

# OHR SRT News Summary, 8 December 1998

## Headlines

- RS Government Decided on Assistance to Brcko
- Chairman of BiH Presidency, Zivko Radisic Talked with Special US Envoy, Robert Gelbard
- Session of BiH Presidency Centres on Forthcoming Madrid Conference
- Representatives of So Called "OVK" Rejected Latest Peaceful Proposal by American Ambassador Hill
- NATO Foreign Ministers in Brussels Discussed Strategy of Alliance for Next Century

At today's session, the RS Government decided to provide assistance for Brcko, including salaries for multiethnic administration employees and DM 60,000 worth of reconstruction material. According to the Minister of Information, Vasic, production in the RS increased by 44% while the employment rate increased by 29%. The Government decided to deduct pay during the strike period from the salaries of professors and teachers.

00:48

Special US Envoy, Robert Gelbard said after a meeting with the Chairman of the BiH Presidency, Zivko Radisic, that one of the issues to be discussed at the forthcoming Madrid Conference will be the creation of conditions for establishing a self-sustainable economy in BiH. Radisic and Gelbard discussed trade between the RS and BiH Federation and the necessity of joint projects in economic areas. The first part of the session of the BiH Presidency, held today in Sarajevo, discussed preparations for the Madrid Conference. The session will continue on Thursday, after the meeting with the [NATO](#) Secretary General, Javier Solana.

00:55

The BiH CoM session held in Sarajevo today, centred on the forthcoming Madrid Conference. After additional consultations to be held on Thursday, the CoM will present its views on this issue to the BiH House of Representatives. The CoM concluded that new equipment must be purchased in order to accelerate the process of passport issuing, and confirmed its request to the BiH Parliament for an extension of the deadline for validity of the old passports until June 30th, 1999. According to Haris Silajdzic, Co-Chairman of the CoM, the process of issuing of new passports will be revised on March 1st, 1999 and if necessary, it will be possible to extend the validity of the old passports for another 6 months. The CoM today appointed a Director General and Deputy Director to the Agency for Improvement of Foreign Investments in BiH.

01:10

Co-Chairman of the BiH CoM, Boro Bosic today met with the Head of the [IMF](#) Mission in BiH, Juan Jose Fernandez Ansola. The meeting centred on implementation of the BiH budget for 1999 and its greater transparency. Fernandez emphasised the necessity for more efficient implementation of the Law on BiH Central Bank and functioning of KM.

00:40

Representatives of the SNSD assessed at today's press conference that delaying of the establishment of the RS Government weakens its position before the Madrid Conference. They concluded that the RS PM Nominee, Dragan Kalinic should inform the RS President and the public about his intentions on this issue.

00:21

The SRS Executive Board held a meeting in Banja Luka today and it was decided that some of the party obligations of its President, Nikola Poplasen will be transferred to the President of the SRS Executive Board, Mirko Blagojevic, taking

into consideration the seriousness and obligations of the position of the RS President. The Board assessed that Gelbard's statement yesterday on the performance of the duties of the RS President, is not supported by arguments and does not reflect the truth.

00:26

The RS NA will continue its 2nd session in Banja Luka tomorrow. Petar Djokic, RS NA Speaker, said that a meeting of the Caucus Heads will be held tomorrow at 09:00 in order to try to determine the most important items of the agenda, as the continuation of the session will probably only last one day. He said that it is very important to discuss the Law on Changes and Amendments to the Law on Housing Relations, the Changes and Amendments of the Law on the Information/Security Service, the Conclusion on Suspension of Evictions as well as the platform for the RS delegation to the forthcoming Madrid Conference.

00:45