

OHR BiH TV News Summary, 11 Feb. 1998

11 February 98, 19:30

The RS President Plavsic met with the International Arbiter for Brcko, Owen. The press commented this meeting as a precedent. The Federation President Ganic said that the Federal delegation has finished its testimony before the Tribunal and awaits for results, adding that the decision on Brcko will probably be prolonged for a while. Ganic also said that the Federal delegation asked the Tribunal representatives that a decision should be made in accordance with Dayton.

- CDU BiH representatives announced that if the Arbiter would bring a decision for the benefit of the RS, the CDU BiH representatives at the RS Parliament will withdraw their support to the Government of Milorad Dodik.
- The SDP Spokeswoman, Hadzovic said that SDP considers that the rights of all Brcko citizens are only relevant principles that the arbiters must follow. SDP standpoint is that Brcko should be a district under international administration.
- The Serb Citizens Council addressed a letter to the Brcko Tribunal, saying that the optimal solution for Brcko is to become a district with international administration.
- Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in BiH and Serbia announced that Brcko must be returned to its citizens and must be an example of multi-ethnicity.

8:00

A session of the Permanent Military Committee was held today in Sarajevo, discussing the matter of BiH representation abroad. It was decided to start the amnesty for mines, technical and combat devices in BiH, from February 19.

2:30

At the NATO HQ in Brussels, the session about future engagement of the troops in Bosnia was continued. NATO Commander for Europe, Gen. Clark proposed the establishment of special troops consisted of soldiers para-police forces, who would fulfill reduced military contingent, as insisted by the USA. It remained certain that the new mission will remain robust, and will not be just a sequel to the SFOR troops, but also not much different.

2:00

BiH President Izetbegovic received the French Ambassador to BiH, Gaudall. Gaudall conveyed to Izetbegovic a letter from the French President, regarding the recent Plavsic's visit to Paris. Gaudall informed Izetbegovic that Plavsic was received as the President of one of the BiH entities.

2:00

BiH Presidency member Zubak received a visit of the US Ambassador Kauzlarich, discussing the matters of global situation and relations within the BiH Federation.

CoM Co-chairman Silajdzic also received Kauzlarich's visit discussing the matters of the Ploce harbor negotiations.

Silajdzic also received the World Bank Director deputy, Mitra. The main subject was Silajdzic's letter to the WB Director.

2:00

BiH Federation Minister of Energetic and Mining, Kapetanovic, resigned today. BiH PRESS reported that Kapetanovic confirmed this information but did not want to comment it. According to unofficial information, the reason for the resign is permanent and negative writing of certain news-papers, and the lack of official standpoint about these writings.

1:30

Federal Prime Minister Bicakcic leads the BiH delegation in its visit to Germany. The delegation met with the highest officials of the two biggest German Banks, discussing the matters of economic recovery in BiH and obstacles for further assistance regarding this matter.

2:00

CoM Co-chairman Botic asked the International Community representatives to transfer arrested Vasic to the authorities of the RS. Botic said that the Federation authorities severely violated the Dayton agreement, adding that murdered Turajlic was not an innocent civilian, but an active participant of the conflict in BiH, being the Prime Minister in that time.

1:30

The wall in Lukavica was demolished after the intervention by the international organizations representatives. Elisabeth Rehn met with the demonstrators, and personally removed the first brick from the wall. HR Westendorp assessed the building of the wall unacceptable, in the moment when the peace process significantly makes progress.

1:30