

# OHR SRT News Summary, 15 April 1999

## Headlines

- NATO confirmed that allied planes had killed Albanian civilians near Djakovica.
- Bridges, TV relays and industrial facilities were targeted in the past 24 hours of the aggression.
- PM Dodik officially opens building works on the Kula-Vrace road in Srpsko Sarajevo.
- New mayor of Brcko: Sinisa Kistic.

[NATO](#) officials confirmed today at a press briefing in Brussels that [NATO](#) planes have been shooting at Albanian civilians. According to [NATO](#) spokesman, Jamie Shea, the pilot thought he was attacking a military convoy. Shea expressed deep regret at the incident.

Russian foreign ministry yesterday expressed great bitterness regarding the [NATO](#) rocket attack on convoy of Kosovo Albanian refugees.

The president of the Russian Duma, Genadi Seleznev said the attacks on civilian targets should be discussed before an international tribunal.

The British PM, Tony Blair said that the Serbs' statements cannot be trusted, and the foreign minister Robin Cook said he cannot accept the accusations of the Yugoslav authorities claiming [NATO](#) rocketed a refugee convoy in Kosmet.

Radio BBC, The Independent and other British media reported on the latest [NATO](#) attack on civilians.

CNN reported [NATO](#) admission of the attack on the convoy of refugees as breaking news.

All Spanish media reported on the cruel attack on civilians.

[NATO](#) planes have in the past 24 hours attacked targets in the towns of Pec, Nis, Pristina, Kragujevac, Krusevac, Pozarevac, Beograd, Kursumlija, Kraljevo, Boljevac, Valjevo and Zlatibor, Tanjug agency reports.

Correspondent from Belgrade reports that civilian and industrial facilities had been targeted last night, as well as communication and television facilities, schools, churches and monasteries.

Correspondent from Pristina reports on the [NATO](#) bombing and terrorist KLA attacks.

7 members of the German Bundestag, from the Green party, issued a joint statement in Bonn today demanding urgent suspension of the [NATO](#) attacks.

All parties from the German federal parliament, except for the Party of democratic socialism, today supported the [NATO](#) attacks against Yugoslavia and the German participation in the attacks.

The UN secretary-general, Kofi Annan said today that the UN should have a role in providing legitimacy for the military presence in Kosovo, and supported the Russian appeal for a peaceful solution.

"Russia is ready to take part in the international forces for Yugoslavia", said the Russian foreign minister, Igor Ivanov.

Russian defence minister, Marshal Igor Sergeyev, said in an interview for "Krasnaya Zvezda" that [NATO](#) is preparing its forces for a ground attack.

The newly appointed Russian negotiator for the Kosovo peace talks, Viktor Chernomyrdin said Russia should be spared military intervention in Yugoslavia, and continue the dialogue with [NATO](#).

German Chancellor, Gerhard Schroeder said he was ready to meet the Russian negotiator, Viktor Chernomyrdin, in order to try to find a solution for the Kosovo conflict.

The head of the international policy committee of the Russian Duma, Vladimir Lukin said today that accepting Yugoslavia in the Russia-Belorus alliance would be very dangerous.

The Ukrainian president, Leonyd Kuchma said Ukraine is willing to take part in a potential peace force in Kosovo.

Both houses of the Czech parliament decided not to give undivided support to the [NATO](#) actions in Kosovo.

UN special rapporteur on human rights, Jiri Dinstbier appealed to [NATO](#) today to suspend the air campaign.

Japanese PM Keizo Obuchi appealed today to the Yugoslav president Milosevic to accept the peace plan for Kosovo.

China today expressed deep concern and regret over the latest civilian casualties in Yugoslavia.

[NATO](#) secretary-general, Javier Solana expressed the hope that the differences between [NATO](#) and Russia regarding the Kosovo crisis will decrease in the coming period.

Former UN secretary-general, Boutros Ghali, expressed regret over the marginal role of the UN in the Kosovo conflict.

Munich's "Suddeutsche Zeitung" criticised propaganda reports of the German and Western media, regarding the [NATO](#) air campaign.

The report of the Greek journalist from Belgrade that the Kosovo refugee crisis is actually a carefully conceived Washington plan, caught a lot of attention in Athens.

His holiness, the Serbian patriarch, Mr. Pavle, today visited the monastery in Rakovica which was severely damaged in

yesterday's [NATO](#) attacks.

The patriarch of the Russian church, Alexey II, will soon visit Belgrade on a peace mission.

Protests against the [NATO](#) aggression: reports from Visegrad, Banja Luka, Brcko, Prijedor, Belgrade, Lusaka (Zambia) and Greece.

Pristina Media Centre reported it was still impossible to establish the exact number of people killed in yesterday's [NATO](#) attack on the refugee convoy near Djakovica. 72 bodies have been found so far, and the Djakovica hospital received 43 wounded.

The RS PM, Milorad Dodik met today in Srpsko Sarajevo with the Federation PM, Edhem Bicakcic. The RS NA speaker, Petar Djokic also attended.

The RS PM, Milorad Dodik ceremonially opened the works on the Kula-Vrace primary road in Srpsko Sarajevo.

The RS PM, Milorad Dodik met today in Srpsko Sarajevo with the High Representative, Carlos Westendorp, to discuss the situation in the RS and FRY, and especially the work of the BiH common institutions.

The RS PM, Milorad Dodik, convened a Government session for tomorrow.

The BiH presidency chairman, Zivko Radisic met in Banja Luka today with the newly appointed Portuguese ambassador to BiH, Luis Barreira de Sousa.

The RS NA speaker, Petar Djokic said today the next session of the Assembly should happen as soon as possible.

The councillors of the Brcko municipal assembly today elected Sinisa Kisic as the new mayor.

Report from the SPRS press conference.

[SFOR](#) troops, on April 13, blocked 20 cisterns in front of the Srpski Brod oil refinery, said the RS assistant defence minister, Col. Mikajlo Mitrovic. He said the defence minister will lodge a complaint with [SFOR](#) HQ.

This morning at around 3 o'clock, a [NATO](#) combat aircraft crashed on the mountain of Bjelasnica, near Sarajevo.

Report from the international organisations' press conference in Sarajevo.

The editor board of the "Kanal S" TV station from Pale rejected the IMC decision on banning its work and decided to continue broadcasting.

Federation related news.

World news.