

OHR SRT News Summary, 23 April 1998

Headlines

- 13th Session of RS Government
- Derventa Citizens Prevented Holding of Mass – Memories of Croatian Massacres Still Fresh
- Referendum in Serbia on Foreign Mediation in Solving of Kosovo Crisis
- Anniversary of Holocaust Marked Worldwide

Citizens of Drventa blocked the roads leading to this town yesterday morning, in order to prevent the arrival of SFOR buses with Cardinal Vinko Pulji}, 40 priests and a Croat congregation, who were supposed to hold a mass there. An SFOR vehicle hit and heavily injured a Serb citizen. The RS Minister of Internal Affairs, Milovan Stankovi}, stated that this incident could be directly linked to the murder of two Serbs in Drvar, in order to distract public attention. He said that Derventa was chosen because a number of its current citizens originally come from Drvar and Petrovac.

2:10

The RS Government was considering 27 agenda items at the 13th session held in Banja Luka today. Some of the central problematic issues under consideration were the Draft of the Law on Annuling the Law on Use of Abandoned Property, the Draft of the Law on Housing Relations and the Draft of the Law on the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

1:50

In today's conversation with the Speaker of the RS NA, Dragan Kalini}, the HR to BiH, Carlos Westendorp, emphasized the importance of objective work of the parliamentary leadership. They also discussed improving preparations for future NA

sessions, and results of IC activities on improving economic reconstruction and development of RS.

0:40

The BiH CoM, led by Boro Bosić, Co-Chairman of the CoM, completed their 2-day visit to Sweden. During the visit, the BiH Minister for Traffic and Communications, Spasoje Albijanić, and his counterpart from Sweden signed an Agreement on Traffic between the two countries.

1:15

RS PM Dodik told a Belgrade magazine "Nin" that, as long as he leads this Government, it will exist without the SDS and the SRS. "We simply think that we are strong opponents and that there is no possibility for cooperation between the SDS and the SRS on one side and the parties participating in the Government on the other side", said Dodik.

0:40

The referendum on foreign mediation in solving the Kosovo crisis started this morning in Serbia. According to worldwide media and national politicians' expectations, a huge majority of citizens will respond negatively. Only few hours prior to the opening of the polling stations, about 200 armed terrorists from Albania tried to break into Yugoslavia, at the village of Košare, and the fighting lasted the whole night.

0:55

Deputy HR for Returns, Andy Bearpark, stated today in Sarajevo that the Banja Luka Conference on Returns should force Croatia to participate in returns of DPs from its territory.

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