OHR SRT News Summary, 11 August 1998

Headlines

- Japan renews the RS petrol industry and American organisation for international development of Banja Luka energy system
- Russian ambassador officially invited the RS President and Prime Minister to visit Moscow
- SDS stops its election campaign
- 223 killed and 5000 injured in bombing attacks on U.S. Embassies

Outlining the priorities in the renewal of energy facilities, and determining the guidelines for overall industrial renewal, with special emphasis on the Brod refinery, were the main topics of conversation between the RS President and representatives of the two biggest Japanese companies for the production of gas and petrol. 1:05

The RS President and Prime Minister talked, in separate meetings, with Russian ambassador to BiH, Filip Sidorsky. According to the Ambassador, the topic of both meetings was the current pre-election political situation. "We have harmonised standpoints on the improvement of bilateral relations between the RS and Russia" Sidorski said, mentioning that this relationship would be boosted by the RS President and Prime Minister's visit to Russia. 0:55

The RS Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik, and U.S. Ambassador to BiH, Richard Kauzlarich, in the presence of the RS President, marked the beginning of reconstruction works on the Banja Luka energy system. Thanks to the American USAID organisation, over 5 million dollars is provided for this project. In his statement the RS Prime Minister thanked the U.S. Government and American people for this help and for previous projects for the benefit of the RS future. 2:10

The RS Prime Minister, U.S. Ambassador to BiH and Director of the USAID marked the beginning of the works on the bridge, in Kozarska Dubica, between the RS and Croatia. The general contractor is the American agency "Parsons" together with some domestic companies. 1:00

The RS Prime Minister talked with the Deputy Head of the <u>World</u> <u>Bank</u> mission to the BiH. According to the Deputy's words, an important step for the RS Government is the adoption of the set of laws on privatisation. The RS now receives 50% of the <u>World Bank</u>'s aid in comparison to last year, when it received just 2%.

0:32

Elections:

- "For a better life in the RS"- SNS meeting in Banja Luka elementary school; meeting was attended by Biljana Plavsic, Ostoja Knezevic, Djuradj Banjac, Jovo Basic
- SDS meeting in Modrica
- "SDS withdraws from election campaign" SDS press conference in Banja Luka attended by Dragan Kalinic and Dragan Cavic
- SNS press conference attended by Ostoja Knezevic
- SSKiP statement regarding removal of Predrag Lazarevic from candidate's list
- Serb Monarchist Alliance- statement
- SNSD- press conference
- SRS- statement