

OHR SRT News Summary, 11 May 1998

Headlines

- Ceremony under way on the occasion of VRS Day
- Manojlo Milovanovic and General Talic talk with the Association of families of missing and deceased soldiers of the RS
- A press release by the RS Ministry of Interior: establishment of a parallel Ministry of Interior – stopped

The 6th anniversary of the RS Army is commemorated today in the House of the Army in Banja Luka. The RS President, Prime Minister, members of his cabinet, the highest VRS officers and representatives of political parties attended a ceremony that started at 19:00hrs.

1:15

The RS Minister of Defence, Manojlo Milovanovic, and the Head of the VRS, General Momir Talic, today in BL received a delegation of the Association of families of missing and deceased soldiers of the VRS. Besides others, the RS Defence Minister said: "Serbs can survive in the Balkans if the united RS survives. Any other solution...establishments of some para-governments, parallel governments, parallel parliaments, parallel HQs will lead not only toward disintegration of the RS but also toward the destruction of Serbs."

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The RS NA Speaker D. Kalinic and the RS Minister of Interior M. Stankovic congratulated all members of the VRS on the 6th anniversary.

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A reception for representatives of international

organisations, [SFOR](#), and military attachés on the occasion of the 6th anniversary of the VRS took place in Banjaluka under the auspices of the RS Ministry of Interior and the VRS. Mr. Talic, the Head of VRS HQ, stated after the reception: "We invited these gentlemen here today to show them once again that we are for implementation of Dayton. We also want to show them that the VRS is the army of peace...with the task of protecting the RS within Dayton borders."

1:00

The RS Prime Minister Milorad Dodik spoke today in Travnik to the B&H Federation Prime Minister Edhem Bicakcic about inter-entity trade, harmonisation of customs and trade regulations, the gas industry and cooperation in the field of electricity distribution.

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The RS Prime Minister M. Dodik spoke today in Banjaluka to economic experts about future economic policy. Mr. Mladen Ivanic and Mr. Rajko Tomas spoke about privatisation in the RS. The RS Prime Minister conveyed some of the conclusions from the Brussels Donors Conference. He also announced new meetings and consultations with regard to economic policy and the Law on privatisation in the RS.

2:00

Regarding the intention of establishing a parallel Ministry of Interior – which would disable the work of the legal Ministry and contribute to the destruction of the legal system in the RS – and the meeting that was held on May 7th in Zvornik, the RS Ministry of Interior issued a press release today: "... The RS Ministry of Interior undertook the following steps to stop the establishment of an illegal, parallel Ministry of Interior: the General of the Ministry of Interior Ljubomir Borovcanin, Colonels Slavko Paleksic and Darko Vasic, and Major Branislav Okuka will be suspended. Disciplinary action and criminal charges will be brought against them. The General of the Ministry of Interior Milenko Karisik, Jovan Skobo and

Danilo Zoric – employed in the Ministry of Interior – will be retired.

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We remind that the 5th session of the RS NA is due to take place tomorrow in Banja Luka. The agenda contains 22 items, including: report on the work of the Government (in a 100-day period), report on the work of Serb representatives in the joint institutions and the September elections.

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Svetozar Mihajlovic, the SNA caucus president, stated at today's press conference that that party would support the Government at the session of Parliament the following day. He added that the party was dissatisfied with the work of the Ministries of Interior, Justice and Information, and with the work of the Serb member in the B&H Presidency Momcilo Krajisnik. Ostoja Knezevic, the SNA Deputy President accused SDS of preparing riots and incidents and called on police to prevent it. He expressed the view that the SDS had founded the "crisis centre for RS protection" the main aim of which is the destabilisation of the RS.

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A session of the Main Board of the Serb National Alliance took place today. The RS President and the President of the SNA attended the session. The platform for registration in the forthcoming elections was adopted.

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"The SDS is not a destructive and destabilising element of the RS", stated Dragan Cavic, the SDS Deputy President, at today's press conference, adding: "We do not intend to do anything which would harm the legal system of the RS." Mirko Banjac, Deputy President of the SDS town board, stated that the initiative for amending the RS education system was unacceptable. "The SDS insists that the RS Government takes a stand which rejects the possibility of creating a joint

education system for the RS and the Federation.”

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Yesterday, in Sanica near Kljuc, a group of 50-70 Muslims demolished a bus carrying 50 Serb refugees on a visit to their graves, houses and land in there.

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