OHR SRT News Summary, 21 December 1998

Headlines

- RS Government discussed the budget for next year; the positions for tomorrow's RS NA session confirmed
- Italian Prime Minister talked to BiH Presidency members
- Police inspector from Podujevo killed in Kosmet
- Iraqi crisis has divided NATO partners and introduced new strategic alliances

The RS Government, at today's session, discussed amendments to the numerous laws that, in the form of a proposal or urgent procedure, will be on the agenda of the continuation of the second RS NA session. The Government also discussed the budget for next year and the proposal for the privatisation programme in the RS.

2:40

The Chairman of the BiH Presidency Zivko Radisic talked in Sarajevo today with the Italian Prime Minister Massimo d'Alema, who arrived this morning in Sarajevo to visit the Italian <u>SFOR</u> contingent. Radisic talked with the American Ambassador to BiH Richard Kauslarich and the Ambassador of Belgium, who presented his credentials. Radisic also met with the HR to BiH Carlos Westendorp today. After the meeting held in OHR premises in Sarajevo, there were no press statements. 1:20

The RS President Nikola Poplasen talked this evening in Banja Luka with the Central Bank Governor Peter Nicholl. The first official meeting of the RS President with the CB delegation led by Peter Nicholl discussed the functioning of this monetary institution and the finalisation of a long process of liquidation of the former BiH NB. 1:30

The consultation of representatives of the caucuses is to start in Banja Luka this evening. Announcing tomorrow's session for 11:00 hrs, the NA Speaker stated to SRT: "We have 22 more items of the agenda to work on. Amongst other things, we are supposed to discuss and hopefully adopt the Law on changes and amendments to the Law on Housing Relations which was withdrawn for further assessment due to one amendment that became disputable in the course of the discussion. I assume that we will finish the second session tomorrow and start the third session on Wednesday" 1:35

Kosovo-related news 3:05

Tomorrow's session of the RS NA was one of the subjects of the today's SDS press conference held in Banja Luka. SDS will ask the RS NA to consider the Madrid declaration in order to have the possibility of planning its full implementation, stated the SDS Main Board and deputy in the Council of Representatives of the BiH Parliamentary Assembly, Mirko Banjac. 1:10