OHR SRT News Summary, 20 December 1998

Headlines

- Air strikes against Iraq terminated
- OSCE Head of Mission in BiH, Robert Barry, announced a reduction in the number of soldiers in the armed forces in the Entities
- UN High Commissioner Sadako Ogata arrived for a threeday visit to FRY
- Israeli Government voted for suspension of the peace agreement with Palestinians

The RS Prime Minister Dodik convened a session of the Government for Monday December 21, in Banja Luka, with an agenda comprising 41 items. It is foreseen that the Government will consider the material for the continuation of the second session of the RS NA, convened for December 22, in Banja Luka, as well as the material for the third session of the Republic Parliament which is to start a day later. 1:05

The Minister of Information in the RS Government Rajko Vasic gave an interview to the news agency SRNA where he talked about media, laws and interview concerning the TV broadcast of the RS NA sessions and proposals for establishing a roof television in BiH. 2:05

The OSCE Head of Mission in BiH, Robert Barry, in an interview given to the Sarajevo press, announced the reduction in the number of soldiers in the RS and BiH Army. Barry recalled the conclusions of the Madrid conference that the forces of both Entities were too big and that money spent on the Entities' armies is, as he said, equal to the amount of annual international aid which comes to Bosnia. 1:45

Kosovo-related news 2:15

Representatives of the Commission for Real Property Claims of DPs and Refugees announced greater efficiency for the next year. Out of 148,000, the Commission has resolved 25,000 claims over two years of work. 2:16

The cessation of payment operations with the FRY has prompted several basic questions regarding relations and legalities on the RS market. The latest one is certainly the manipulation of the parity of the dinar, DM and KM. There follows a report on this issue with examples recorded in Bijeljina, Trebinje, Banja Luka and Prijedor. 0:05

0:20

Representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross have visited 8 locations in FRY and RS unsuccessfully looking for prisoners from the last war, the Sarajevo-based daily Vecernje novine reports today. 0:47