OHR SRT News Summary, 24 March 1999

Headlines

- "We are determined to do two main things: continue the political process employing all efforts, because I think truth and justice are on our side, but also defend the country with all means, proportionate to the attacks.", said the Yugoslav President, Slobodan Milosevic, in his address today to the nation.
- Boris Yeltsin calls upon the international community to stop Clinton taking the dramatic step of attacking Yugoslavia.
- NATO operation in Yugoslavia named "Resolute Force" in the first phase: strikes against Yugoslav anti-aircraft defence.
- In their declaration RS NA condemn NATO threats to bomb Yugoslavia.
- Carlos Westendorp sent letters to Mirko Sarovic and Petar Djokic.
- Romano Prodi the new chairman of the European Commission.

The Yugoslav President, Slobodan Milosevic addressed the nation today saying that "the only right thing to do was reject the deployment of foreign troops on the territory of the FRY". He stressed that the issue was not just Kosovo and Metohija but the freedom of entire Yugoslavia.

"The support of the Russian leadership and Russian people in this crucial moment is very important to the people of Yugoslavia", said Milosevic in a telephone conversation with the Russian PM Yevgeni Primakov.

Russian President, Boris Yeltsin addressed the nation today,

urging that military action against Yugoslavia not be taken.

China demands NATO reverses its decision on air strikes.

Austria will not take part in the NATO action.

81% of Britons oppose NATO air strikes, claims the BBC survey.

USA, Germany, UK, Russia, France and Canada evacuate personnel from their Belgrade embassies.

RS NA adopted a declaration regarding the situation in Kosmet.

Chairman of the BiH Presidency, Zivko Radisic expressed deep concern over the NATO decision to commence air strikes against the FRY.

The RS Government issued a press release condemning air strikes.

Citizens of Banja Luka gathered peacefully to protest against the air strikes.

Foreign media reports on the situation in Kosovo

CoM co-chair, Svetozar Mihajlovic sent a letter to the SFOR commander, Montgomery Meigs.

Montgomery Meigs, the SFOR commander, held a press conference today.

The High Representative, Carlos Westendorp sent letters to Mirko Sarovic and Petar Djokic.

RS Government schedules session for tomorrow.