OHR SRT News Summary, 1 November 1998

Headlines

- Kosovo still far away from political resolution- diplomats say
- Iraq persistent in refusing cooperation with the UN
- Slim results in the year of return
- 500 human lives taken by Central America typhoon

The Chair of the B&H Presidency, Zivko Radisic, stated in Lopare that in the forthcoming period it is most important to secure strengthening of the RS and its constitutional system through the common B&H institutions. He said that the imminent Peace Implementation Council conference in Madrid, which is to be held in mid December, is going to be the turning point. He emphasised that the RS will continue cooperation with the international community to provide a favourable Brcko status and preparation for a donor conference. Radisic also expressed the belief that continuance of the RS NA session will bring consensus of all RS political parties and the election of such Assembly and Government leadership which would be a permanent guarantee of Serb and RS interests.
0:55

Illegal KLA announced that its court marshal sentenced abducted TANJUG journalists, Nebojsa Radosevic and Vladimir Dobricic, to 60 days in prison.
0:20

Agreement on Kosovo is endangered by the KLA and the police, international observers from Kosovo say. An unidentified diplomat said that KLA creates problems walking around as if it was all theirs.
0:17

Christopher Hill said that the Serbian authorities and the Albanian side on Kosovo are still far away from political agreement.
0:13

According to international organisations, out of 800,000 refugees just 11,260 returned to their homes in the first 8 months of this year of return – Reuters comments. Western officials are complaining that even in Sarajevo, the B&H capital, which should be a multi ethnic centre, local authorities have not done enough to enable Serbs and Croats to return to their city now dominated by the Muslims.
0:33

Dieter Palmer for the Crisis Group considers that the impossibility of greater return could renew the possibility of war, for the Muslims, as Palmer claims, will not accept living on the small territory which they control now. At the same time war could threaten if mass return is insisted on.
1:33

All Saint's Day was celebrated in Brcko for first time since the war.
0:22

The Sarajevo Canton Government put a ban on the application of the international experts' recommendation to make changes to the schoolbook language regarding wording which could instigate intolerance.
0:13

Ante Jelavic, Croatian B&H Presidency member, said that revision of the Dayton Agreement started with the imposition of single B&H licence plates. He announced that the Croatian side would, on any such other decisions which they did not take part in, start a discussion before the Constitutional Court and European Human Rights Court.
0:19