

OHR BiH TV News Summary, 8 March 1998

A sad news for Bosnia and Herzegovina; Mustafa Hajrulahovic – Talić suddenly deceased in Hamburg, in the age of 41, BiH Army General, Bosnian with capital 'B', one of the leading men of the 'Patriot League'. Many of his friends, gathered in restaurant "FIS" to remember the image and profile of a great man. BiH TV broadcast statements of the numerous people gathered on the occasion, among which Zlatko Lagumdžija, Rasim Kadić and Zdravko Grebo were also present, as well as many other characters of the BiH public and political life.

10:00

BiH President Izetbegović visited Qatar today meeting with highest state officials and discussing the matters of strengthening of economic relations between the two countries, and engaging BiH enterprises in Qatar market. Izetbegović also visited 125 BiH soldiers, training in Qatar.

2:00

A session of the Brčko Municipality Council was held with the presence of the Federation President Ganić. It was said that arbitration decision for Brčko must not be delayed, and that it must be a rightful decision, to make Brčko become a part of the BiH Federation. It was said not Brčko for Brčko citizens governed by the RS! We know what we do not want, one thing is for certain, we do not want Brčko belong to the RS! Ganić said that if you delay the decision for Brčko, you delayed decision for Dayton in all segments.

2:30

US Special Envoy Gelbard made a statement referring to Croat authorities in BiH, with a demand to stop obstructions in BiH. Gelbard said we do not have the time or will to stand someone's delay and obstructions. If BiH Croats leadership is not ready to implement DPA, step out of the way, and open the space for others who understand what it means to take obligations before the IC. Announcing more severe measures, Gelbard said it can be expected that SFOR and other international institutions might take wider authorities in the forthcoming weeks. Regarding recent Tuđman's speech, Gelbard said that a person that speaks seriously must be aware that other serious persons will take these messages seriously.

2:00

BiH TV correspondent from Pristina, Klokoci reported about troubled situation in Kosovo, saying that sinister offensive ceased in Donji Prekazi and Drenica, but the villages are still under heavy control of Serbian forces. Snipers are covering the area of Donji Prekazi shooting at everything that moves. Albanian women in Pristina (over 60.000) organized a peaceful rally, against the massacre in Drenica with a message "we do not step away from our thresholds". Police did not intervene. According to Albanian sources, the most dramatic situation is in Donji Prekazi, where over 100 Albanians were killed, and many wounded. There is also many women, children and elders amongst the victims of the state terror. None of the journalists, messengers or humanitarian services managed to access the area. Over 6.000 refugees came to the regions of Vucitrn, Mitrovica and Kosovo Polje. Podgorica daily 'Pobjeda' reads that 3.500 Kosovo refugees came to Monte Negro. (It would be interesting to make a comparison between this report and the one given by the Belgrade official 5 o'clock news, which said that diplomatic representatives of more than 40 countries visited Donji Prekazi today, in order to make sure the fire was ceased, and that there was no damage on Albanian houses which are not of the members of Albanian terrorists. Belgrade news also presented the footage of the report.).

4:00

The round table session of the BiH women organization 'Biser' for support the women of Afghanistan was held today, with the presence of "Active Islamic Youth" organization, who strongly opposed the initiative, saying that the claims about Afghanistan women are not true, and that European women is the priority.

3:00