

OHR BiH TV News Summary, 1 March 1998

1 March 98, 19:30

The Day of Independence of BiH was celebrated today. On the occasion, CoM Co-chairman Silajdzic organized reception at the Presidency, saying that the war was ceased with the DPA, but the battle for independence is still proceeding. Silajdzic added that RS TV yesterday mentioned the celebration of the Day of Independence in the BiH Federation and Moslem leaders, pointing out the statehood of the Republika Srpska entity. Silajdzic added that this does not recognize the BiH continuity, BiH institutions, the name of Bosniaks etc., and it is obvious that the prevailing definition of DPA goes towards the creation of a legal framework for legalization of the war prey distribution. DPA cannot be defined as an instrument for legalization of the aggression and genocide. If there is no political will for the DPA implementation, it is to be expected a certain number of people, against their will, to stop cooperating in this project, because such definitions surely works for division of BiH. I am also one of these people. I am still an optimist, not because of DPA and its implementation, but because Bosnia survived more difficult things than this.

3:00

In the BiH Embassy in Washington, the Day of BiH Independence was celebrated with the presence of BiH citizens living in US, and BiH officials at the Embassy.

2:00

BiH TV correspondents from Zenica, Tuzla, Gorazde, Mostar, Una/Sana Canton reported on the celebration of the Day of Independence.

10:00

Bridge on the river Bosnia, nearby Visoko, 280m long, was built in six months. Federation Prime Minister Bicakcic said that reparation of the bridge was financed by the World Bank (1.750.000 DEM), and the work was carried out by local companies.

1:30

BiH President Izetbegovic's cabinet made an announcement, reacting to rumors in Tuzla/Podrinje Canton that the eviction of 200 Srebrenica families is being prepared in Vogosca. Prime Minister Bicakcic said this is not true, and was made up to produce disorder. No evictions are in progress or are being prepared.

1:00

Two independent British journalists were missing but found later on in the region of the Buna river, near Mostar. The journalists were last seen near Medjugorje, and wandered through the mountains to reach Mostar. As announced by the Mostar MUP, the journalists were investigating the usage of foundations for houses reconstruction in this region, and were attacked by three unknown persons. Their equipment was stolen, and both of them suffered exhaustion and one of them injuries of beating. The journalists were transferred at the Bristol Hotel in Mostar, after hospitalization and medical treatment.

3:00