OHR SRT News Summary, 28 April 1998

Headlines

- Regional international conference on return of refugees concluded in Banja Luka
- Carlos Westendorp: Return of refugees and displaced persons –
 priority in the work of authorities
- 100 days since forming the new RS government
- The USA and Japan achieved an agreement on expansion of the military cooperation

The Regional Conference on Return of Refugees and Displaced Persons, organized by the OHR and the <u>UNHCR</u>, was held in Banja Luka today. The main aim of the conference is the acceleration of the refugee return which requires stronger political commitments. The representatives of the governments of the RS, B&H Federation, FRY and Croatia, respectively, participated in the Conference as well as the representatives of the associations of refugees, representatives of the political parties and religious communities, the ambassadors of the countries which are the members of the Steering Board for the peace implementation and many other officials.

9:05

The RS President Biljana Plavsic met with the High Representative to B&H, Carlos Westendorp in Banja Luka today. The President Plavsic received today the Special Envoy of the Russian Foreign Ministry, Aleksander Aksenjonak, and the Russian Ambassador to B&H, Filip Sydorski, as well.

1:25

On the occasion of a farewell visit the member of the B&H Presidency from the RS, Momcilo Krajisnik thanked the Head of the Mission of the Russian Federation to B&H, Jakov Gerasimov,

for a good cooperation in Pale today.

1:10

The House of Peoples of the B&H Parliament adopted today the B&H budget for this year whereas the House of Representatives adopted the budget yesterday.

1:55

<u>NATO</u> Secretary General Javier Solana condemned today the violence and the intimidation of refugees in B&H who want to return to their homes.

0:35

The regular press conference of the international organizations was held in Sarajevo today. An unconditional return of refugees was discussed. In addition, the establishment of the Commission which is going to supervise the work of the media in B&H, not in order to censor but to improve the professionalism in their work, was announced.

1:55

The president of the RS State Commission for the Exchange of POWs and civilians, Jovo Rosic, stated in Banja Luka today that 35 bodies of Serb civilians had been exhumed from three mass graves in the area of Bradine near Konjic. The identification process will take place in Trebinje tomorrow. 0:25

A SRT team, together with the IPTF representatives, went to Drvar yesterday and recorded the reactions to the recent incidents in that town.

2:30

After yesterday's beginning of the common license plates distribution in B&H, there are some misunderstandings already today.

1:40