

OHR SRT News Summary, 30 Nov. 1997

Headlines

- Meeting between President Plavsic and Elisabeth Rehn
- Irregularities regarding the collection and checking of ballots at the OSCE centre in Vienna

Expressing satisfaction with the meeting, President Plavsic emphasised that special attention was paid to the administration of justice and human rights in the RS and in FBiH.

"We had very good co-operation concerning the issues that Mrs. Rehn was dealing with. I have to express my own satisfaction, and that of the Serb people, that Mrs. Rehn will be promoted within the UN and will become the UN's representative here in the RS and FBiH."

Rehn raised the question of the large number of missing persons. She said that it was not possible to hide anyone any longer, expressing her doubt that there were a lot of people still alive amongst the missing. They also talked about the issue of refugees, about the required accommodation for them and about the human rights that all refugees should have. In that regard she mentioned the return of Serbs in Croatia and Krajina.

3:00

The present silence of the IC regarding BiH will not last for long. Today's meeting in Zavidov, near Moscow, has already finished, so the Russian president, Boris Yeltsin, and German Chancellor, Helmut Kohl, have had time to agree on their attitudes regarding the destiny of a further international military presence in RS and FBiH.

On Tuesday, Defence Ministers of the members of the North-Atlantic Alliance will be in Brussels deciding on the new mandate for foreign troops in BiH.

On Thursday, diplomatic heads of Germany and France will travel to SA, and in 10 days' time there will be a big international conference of the Peace Implementation Council held in Bonn, where realisation of the DA will be considered.

1:00

After RS Government representatives discovered numerous mistakes and irregularities in the OSCE centre in Vienna, which brought into question the voting procedure abroad, the OSCE decided to bring in more trained personnel to Vienna, stated Gordan Milinic, the RS Government representative .

Representatives of the Government found three open boxes with more than 5,000 unfilled original ballots. In two boxes, one third of the ballots was missing. The Deputy Co-ordinator himself was surprised at this fact. He said that the OSCE centre in Vienna had sent exactly 143,266 ballots to the addresses of voters throughout the world at the beginning of November. In Vienna, the computers discovered more than 3,000 voters who voted for a second time in the parliamentary elections, which was assessed as an attempt to flood the RS with a sea of Moslem votes. " It is good that the computers are programmed to detect such frauds," said Milinic.

2:57