

OHR BiH TV News Summary, 31 May 1998

Sarajevo – Republican Newt Gingrich, US Speaker of the House of Representatives paid a visit to BiH for a number of hours today. He met with children in Brcko and paid a visit to the US peacekeeping troops stationed at McGovern Camp. He said he believed that the US commitment in BiH was a long-term one.

0:30

Afganistan – More than five thousand people died and one thousand injured in an earthquake which happened in Afganstan yesterday.

0:30

Kosovo – The situation in Kosovo is very dramatic. The village Decani is completely on fire and Serb attacks are the most fierce since beginning of the clashes. The attacks have been directed against the villages which boarder Albania. Many citizens have been killed and 70 have been detained. A fierce fight is going on between the Serb powers and Liberation Kosovo Militia in Islich near Decani. The international journalists were prevented from visiting this region.

1:30

Podgorica – Extraordinary Parliamentary and Local Elections were held in Montenegro today. The voting stations will be closed at 20,00hrs. The first results may be known around 15,00 hrs tomorrow.

1:30

Sarajevo – A pursuit of Karadzic has not stopped even for a day during this year, informs The New York Times quoting well informed NATO sources. His days are numbered. He daily changes his residence, but NATO soldiers are following closely on his heels. Once he escapes for a number of hours, we usually know where he is, NATO officers who are included in the action, told NY Times. Besides other things, the differences among the alliance, especially on the line US – France, are slowing down the action. The Americans demanded that the French units withdraw from the sector where Karadzic moves, but France rejected this despite a shameful discovery that the French Officer was secretly seeing Karadzic and most probably informing him of the arresting plans, newspapers read.

2:00

Kula Grad, near Zvornik – 60 residents of Kula Grad near Zvornik visited their village for the first time in longer than six years. Footage of people strolling around their houses with tears in eyes convincing a collocutor that their biggest desire is to come back to their homes for good.

2:30

Bosanski Brod – The first steps in the implementation of the Annex 7 have taken place here. New donations which will enable a complete return of the Bosniaks and the Croats are being expected.

1:30

Vitez – Around 2.500 Bosniaks who worked in 16 firms in the municipality Vitez, have not worked since 16 April 1993. The fact that they do not work is only partly a reason for today's gathering. They are much more worried about the privatisation which is going on in Vitez firms. They raised their voice in order to defend a property which is also theirs, and is becoming private over night, without their participation. Sulejman Hrle, BiH Trade Union President spoke supporting this meeting. He said that such gatherings are occurring more and more often since in BiH rights have no role.

2:00

Sejfudin Tokic, President of the Main Board of the Social Democrat Party strongly condemned an attack of some citizens of the independent magazine DANI. This incident clearly shows that there exist such powers which would like to unlawfully censure media.

1:00

Banja Luka – Andjelko Kozomara, General Director of SRT turned off a TV transformer of the independent TV Banja Luka, on Kozara, ONASA informed late afternoon. RS Prime Minister Dodik has been informed of this unlawful act.

1:00

Fojnica – There follows a report on the Pentecost celebration in Fojnica where some thousand Catholic believers attended a Festive Mass.

0:30

Sarajevo – The 448th graduate generation of the Gazi Husref Bey Medresa in Sarajevo was promoted in a festive manner, today.

0:30