

OHR SRT News Summary, 22 April 1998

Headlines

- President Plavsic and Prime Minister Dodik Attended 53rd Anniversary of Jasenovac Camp Inmates' Breakthrough
- Regulations for General Elections to Be Ready in Two to Three Weeks, According to Robert Barry
- Council of Europe Agrees With Larger Autonomy of Kosovo Within Democratically Reformed Yugoslavia

President Plavsic and PM Dodik laid wreaths at Jasenovac, site of World War II's biggest concentration camp for Serbs, Jews, Romanies and other anti-fascists, on today's 53rd anniversary of camp inmates' breakthrough. President Plavsic emphasised that this was the only reason for her visit to Croatia.

0:40

Head of OSCE Mission to BiH, Robert Barry, stated that the rules for presidential and parliamentary elections in the BiH will be completed and presented in 2 to 3 weeks. He denied reports that there should be a certain percentage of "other nationality" candidates on the lists. He also said that the length of mandate for all elected candidates has been under consideration, except for members of the BiH Presidency, whose 4-year mandate had been established by the Dayton Agreement.

1:15

Vice President of the SNS, Svetozar Mihajlovic, stated at today's press conference that the next session of the RS NA will most probably be held on May 12th and 13th in Banja Luka as decided at a meeting of Heads of NA Deputy Clubs in Bijeljina. The final decision on the holding of the session will be made on April 29th, at a meeting of representatives of parliamentary parties in Bijeljina. According to Mihajlovic,

representatives from the Federation did not attend the meeting in Bijeljina.

1:30

Željko Radisic, President of the SPRS, stated at today's press conference held in Banja Luka that unfortunately, due to blockage of the BiH Parliament, the forthcoming September elections will be organised by IC representatives, instead of BiH institutions. The President of the SPRS said that the IC will directly influence the electoral results through radical changes of electoral rules and regulations and efforts to have a multi-ethnic character of all electoral lists. According to Radisic, his party insists and expects the RS NA to participate in the creation of electoral rules and regulations, so as to achieve the highest level of democracy possible.

2:30

Louise Arbour, the Head Prosecutor of the Hague Tribunal, held a press conference at the end of her visit to the RS and Federation. On this occasion, Arbour insisted on voluntary surrender of those indicted for war crimes, and said that there was a possibility of establishing an ICTY office in Banja Luka. She emphasised that Radovan Karadžić had to be tried in the Hague, not in the RS.

1:05

President of the HDZ BiH, Boško Rajić, requested the HR, Carlos Westendorp, to reveal the truth concerning the mysterious disappearance of 21 Croats from Bugojno.

0:15