OHR SRT News Summary, 15 May 1998

Headlines

- Visit by President Plavsic to the United States commenced
- The 5th session of the RS NA to resume on 20 May
- Prime Minister Dodik participating at the Berlin Economic Forum
- Milosevic-Rugova meeting on a political solution of the Kosovo crisis
- Summit of the group of the most developed countries in Birmingham

President Plavsic today started her visit to the United States. Plavsic is expected to meet with members of the American Senate Council for Foreign Relations in New York on the future of the Dayton peace process, as well as to have a working breakfast with American senators. 0:30

Following the adoption of a conclusion that better cooperation must be established between RS representatives at BiH common institutions and the RS NA, the fifth session of the RS NA ended earlier this morning. Speaker Kalinic scheduled resumption for 20th May. 0:25

Prime Minister Dodik, at today's Economic Forum on the RS in Berlin, presented the main platforms of economic and political transformation of the RS. Apart from Dodik, the Forum was, on behalf of the RS, also addressed by the Minister for Refugees and DPs, Milorad Dragicevic. After the morning round of the meeting a press conference took place where the Mayor of Berlin paid credit to Dodik and his Government on their efforts in implementing the DA and in stabilizing the overall situation in BiH. 1:35

Following the absence of the RS representative from today's session of the BiH Presidency in Serb Sarajevo, a decision was made to postpone the planned discussion on establishing diplomatic relations between the FRY and BiH until the next session of this joint body. 1:46

The Speaker of the RS NA, Dragan Kalinic, today called on the HR to publicize the real truth regarding yesterday's inspections by SFOR troops in Pale. At the same time, high-level SFOR officials informed the RS HQ that the inspections that were ongoing yesterday and were to continue today were regular inspections and should not be of concern for the RS military.

0:32

On the same matter, Alun Roberts, an IPTF Spokesperson, expressed satisfaction with routine inspections in Pale and reminded that no illegal weaponry had been discovered at the 10 locations inspected. At a press conference today, Roberts read a letter addressed by the Deputy Prosecutor for the Hague Tribunal to President Plavsic clearly stating that the Tribunal had never brought charges against Plavsic. 2:07

A session of the PEC took place in Banja Luka today, chaired by the Head of the OSCE mission in BiH, Robert Barry. 0:35

The first meeting between President Milosevic of Yugoslavia and the leader of Kosovo Albanians, Ibrahim Rugova, today ended in Belgrade with a joint conclusion on the necessity of defusing tensions in Kosovo. An agreement was reached to continue the negotiations towards the end of the next week, as well as that meetings between respective representatives of the two sides, not including Milosevic and Rugova, should, in the future, be taking place regularly, once a week. 1:06