OHR BiH TV News Summary, 24 March 1998

Exhumations at Medjine area near Mostar continued today. 17 Bosniak bodies were exhumed, and according to the President of the Commission for Missing Persons, Masovic, 30 bodies were found so far, out of which ten are women.

2:30

The France Press reported that Serbian police attacked three Albanian villages with heavy artillery this morning about 11:00 at the South of Kosovo. Reuters quoted Serbian sources and said four Albanians and one Serbian policeman were killed in today's clashes.

4:00

President of the "Sandzak" Coalition, Ljajic accused Serbian police for harrasment of Bosniaks from BiH who are visiting their families in Sandzak. Ljajic said that Bosniaks are often being called for interrogations and that these citizens are being harrasmed and interrogated about their alleged involvement in the war in Bosnia. 2:00

<u>NATO</u> troops commenced military exercise called "the Dynamic Response 98", involving six countries that are taking part in <u>SFOR</u> and also 2.300 soldiers. The purpose of the exercise is to train the strategic reserve forces for <u>SFOR</u>. BiH TV also brought a coverage from the US aircraft carrier "WASP".

3:00

OSCE Provissional Elections Committee made a decision to hold elections for President and Parliament in BiH, Federation Parliament, President and Co-president of the RS, RS People's Assembly and Canton Parliaments in the Federation in September this year.

1:30

Constitutive session for Srebrenica Municipality Council was cancelled before it began. Namely, the representatives of the Coalition for Democratic and United BiH left the session due to the RS hymn that was played at the beginning. OSCE Ambassador, Ellerkmann went from the hotel where the session took place to the BUS where CDU representatives withdrawn, consulting both of the sides. Ellerkmann expressed his regrets to the press and said he was surprised with the hymn.

2:00

Session of the Stolac Municipality Council was held today with the presence of regional OSCE Director, Foley. The arbitration decision on the municipality election results implementation was accepted. 1:30

OHR Regional Head, Sir Martin Garrod said that OHR and <u>UNHCR</u> will give their great support to the local authorities of the Herzegovina/Neretva Canton in order to accord the standpoints in regard with the plans for refugee return to the canton.

2:00

Serbian authorities in Bosanski Novi refused to negotiate about return of Bosniaks to BN and Serbs to Sanski Most. Hence, the CDU representatives abandoned the session and decided to boycott the work of BN City Parliament until the matter of return is on the agenda.

2:00

Federation President Ganic reacted to the incident that happened to Croat returnees in Bukovica village, Travnik municipality, saying that Canton and parties leading men are responsible for the event until they detrmine names of those who committed the incident.

1:00

Federation Prime Minister Bicakcic met with the US Ambassador Kauzlarich, discussing the matters of justice and police reforms in cantons where this has not been done yet, as well as the matter of privatization.

1:00