OHR SRT News Summary, 24 Feb. 1998

Headlines

- SRT signal covers RS again
- Prime Minister Dodik and HR Carlos Westendorp sign agreement on 15 million DM of aid
- Simo Zaric voluntarily leaves for The Hague
- New personnel appointments in the Ministry of Internal Affairs

Prime Minister Dodik and the HR, Carlos Westendorp, signed an agreement on financial aid amounting to 15 million DM in BL today. This financial injection, as Westendorp said, is planned for the payment of unpaid salaries of teachers in primary, secondary and higher educational institutions, as well as to customs and police workers. The technical distributor will be the Banja Luka Bank. The HR, Carlos Westendorp, announced a meeting with the Croatian President Tudjman, where he will insist that Croatia stop discriminating against RS citizens who wish to travel into or through Croatia and let Serbs from Krajina return to their homes.
3:05

The RS Government recently issued an order to establish a single broadcast and transmission system of the SRT signal in the whole territory of RS by the February 23rd 1998. Rajko Vasic, Minister of Information, was the guest of the Evening News and said that tonight or by tomorrow morning the system would be 90% established. He also said that in a day or two a memorandum of understanding would be signed with SFOR, which would enable the hand-over of the relay which was under SFOR control. Reports of good reception of the SRT signal were received from Srpsko Sarajevo, Zvornik, Brcko, Samac, Bratunac, Bilece, Majevica and Semberija .

8:44

The speaker of the RS NA, Dragan Kalinic, held a consultative meeting with presidents of the caucuses in Bijeljina today. The meeting was held in preparation for the next, fourth session of the RS NA. “Amongst other things, the draft budget for 1998 will also be on the agenda. …There are several versions when it comes to the venue and the time of holding the session. I am more than convinced that this is going to take place in the first half of March and that it will last for two days. By the beginning of the next week we will know for sure the location and the date,” said Kalinic after the consultative meeting.
2:15

Vice-president of the RS, Mirjanic, talked with representatives of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg today, including the director of the European Committee for Democratisation and the director of the Committee for Culture and Education. On this occasion, it was underlined that RS excelled in achieving the necessary standards for admission to the Council of Europe compared with the FBiH.
0:35

An announcement by the Ministry of Interior, signed by Minister Stankovic, states that Minister Stankovic has selected and appointed personnel to the most responsible positions within the framework of his authority and with a view to restructuring and strengthening the personnel base of the Ministry.
1:05

Simo Zaric, the third Serb accused of war crimes in the area of Samac in the past war, left voluntarily for The Hague today. He stressed that he didn’t feel guilty and that that was the reason for him leaving for the Hague voluntarily, to refute the accusations.
1:45

The price for admission into Europe is a multi-ethnic society, stressed DHR Jacques Paul Klein in BL today. He also announced a meeting of the HR, Carlos Westendorp, with the signatories of the Erdut agreement. HR Westendorp will ask Croatia to provide for the return of Serb refugees to Croatia. Klein concluded that, without the return of Serbs, the return processes of other refugees could not be realised.
0:15