

OHR SRT News Summary, 19 October 1998

Headlines

- Payment of September pensions to start tomorrow
- Air monitoring of Kosovo in the shadow of new terrorist attacks
- 107 Serb victims of Muslim offensive in a mass grave in Susnjari nearby Sanski Most
- 64 injured in an explosion in the South of Israel

The payment of RS September pensions for beneficiaries in the RS and the FRY is expected to start tomorrow.

0:17

(Kosovo-related news) Reuters reports that the [NATO](#) Secretary-General, Javier Solana, confirmed in Paris today that the monitoring of the Kosovo area from the air had started. Referring to the murder of three Serb police officers in Kosovo this weekend, Solana appealed to the conflicting parties to prevent any further eruption of conflicts.

0:19

Ambassador Holbrooke expressed concerns over the so-called OVK continuing with military activities in spite of its publicly expressed commitment to respect the agreement reached with the Belgrade authorities.

0:26

Politicians and political analysts in Moscow share the opinion that the recent attacks of Albanian extremists against Serb forces were directly intended to undermine agreements between the FRY leadership and the IC. Russian politicians have unanimously condemned the terrorism of Kosovo Albanians and requested that the IC should immediately start to offer

economic support for the Kosovo population and bring representatives of Kosovo Albanians around the negotiation table.

1:15

The leader of the Kosovo Albanians negotiating team, Fehim Agani, has stated that the Kosovo Albanians have made a compromise by accepting the status of Kosovo as part of the FRY as an interim solution.

0:16

Two journalists from the Belgrade-based Tanjug news agency went missing in a place about 20 km South-East of Pristina at around 12:00 hrs yesterday. The RS Association of Journalists have addressed a letter to the news agency expressing their concerns over the destiny of the two journalists and condemning all attacks against the press.

0:45

The exhumation of a mass grave today started at the location of Susnjar, nearby Sanski Most. The mass grave contains dead bodies of about 110 Serbs civilians and soldiers who were killed in the autumn of 1995. This is one of the three largest mass graves that have been located in the territory of the BH Federation since the beginning of this year. Dead bodies of about 360 Serb soldiers and civilians have, all together, been exhumed in mass graves in the BH Federation this year.

1:30

The RS Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik, visited the veterinarian institute of Vaso Butozar in Banja Luka today.

01:05

A seminar on the privatization of companies took place in Doboje today. At the seminar, experts from the RS Privatization Direction offered their expert support for directors and other individuals in charge of the privatization. The four experts unanimously concluded that a proper privatization process was

a condition for the RS to get involved in integrating economic processes in Europe and elsewhere in the world and for establishing the principle of market economy here. A similar seminar on privatization is expected to take place in Brcko tomorrow to discuss the following topics: privatization across the world, the privatization pattern here, legal framework, rights and responsibilities of companies in privatization, the privatization procedures and deadlines and the issue of internal control of shares.

1:33

After four months of continuous works, the reconstruction of the first portion of the Raca (border crossing)- Banja Luka motor way successfully ended today.

1:57

School classes in Bosniak language today started for 260 Bosniak children-returnees at two local schools in the area of Brcko. The classes are conducted according to the RS curriculum with an obligatory Serb language course and with textbooks that were used in the former Yugoslavia.

0:02

The SDS today released a press statement appealing that the newly elected RS President, Nikola Poplasen, should be allowed to hold consultations on the new RS Government without any pressure from inside or outside and without any discrimination against legally elected members of the Parliament. The statement went on to express surprise over open announcements by certain circles in the world to remove SDS representative from any high-level positions because the SDS has not gone through a reconstruction process and has not developed into a responsible Western-style political party. The statement reminded of the election results and said that it seemed that the results would be implemented as they were everywhere in the world except in the RS. "The SDS remain committed to establishing an all-Serb Government and appeal to RS parliamentary parties not to give in to the pressure and to

work to establish executive and legislative power in the RS, in line with the election will of the Serb people”.

1:12

The RS Association of Journalists held a press conference in Banja Luka today. The conference stated that one of the main goals of the Association was to work to improve journalist profession and obtain the membership in the international association of journalists. First member cards of this professional association were handed over to the most experienced RS journalists, whereas another 200 cards are expected to be granted shortly.

1:45