OHR SRT News Summary, 25 August 1998

Headlines

- President Plavsic talked with the Chief of the OSCE Mission, Robert Ber ry in Banja Luka – consultations – Berry and political parties
- Prime Minister Dodik opened the Office of the Ministry of Finance in Br cko an enormous fall of the value of the Russian national currency

The RS President Biljana Plavsic met with the Chief of the OSCE Mission to B&H Robert Berry in Banja Luka today. After the meeting, Berry stated that the general elections which are to be held on August 12 and 13 are very imp ortant for the future of the citizens of both the RS and the B&H Federation Berry called on the people to vote and to take the future in their own hands. 1:10

The refugees accommodated on the territory of the FRY who are not registere d on the voters=B9 lists and who voted at last year=B9s elections will be a ble to vote at the forthcoming general elections in B&H, was stated by the OESC coordinator for the general elections in B&H, Zivota Deluka, in Novi S ad today. 0:40

Preparations for the forthcoming September elections in B&H were discussed at the session of the Consultative Council of the political parties which w as held in Banja Luka today. The Chief of the OSCE Mission to B&H, Ambassad or Robert Berry, was present at the meeting, as well and underlined that, i n the coming days, the OSCE would promote the ballots and other technical r ules in different ways in order to make people be informed as best as possi ble.
2:05

The RS President Biljana Plavsic talked today in Banja Luka with Robert Far rand, the Supervisor for the area of Brcko. After the meeting which lasted for an hour and a half, President Plavsic and Robert Farrand did not addres s journalists. 0:15

The RS Prime Minister Milorad Dodik opened the Office of the Ministry of Fi nance in Brcko today. 1:55

The RS Government made an Act on implementation of the measures of the econ omic policy with the aim of making an influence on preventing the gray econ omy and black-marketing. 2:10

The review of the situation in Kosovo. 2:00

The member of the B&H Presidency from the RS, Momcilo Krajisnik, received t he Canadian Ambassador in Pale today. Krajisnik supported the Ottawa Agreem ent on ban on the production of anti-personal mines and underlined that peo ple in those areas were familiar with the danger and aware of the catastrop hic consequences caused by the anti-personal mines. 1:30

The Deputy High Representative, Hanns Schumacher, visited Modrica today and talked with the municipal authorities there. Schumacher asked for the acce leration of the realization of the project of the town reconstruction in or der to speed up the process of refugees as well. According to Schumacher, t he same must apply to the municipality of Gradacac. 2:40

The reports on the press conferences of the international

organizations hel d in Sarajevo and Banja Luka. 3:30

Regarding the return of 150 Moslems to the municipality of Kotor Varos at t he end of July of this year, the <u>UNHCR</u> Spokesperson, Wendy Rappaport said t hat the <u>UNHCR</u> encouraged the return performed in an organized manner. The r eturn in question was a self-organized one and the <u>UNHCR</u> acted as a catalys t. Rappaport could not say if the existing administrative procedure was res pected or not in this case and added that everybody who would like to retur n can do it at any time since there is no formal administrative procedure a ccording to the Dayton. 2:05

The OHR stated today that the High Representative, Carlos Westendorp, and h is Deputy, Jacques Paul Klein, emphasize that, in their talk with the Presi dent of the Republic of Croatia, Franjo Tudjman, held last Tuesday, they di d not make a proposal that the Croatian President should hold a meeting wit h the leadership and the candidates of the Croat political parties from B&H =2E Such meeting can be held only at the initiative of Franjo Tudjman. The HR expects that such meeting is to be held in the spirit and in accordance with the provisions of the DPA for whose implementation the Croatian Govern ment is also responsible as one of the signatories, is said in the press st atement released by the OHR. 0:50

The news from the B&H Federation. 1:10

Elections:

- SNS a public tribune in Teslic
- Socialist Party of the RS a public tribune in Prijedor
- Independent Social-Democrats of the RS a tribune in Rogatica, a publi c tribune in Rudo, a public tribune in

Visegrad

- Zivko Radisic, president of the Socialist Party of the RS – separate me etings with Robert Farrand and Robert Berry in Banja Luka
- Nikola Poplasen, president of the Serb Radical Party meeting with the Hungarian Ambassador to B&H in Banja Luka
- SDS a public tribune in Prnjavor
- SNS a press conference in Banja Luka
- Independent Social-Democrats of the RS a press conference in Banja Lu ka
- Independent Social-Democrats of the RS a press statement
- Radenko Todorovic-Siso from Gacko, independent candidate
 a press conf erence
- Serb Movement of Restoration of the RS a press conference in Trebinje