Pact members should be democratised.

Hombach said that the IC is very impatient regarding the democratic changes in Serbia and its admission to the Pact.

SDA stated that the Stability Pact confirmed the integrity and constitutionality of the BiH. The integrity and constitutionality were also confirmed by treaty on borders

between Croatia and Bosnia, signed by Tudjman and Izetbegovic. The treaty on borders shattered all illusions on divided BiH, added SDA.

Carlos Westendorp regrets the fact that the Cantonal institutions have the broader authorities than the Federal institutions.