

OHR SRT News Summary, 27 May 1998

Headlines

- President Plavsic Returned to RS from 14-day Visit to US
- PM Dodik Held Press Conference: Almost Identical Attitudes Expressed by RS and State Department on Issue of Privatisation Strategy
- May 27th : Day of RS Air Force and Anti-aircraft Defence
- Police Prevent Protest March of Belgrade Students
- Russia Displeased With Idea of Deploying NATO Troops in Albania and Macedonia

President Plavsic arrived in Banja Luka today after a 14 day visit to the Serb community in the United States. Plavsic stated that Serb expatriates there completely supported the current politics of the RS and that there were certain individuals interested in economic co-operation with the people of the RS. She expected a group of economists from the RS would visit the Serb expatriate community in a few weeks, to make concrete agreements.

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RS PM Dodik stated at a press conference held in Banja Luka today that all the problems on establishing the Law on Privatisation had been clarified during his visit to the USA. Dodik said that the Law was to be passed on the level of entities, not as a trial Law for the whole BiH. After tomorrow's analysis at the session of the RS Government, the aforementioned Law will be open public scrutiny. The PM also informed the press on financial assistance from the IC that has been realised so far. He said that "...I am glad that OHR representatives in charge of following up the realisation of these finances highly commended the work of the Government and the spending of the restricted funds..."

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RS PM Dodik met with Robert Barry, Head of the PEC, in Banja Luka today. Commenting on the attitude of the RS Government that members of entities' presidencies should have 4 year mandates, like the members of the BiH Presidency. Barry said that he would pass on Dodik's opinion on this issue at tomorrow's meeting of the PEC.

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OSCE have made amendments to PEC rules and regulations on the media in order to provide equal treatment and accessibility to the media for all the parties, coalitions and independent candidates. The OSCE press release states that the most important changes referred to the banning of charging for political advertising, and to professional and ethical standards, etc.

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Deputy PM, Tihomir Gligoric, and Minister for Refugees and DPs, Miladin Dragicevic, visited the municipality of Ribnik to see the situation there after exchange of territories of Velecevo and Dubocani for Koprivna.

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Serb Employees of Brcko Municipal Administration held a half-hour warning strike against the decision of the International Supervisor for Brcko, Robert Farrand, that they should give up their jobs in favour of Croats and Muslims.

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