OHR SRT News Summary, 23 December 1998

Headlines

- RS NA started its third regular session this evening; the second assembly session finished by adoption of the budget revision for this year
- BiH Presidency was in session
- RS Government passed decrees on control of financial business
- New terrorist attack in Kosmet
- Forces of Hezbollah rocketed northern Israel

The RS NA resumed work this evening, starting its third regular session with approximately 10 items on the agenda. The Assembly finished its second regular session today by adopting several laws, including changes of the law on legal investments and concessions. Generally speaking, efficiency, debate and agreement were characteristics of today's work in the RS Parliament.

0:05

0:10

There follows a direct broadcast of the assembly session, with discussion of SRT coverage of the sessions. The deputies adopted the agenda of the third session consisting of 17 items.

1:25

The BiH Presidency held its regular session in Sarajevo today. The meeting discussed the issue of the appointment of copresiding members and the vice president of BiH CoM. The members were briefed by <u>SFOR</u> on yesterday's intervention of the Stabilisation Forces in Martin Brod. After the session, the BiH Chairman Zivko Radisic received the Portuguese Minister of Defence. The meeting discussed the current situation in BiH, the course of implementation of the DA, and the active role of Portugal. 1:25

In Banja Luka today the RS President Nikola Poplasen received the President of the international jury of Brussels Eureka from Switzerland. They discussed cooperation between the RS and Switzerland in the field of science, culture and art. 1:05

The RS PM Dodik talked in Banja Luka today with the British Ambassador Graham Hand about the formation of the future RS government, which Hand expects to be formed as soon as possible. The meeting also discussed today's RS NA session. 0:25

The Standing Commission for Military Matters was in session today.

1:30

The OSCE Head of Mission, Robert Barry, talked in Sarajevo today at a press conference about parts of the Madrid Declaration referring to the elections in RS and FBiH and OSCE activities in that respect. Barry stressed that the HR now had greater authority, which he would use in the implementation of the election results, and those who do not respect them would be removed from political life. Barry stated that the current PM RS Dodik is able to obtain a majority in RS NA, and that Poplasen should propose him for prime minister designate. 2:06

The RS Government, at this evening's session, also adopted the two decrees on control of the conduct of financial business. For this reason, the what these decrees were about. 3:17 The FRY Government might bring a decision tomorrow on reestablishing payment operations with RS, Deputy Secretary of the Board for Economic Cooperation with the World in the FRY Chamber of Commerce Mira Lukic stated. 0:21

Kosovo-related news 2:27

The <u>SFOR</u> action in Martin Brod, assisted by the OHR, resulted in Croatian police leaving this territory, OHR announced today. As stated in the press release, the action was conducted due to the Croatian police not respecting the agreement on withdrawing from Martin Brod, reached several weeks ago.

0:37

Two British soldiers died and one is badly injured in a helicopter that crashed yesterday afternoon during a routine flight, an <u>SFOR</u> spokesperson confirmed, adding that the investigation into the crash is ongoing. 0:10

The President of the SDS Presidency Dragan Kalinic talked with the British Ambassador Graham Hand in Banja Luka today. The meeting discussed the implementation of the Madrid Declaration and current issues pertaining to the formation of the new government.

0:23