

OHR SRT News Summary, 12 Jan. 1998

Headlines

- Councillors of the National Assembly appointed president, vice-presidents and general secretary of the parliament
- Deputy HR Jacques Klein assessed today's session of the Assembly as a historic day for the RS
- In Montenegro, Bulatovic's supporters protest
- American diplomat Gelbard pays official visit to this republic
- France against international intervention in Algeria

The Assembly councillors elected the assembly leadership at today's constitutive session in Bijeljina.

Summary of the assembly session:

The president of the National Assembly is Dragan Kalinic from SDS; the vice-presidents, Nikola Poplasen from SRS and Jovan Mitrovic from SNS; general secretary, Momir Malic from SPS; and his deputy Staka Gojkovic from SDS. They were appointed by the Assembly councillors at today's session and at the same time they started the initiative for change of the Constitution and introduction of the third vice-president of the National Assembly, who should be one of the members of the Coalition for united and democratic BiH.

Before these appointments, the assembly councillors discussed whether they should continue the session or not. Aleksa Buha, head of the SDS councillors' clubs, refused the participation of SDS councillors in the continuation of the work of the constitutive session due to, as he put it, the TV signal for a live broadcast of today's session not covering the entire territory of the RS. The discussion lasted for almost three

hours but it was decided by a vote that the session should continue with the work. Then a new dilemma arose: whether or not to allow the Mandatary Ivanic to take the floor and present the composition and concept of the new RS government. The president of the session, Dragan Kalinic, suggested that that shouldn't be included in the agenda, but Ivanic should address each councillor club after the constitutive session.

2:30

President Plavsic assessed the session of the Assembly in a statement given for SRT:

"I have to think about the interests of the people. This nation is in an economic situation, whereby it is offered material help under only one condition – it should be given to a responsible government. If the councillors in the Assembly are prolonging the appointment of the Government, then they don't care about the people, on the contrary, they are working to make their lives even worse".

1:20

SRT asking Dragan Kalinic: Is your re-appointment as President of the Assembly a first step in resolving the political crisis in the RS? "I won't say that my re-appointment means that. But the National Assembly body has been appointed. I believe that the Assembly councillors, after some really exhausting work today, arrived at a point where at least one tiny piece of the crisis was resolved. The forming of the Assembly commissions remains, but if something has been accomplished today in terms of overcoming the crisis, than that is this finalisation of the constitutive session".

1:40

Deputy HR Jacques Klein stated that today's session of the RS National Assembly in Bijeljina was a historic day for the inhabitants of that area. He said that more than 79 per cent of the people voted at the parliamentary elections in very difficult conditions, and, as reported by Beta, they showed they wanted to solve the problem in a way that will not

include violence and disagreement with the whole world".

0:35

Former main republic inspector for forestry, the m.sc. Nemanja Sinik, in a letter to the SRT, pointed to, as he said, the illegal and irresponsible work of the Minister of agriculture, forestry and water supply industry, Djojo Arsenovic.

1:40

Construction of the temple of Christ the Saviour in BL should start very soon.

2:35