

OHR SRT News Summary, 9 September 1998

Headlines

- The RS President, Biljana Plavsic and Prime Minister, Milorad Dodik will pay an official visit to Moscow tomorrow
- The RS President in Doboj today
- 3 bridges on the N. Topola – Srbac road reconstructed
- In Banja Luka – meeting of business delegations of the RS and Germany
- Combat in Kosovo continued
- Yevgeni Primakov rejected candidacy for the Russian Prime Minister

The RS President, with the Prime Minister, visited Doboj today and opened the high school centre that was reconstructed by US AID. The American Ambassador to B&H, Richard Kauzlarich, and the Head of US AID, Craig Buck, attended the ceremony as well. Prime Minister Dodik denied speculations relating to revision of the curriculum. They also visited the hospital in Doboj which needs to be reconstructed. The RS President delivered CT apparatus to the hospital, which amounts to DEM 10,000. The Prime Minister promised the assistance of the Government for the reconstruction of the hospital.

2:00

The RS President and Prime Minister will pay a 2-day official visit to Moscow tomorrow at the invitation of the Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Yevgeni Primakov. The day after tomorrow they will talk with the Russian Foreign Minister. Also, the Russian Patriarch Aleksej II will receive the RS President.

0:30

The reconstruction of 3 bridges over the Vrbas in Srbac by US AID was completed and the RS Prime Minister opened the bridges for traffic today. He was accompanied by the American Ambassador to B&H and the Head of US AID.

2:00

The payment of pensions in the RS will start tomorrow. The Government has increased the August pensions by 50% compared with the previous month.

0:35

A 2-day meeting of business people from the RS and Germany took place in Banja Luka today and will continue tomorrow. The possibilities of economic cooperation with German enterprises were discussed. The Deputy Prime Minister, Djuradj Banjac, spoke about the activities of the Government directed towards the creation of an atmosphere favorable for economic cooperation of the RS with Germany and other countries. The Protocol on economic cooperation between the RS and Germany will be signed tomorrow.

2:30

Electric power supplying Sipovo is much better than before, since an electricity station was reconstructed by US AID. Two more electricity stations were reconstructed in Bijeljina through the assistance of the English, Japanese and Canadian Governments.

2:30

The following parties were presented:

1. The SDS – a rally held last night in Kotor Varos
2. The SLOGA Coalition – a rally held last night in Banja Luka
3. THE SPRS – a tribune held yesterday in Novi Grad
4. The SDS – a rally held in Prijedor last night
5. The SPO – a rally held in Gradiska last night
6. The SPRS – tribunes in Nevesinje and Borovici

7. The SPRS – a press conference held today in Banja Luka
8. Democratic People's Union of B&H – the very first conference held in Banja Luka today
9. The SDS – a rally in Novi Grad held today
10. The Radical Party of the RS – a press conference held in Banja Luka today
11. The SPRS – a press conference, today
12. The Democratic Party of the RS – a press conference held today in Banja Luka
13. The SPO of Serbia – a press conference in Bijeljina
14. The SRS of the RS- a tribune in Pale, held today
15. The Party of Pensioners of the RS – a tribune in Banja Luka held last night

Some parties reacted today to the statement by the RS President last night at the rally of the SLOGA Coalition in Banja Luka that " the trouble embodied in the leader that will appear in Banja Luka in two days should be stopped in the same manner as a year ago".

At a press conference of the Serb Coalition for the RS, Aleksandar Iliskovic, the Deputy President of the Serb Party of Krajina and Posavina, condemned the statement and asked the OSCE to remove the President of the SLOGA Coalition, Biljana Plavsic, from the list of candidates for the President of the RS.

At a press conference of the Serb Radical Party of the RS, its President Nikola Poplasen condemned the statement by the RS President, saying: "The newest, direct anti-constitutional and anti-democratic act pronounced by the RS President last night is a call for a lynching, when she called on the people to cause disorder in Banja Luka. The call for a lynching is a sign of uttermost primitivism and conscience of defeat", adding that the SDS and SRS Coalition sent an official protest letter to OSCE, demanding minimal security in the streets. Mr. Poplasen appealed to citizens to

contribute by their behaviour to the peaceful and democratic electoral atmosphere. Answering the question relating to the holding of the rally, Mr. Poplasen stated that the rally had not been cancelled and would take place.

The SDS issued a statement, condemning the statement of the President and the SNS and SLOGA Coalition which, inter alia, says: "...Mrs. Plavsic has forgotten that she is the President of all Serbs not only of those who will vote for the SLOGA Coalition".

The President of the SNS held a press conference last night, after the debate on the SRT: The RS President and President of the SNA, Biljana Plavsic explained the message stated at the rally of the SLOGA held a night before in Banja Luka:

"That is my message, indeed. I have not said it at any of the rallies in the RS, but the events from last year reminded me that, maybe the same group of people would come, reduced for those who cannot enter the RS. But the instigator of the rally that took place last year will certainly lead another group of people to Banja Luka. I am afraid that that man will use the same method, and I as the President of the Republic, am responsible for warning the citizens of Banja Luka about it".

The SLOGA Coalition assessed that the campaign of the SNN, SPRS and SNDS was successful. SLOGA tried to conduct its campaign in the way which helps the RS to take a further step towards democratisation.

The perpetrators of the attempted murder of Slavisa Savic Mauzer, the Head of the Administration of the RS Ministry of Interior in Bijeljina, who were killed, are identified. These are Stojan Maskimovic and Vladimir Neretljak. Further details (almost all) of the attempted murder were revealed by the investigation.

3:20