

OHR SRT News Summary, 28 February 1999

Headlines

- In Serb Sarajevo President Poplasen Announced Plans for Reconstruction of the City
- New Incidents in Kosovo: French President Chirac Considers that Political Agreement is Necessary
- US Planes again Shelled Iraqi Installations

RS President, Nikola Poplasen, today visited the region of Serb Sarajevo, as part of his visit to Eastern RS. The President said that more could have been done in the reconstruction of the city if the finances, already invested for the construction material, had not been blocked. The assessment was that those finances have to be unblocked during the current year, and that the reconstruction of Serb Sarajevo has to be improved.

01:10

A session of the RS Government will be held tomorrow, on the eve of the continuation of the RS NA session. The agenda of the Government's session includes Proposal of the Law on Chambers of Health, Proposal of the Law on Changes and Amendments to the Law on Pension and Invalid Insurance, Proposal of the Law on Health Protection and Proposal of the Law on Health Insurance. The Government will also consider the Proposal of the Law on Development Strategy for the RS until 2006.

00:54

Kosovo related news

President of France, Chirac, said in a meeting with President of Macedonia, Kiro Gligorov, that the Albanians have to give

up any kind of demand for independence of Kosovo and that they have to return their weapons, as it is one of the key conditions for peace in the province. Chirac also said that FRY will have to accept international forces for implementation of the peace agreement.

00:48

According to Beta, one policeman was killed and four were wounded in an attack of the so-called OVK on a police patrol at Kacanik. Spokeswoman of the Kosovo Verification Mission, Beatrice Lacoste confirmed the information on this conflict, but did not want to be precise on its strength.

00:25

About 100 Serbs gathered this morning in front of a police station in Orahovo, requesting the liberation of two brothers from the nearby village of Velika Foca, who disappeared yesterday. The villagers suppose that the brothers were kidnapped by the so-called OVK.

00:22

The Macedonian Ministry of Defence informed the media today that border patrols had discovered a group of people trying to smuggle weapons and ammunition from Albania into Macedonia, on horses. It is also believed that the weapons were intended for the so-called OVK in Kosovo.

00:28

According to a poll carried out by the RS Association of refugees and DPs "Ostanak" in Teslic, only 1.4 % of Serbs who fled from areas under Croat and Muslim control want to return to the BiH Federation. At the same time, Vice President of the Teslic Municipal Executive Board, Sasib Salkic is pleased because 1,240 Muslims returned to Teslic.

00:40

Footage on life on IEBs – Very few people returned to these areas, due to bad infrastructure, distance from other

populated settlements or schools, or mines which have not yet been removed. Some of the returnees make their living from cultivating the land and pensions. On the other hand, trading of various goods, from food to cars, is very popular at some IEBL points.

06:10

Mayor of Bosanski Petrovac, Vid Jelacic, confirmed to Srna today that the arrival of a large group of Shqiptars to this city is expected in the coming days. According to Jelacic, they will be accommodated in a newly built settlement which can accommodate about 1,000 people. Jelacic made a public protest to the Canton authorities and the authorities of the BiH Federation about their decision to build this settlement. He also expressed his fear that the announced arrival of Shqiptars will influence the return of Serbs.

00:54

[SFOR](#) called today on the civil and military officials of the RS and BiH Federation to cooperate in the operation "Harvest '99", for collecting weapons which remained in the possession of civilians after the last war.

00:15

The Serb Coalition for the RS issued a press release commenting on a press release issued by the OHR stating that the SDS is destroying the reputation of legally elected deputies, with their stand on the latest incident in the RS NA. President of the Coalition Executive Board, Predrag Lazarevic, signed the press release which states that the HR himself degraded the reputation of deputies, by cancelling the mandate of one deputy at the beginning of the September elections.

00:38