OHR SRT News Summary, 26 July 1999

Headlines

- The first bidding for state-owned property took place in Banja Luka; The Furniture Factory "Javor" from Prijedor was sold for 15.6 million KM;
- The payment of pensions for May commenced;
- The funerals of 14 killed Serbs delayed due to unfinished post mortem examinations;
- More than 172,000 people escaped from Kosovo since the Peace Agreement was signed;

SRT news started with 2 short items on pension payments (80% in KMs and 20% in dinars), Dodik's visit to Greece and the meeting with the Greek PM Jorgoss Papandreu;

The next item is dedicated to the first bidding for state-owned property.

3 companies acquired new owners. These companies were sold for a total of 16.3 million DM. The Furniture Factory "Javor" from Prijedor was sold for 15.8 million DM (the new owner is Milena Salabanija from Prijedor). Borislav Obradovic, Director of the Directorate for Privatisation said he did not expect the company to be sold for that price. Dusan Malesevic bought "Saran", company from Gradiska (237,000 DM) and Zeljko Ljubojevic bought "20 October", a civil-engineering company from Prijedor for 99,000 DM.

KOSOVO AND FRY RELATED NEWS

SRT reported on incidents in Kosovo, cessation of negotiations between Serbs and Albanians in Kosovska Mitrovica due to the massacre of 14 Serbs, Albanians expelled several Serb families from Kosovo, skirmishing between unnamed attackers and Italian

KFOR, Russian KFOR opened fire on unnamed attackers at Slatina Airport, Albanians attacked Momcilo Trajkovic (Serbian Resistance Movement) and journalist of "Glas javnosti"(Belgrade based daily).

The next block of news was related to reactions of foreign media on recent events in Kosovo. SRT carried quotations from German and French media which expressed doubt regarding the capability of KFOR to handle the situation and difficult tasks in Kosovo.

SRT carried the news on petition for Milosevic's resignation (organised by "The Alliance for Change") saying that more than 550,000 citizens of Serbia had signed the petition, reservists who went on hunger strike in Nis, protest of reservists in Novi Sad.

SRT carried the statements of Boris Karajicic-the leader of the students organisation "Otpor" (Belgrade University), SPO, Milovan Bojic (Serbian Dep.PM), Vladan Batic (The Alliance for Change), Social-democratic Party from Montenegro, Zizic (SNP-led by Momir Bulatovic), JUL, G-17 (a group of independent economists), Hashim Tachi's statement for "Mladina" (Ljubljana based newspapers). SRT also carried quotations from Draskovic's interview to CNN.

Political Directors of the Stability Pact countries will discuss the declaration that should be adopted at the Stability Pact Summit in Sarajevo. 4 items of the declaration have been adopted so far. According to ONASA the declaration will not be an international contract. The Pact countries will be obliged to implement the declaration although the declaration will not be offered for signing.

SRT reported on preparations for the Stability Pact Summit, carrying news of the participation of the Serbian Orthodox Church and Montenegrin leadership. According to SRT opposition parties from Serbia have not announced their participation at

the Summit.

Preparations for the forthcoming Summit will be the main topic of the BiH Presidency Session.

The Supervisor for Brcko R.W. Farrand held a press conference in Brcko today. Farrand said that, as far as he knows, representatives of both entities had submitted comments on the Final Award to the Arbitrator, Roberts Owen. Commenting on the Decision of the Final Award, Farrand said that implementation would start after 2 or 3 months, when the establishment of the Interim Government was planned. “As soon as we get the direction for the implementation we shall start to work on the Statute of Brcko Municipality” said Farrand. Farrand also denied the rumours that he had approved the allocation of 60 parcels of land to refugees and DPs. The users of these landplots will only be families who intend to return to their pre-war homes.

Japanese Government will finance the reconstruction of the water-supply system and the Bus Station in Sipovo.