

OHR SRT News Summary, 29 March 1999

Headlines

- FRY Army, defending itself from the NATO-pact aggression, has shot down 7 airplanes, 3 helicopters, 30 cruise rockets and several pilotless aircrafts so far, was reported in Belgrade
- NATO increased air strikes, especially in Kosmet, while protest rallies are being held throughout the world even today
- RS NA Speaker Petar Djokic held consultative meeting with the representatives of the parliamentary parties; date of holding the assembly session was not agreed upon
- RS Government condemned again the aggression against FRY
- Russian pacifist fleet commenced regular military maneuvers

The [NATO](#)-pact aggression against Yugoslavia was resumed last night. According to the first assessments, in the past 5 days, 1,900 t of explosive was cast at the objectives in Serbia and Montenegro, which is equal to the power of nuclear weapons. In resisting the aggression, as stated by the commander of the air force and anti-aircraft defense of the FRY Army Spasoje Smiljanic, this branch of the army lost 7 men, while 17 are wounded. The consequences of the attack carried out last night are the severest in Kosmet. (reports of the air strikes conducted in Belgrade, Pristina, Djakovica, Gnjilane, Prizren, Nis, and Sombor)

5:26

The Serb Patriarch Pavle called on all the governments of the world to stop the [NATO](#) pact actions and bombing of the FRY.

3:18

Russia requested a meeting with the representatives of the EU in order to talk about the crisis in the FRY, a western diplomat stated in Brussels. Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs Igor Ivanov informed that, upon the order of the Russian President Boris Yeltsin, a delegation led by the Russian PM Yevgeni Primakov is due to leave for Belgrade tomorrow to hold talks with the FRY President Slobodan Milosevic.

0:25

The Yugoslav Ministry of Foreign Affairs informed that the FRY President Slobodan Milosevic received a personal message from the President of the NR of China. The message stresses that the people and the army of the FRY are leading the hard and just fight for defense of the state sovereignty and territorial integrity from the flagrant [NATO](#) attack headed by the USA. The message also expressed friendly solidarity and strong support of the Chinese people to the people of FRY.

1:03

The Yugoslav Ministry of Foreign Affairs informed that the FRY President Slobodan Milosevic had a long telephone conversation with the President of Belorussia at his request. The President of Belorussia stressed that he strongly condemns the [NATO](#)-pact aggression against FRY as a sovereign and independent country, which directly endangers peace and safety in Europe and the world.

0:30

The Yugoslav army opened today 3 border crossings on the border with Albania, the OSCE spokesperson in Tirana Andrea Agnelli stated. Agnelli went on to say that thousands of Kosovo Albanians were waiting to cross through these border crossings to Albania.

0:21

[NATO](#) increased bombing of the objectives in the FRY, as was announced in the seat of this organization in Brussels

yesterday. CNN and other world news station reports on press conferences held by Robin Cook and British Minister of Defense Robertson, the [NATO](#) military representatives, the Pentagon representatives, Tony Blair's addressing of the UK Parliament, Javier Solana's addressing the public.

4:39

The chief of the Russian Diplomacy, Igor Ivanov, stated today that the Albanian terrorists started a large-scale offensive throughout the entire Kosovo territory, Beta reports. Ivanov assessed that obviously there is a close cooperation and coordination between the operations of the so-called KLA and [NATO](#) forces that are conducting air strikes against the Kosovo territory.

0:22

The readiness to send ground troops into the FRY does not exist yet, the president of the [NATO](#) Military Council, German general Klaus Naumann assessed.

0:15

The Greek Government decided not to allow the [NATO](#) forces, which would be used in the attack against Yugoslavia, to cross over the territory of Greece. The USA has been putting a great pressure upon the Greek government to allow the crossing of 4,200 Turkish soldiers heavily armed over the Greek territory, Srna reports.

0:17

Close to 2,000 citizens of Kumanovo and surrounding villages, with tractors and trucks, blocked a [NATO](#)-pact unit which was located in the lower slopes of the nearby hill and asked them to immediately leave the territory. After the seizure which lasted several hours, a few hundred soldiers of the Alliance and approximately 40 vehicles left that territory for they were in danger of being lynched by the furious peasants and Kumanovo inhabitants.

1:50

Protests against the [NATO](#) aggression toward the FRY were resumed today both in the RS and the world (reports from Banja Luka, Srbinje, Srpsko Sarajevo, Kotor-Varos, Tel Aviv, Toronto, Bucharest)

5:05

The RS Minister of Interior Sredoje Novic, in today's press release, warns of some events and excess incidences that are taking place during the protest rallies in the RS (the press release read).

3:10

The police sources in Pale confirmed that one American aircraft fell in the village of Stajina near Podvitez, 12 km from Pale at 2:15 p.m. today (follows the report and footage of the aircraft remains).

1:45

A consultative meeting of the RS NA Speaker Petar Djokic with the representatives of the parliamentary parties was held in Banja Luka today. The meeting discussed the current political situation in the RS and the next session of the RS NA. The next session of the RS NA will be held after reaching the full political agreement of the parliamentary blocks regarding the agenda of the session, is the conclusion made after a 4-hour discussion.

3:32

The RS Government, which is in permanent session, considered today the current political – security situation in the RS under the circumstances of the [NATO](#)-pact aggression against Yugoslavia and the Serb people.

2:41

The RS Vice President Mirko Sarovic talked in Srpsko Sarajevo with the new head of the Portuguese mission to BiH about the arbitration award on Brcko, election of the new Government and functioning of the common bodies in BiH.

1:07

The UN representative to BiH Elisabeth Rehn talked in Banja Luka with the members of the Serb Intellectual Forum, Minister of Interior Sredoje Novic and Banja Luka University students.

2:37

During the demonstrations held in Brcko on Sunday, March 28, a group of people gathered in front of the building of the OHR North which was afterwards slightly damaged by stones. The office of the OHR North remains open, the OHR press release says.

0:38

The Steering Board of the RS Association of Journalists considered at today's meeting the unprincipled pressures upon the members of the journalists' community and frequent requests to breach the international standards of the professional ethics. (press release read)

3:00

FBiH news

1:50

The Russian pacifist fleet commenced today a routine military manoeuvre in the Russian territorial waters.

0:22