OHR SRT News Summary, 5 November 1998

Headlines

- The RS President, Nikola Poplasen appointed Nikola Kesic as Director of the Intelligence service
- Different party reactions to the constitutive session of the RS NA
- New plan for Kosovo, dilemmas on the level of autonomy
- Condemnation of Iraq in the UN resolution without use of force threat

The RS President, Nikola Poplasen and Vice President, Mirko Sarovic took over from Plavsic and Mirjanic in Banja Luka. 0:07

The RS President, Nikola Poplasen appointed, in accordance with his constitutional powers, Nikola Kesic as Director of the Intelligence service. 0:10

The Chair of the B&H Presidency, Zivko Radisic talked with Austrian Ambassador to B&H in Banja Luka about activities to accept B&H into the Council of Europe. They also talked about strengthening cooperation between the two countries, implementation of the <u>Dayton Agreement</u>, and peace stabilisation in the region. 0:23

The RS Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik received the Austrian Ambassador to B&H. The main topics were the economic and political situation in the RS. "European partners are interested in political conditions in the RS. I have said that there should be no fear that the RS would not continue to work in a democratic way, the way of Europe".- Dodik said. The SDS President, Dragan Kalinic and Vice President, Dragan Cavic expressed their pleasure at the inauguration of the RS President and Vice President at the RS NA session. Kalinic criticised the SRT for stopping the live broadcast of the RS NA session at the moment of inauguration of the RS President and Vice President as well as the Government fpr announcing there will be no live broadcasts of the RS National Assembly sessions. "We ask the IMC to deal with this threat from Prime Minister Dodik for this is a direct attack on the democratic tradition established in the RS not during Plavsic's mandate but long ago. Sessions were always public and this is an attempt to hide real games in the Assembly from the public".-Kalinic said at the press conference. 1:43

The SNSD President, Milorad Dodik and Slavko Mitrovic, Executive Board member, expressed their pleasure at the forming of the Assembly leadership and at the RS President and Vice President taking their solemn oaths. All speculations that this party wants to delay this act were stopped.- Dodik said. He stated his discontent that the SNSD member, Jovo Radic did not win enough votes for the position of Deputy Speaker. He did not want to comment on the SRT cease of live broadcast while the RS President and Vice President were taking their solemn oaths but he emphasised that he will ask that the SRT broadcasts "the statement of Mr. Sasivarevic, who said that Mr. Dodik did not offer Ministries to the Coalition for Single Bosnia, but Mr. Kalinic from the SDS did". 1:59

The High Representative, Carlos Westendorp said that the RS President, Nikola Poplasen asked for 10 days to propose the Prime minister candidate. "The RS NA has been constituted, the decisions were reached in a democratic manner and I think it is great contribution to the peace".- Carlos Westendorp said at the press conference in Sarajevo. According to the High

Representative there was no agreement that the Deputy Speaker be a member of the Coalition for a Single Bosnia, but there is still time to get that position. "I have talked with the RS President, Nikola Poplasen who is prepared to work with the international community".-Westendorp said, adding that he proposed to President Poplasen to nominate a person who would have Assembly majority. "It is Dodik for now".- Westendorp said. He emphasised that the new RS Government would have to fulfil their obligations related to refugee return, multi ethnic police and judicial reform. 1:45

The President of Serbia, Milan Milutinovic talked with state and party officials behind closed doors in Pristina. 0:33

Christopher Hill stated in Belgrade that great progress had been made in solving key problems on Kosovo. 0:21

According to the information of the IMC there are 290 electronic media in B&H territory. 120 in the RS territory and 170 in the Federation. There are 87 radio and 33 TV stations in the RS and 120 radio and 50 TV stations. 0:19