OHR SRT News Summary, 29 November 1998

Headlines

- RS National Assembly to meet in Banja Luka tomorrow
- Kosovo an armed Albanian raid group prevented from crossing into the FRY
- five Russian police officers killed on the border with Chechnia
- Yugoslav volley ball team obtain silver medal at the World Championship in Japan

The second session of the RS NA is to take place in Banja Luka tomorrow. Of the 28 items on the adopted agenda the most interesting are the draft Law on the cessation of validity of the Law on Special Sales Taxes needed to fund the RS military, the draft Law on the cessation of implementation of the Law on the use of abandoned property and, also, amendments and changes to the current Law on Housing Relations. The draft Law on RS Foreign Debts along with the draft Rebalance of the national budget for this year have also attracted a lot of public attention. Regarding the most interesting items on the agenda, the Speaker of the RS National Assembly, Petar Djokic, stated that he expected that the session tomorrow would display a high level of responsibility towards the obligations assumed under Annex 7 of the DA, which would also be an impetus to similar behaviour in the other BiH entity, as a condition for the full implementation of the DA. Djokic also stressed the importance of the election of all RS parliamentary working bodies which is amongst the items to be discussed by the MPs tomorrow. On the appointment of the new RS Government, Djokic said that Prime Minister Designate Kalinic had still not informed him whether he was prepared to come up with a proposal on the composition of the RS Government tomorrow. 2:35

The Deputy President of the SDS, Dragan Cavic, today gave a statement to the BETA Agency saying that the RS Prime Minister Designate, Dragan Kalinic, would not present his proposal on the composition of the new RS Government at the session of the RS NA scheduled for tomorrow, even if the RS MPs required that the issue should be added to the agenda as an extraordinary one. Cavic went on to explain that should the RS MPs so require, Designate Kalinic would only state that activities aimed at forming his Cabinet and at designing a plan for the work of the new Government were under way. 0:35

A three-day international seminar on military forces supporting civilian authorities in their dealing with civilian protection commenced in Banja Luka today. The respective representatives of the RS, the BiH Federation, BiH common institutions, OSCE and other international organisations are taking part in the seminar which was opened by the RS Minister of Defence, Manojlo Milovanovic. 2:10

A two-day seminar on a possible framework for preparing legal acts pertaining to the protection of the environment in countries in transition commenced in the Jahorina Mountain today. The seminar, sponsored by the Regional Environment Protection Centre for Central and Eastern Europe and the Japanese Special Fund, is being attended by experts from the responsible ministries of the RS and the BiH Federation, as well as international experts in the field of environmental protection.

2:19

(Kosovo-related issues) 3:24 The Spokeswoman for the OHR in BiH, Alexandra Stiglmayer, today confirmed to the Sarajevo media that the bodies that had been exhumed at the location of Stadion in Sarajevo had been transferred there from Kazan back in 1993. Kazan is the location which is believed to be the place where several hundred Serbs were killed during the war. Stiglmayer went on to announce that another 40-50 bodies from the settlement of Vlakovo were expected to be exhumed within the next seven days, and another four from a location in Sarajevo. Stiglmayer concluded by saying that exhumation works would also start at Kazan as soon as weather conditions permitted. 0:43

(Federation-related news)