OHR SRT News Summary, 3 July 1998

Headlines

- Kosovo situation between diplomatic pressure and armed conflict
- KM still unavailable for RS citizens
- BiH House of Peoples Discussion on privatisation postponed
- The RS Financial Police have brought criminal charges against Velibor Ostojic
- Clinton ended his visit to China

RS President Biljana Plavsic expressed gratitude to the Spanish Ambassador to BiH during his visit to Banja Luka for his interest in the situation in the area. The Spanish Ambassador announced a further visit to Banja Luka and additional aid projects from the Spanish Government to the RS. 1:45

On the fifth day of his visit to Japan, the RS PM, Milorad Dodik, visited Hiroshima and talked with Mitsubishi high-level officials about the possibility of carrying out several projects and joint programmes in the reconstruction of the RS economy.

0:50

A meeting between representatives of the Central Bank and Commercial Banks and Banking Agencies took place in Banja Luka today. The main topic was the elimination of misunderstandings regarding the introduction of KM. 1:25

The Director of the \underline{IMF} , B. Scott talked today in Banja Luka with the RS Minister of Finance, Novak Kondic. The RS fiscal

system and inflow of international support were the main topics of this meeting. According to Kondic this was an opportunity for representatives of the IMF to express their pleasure at the establishment of the RS stand-by arrangements with this financial institution. 1:03

The High Representative, Carlos Westendorp, made a decision requesting the BiH authorities to accelerate implementation of the DA, aiming to create the necessary conditions for peaceful refugee return and respecting the principles of reconciliation and multi-ethnicity, OHR spokesperson , Rida Attarashany, stated at today's press conference. 1:40

The RS Financial Police have brought criminal charges against the former Deputy PM, Velibor Ostojic, for abuse of authority. In the period from April 18 1997 to January 18 1998, when the new Government was elected in Bijeljina, he damaged the RS Budget by 1,646,000 dinars. 1:35