

OHR BiH TV News Summary, 12 September 2000

News Headlines:

- HVIDR-a announces it will block all roads to Mostar on 1 October if demands not met
- HN Canton Interior Ministry announces it did not know anything about Monday's arrest action
- BiH Federation Interior Ministry press release on arrest operation in Mostar, and Interior Minister Mehmed Zilic adds that he has nothing further to comment
- Jelavic meets Miller and Hand and informs them of position of Croat political leadership on current political situation in BiH and arrest operations of BiH Federation Interior Ministry
- Jelavic stresses dangers from unconstitutional engagement of BiH Federation Interior Ministry units and non-participation of cantonal interior ministry police units in arrest actions
- HDZ condemns BiH Federation Interior Ministry arrest action in Mostar during Tuesday session in Sarajevo
- BiH Federation House of Peoples holds session, Croat delegates comment on BiH Federation Interior Ministry arrest action in Mostar
- "It is obvious that it was an insufficiently planned, badly organised and illegally carried out arrest operation, which is confirmed by several failures of police" – assessment of Mostar Deputy Mayor
- UN Mission to BiH condemns HVIDR-a action blocking Mostar Carinski bridge 24 hours that deprived citizens of freedom of movement – Coffman
- Coffman tells press conference that HVIDR-a blockade was announced as protest against high fuel prices but was in reality protest against Monday's lawful and

professionally conducted anti-terrorist operation by BiH Federation Interior

- “Newest RS National Assembly attempt to obstruct incumbent Government in RS is irresponsible,” High Representative opinion as presented by OHR spokesperson Bird at press conference
- Abid Lolic coal mine in Bila still blocked by citizens who are afraid of environmental danger this mine represents to their homes
- TV BiH live report from BiH Federation House of Peoples on current discussions concerning adoption of draft law on pension-disability insurance and other points of agenda
- BiH Council of Ministers session scheduled for 12 September did not take place due to absence of three ministers, who had previously informed of pending absence, although Tusevljak says he knows nothing of this
- 26 representatives of European parliaments discussing Stability Pact implementation at Summit that started in Zagreb, BiH delegation is participating
- Izetbegovic’s health improving, and will be released from hospital on Wednesday – TV BiH correspondent from New York
- Saudi Ambassador to BiH holds press conference on reasons behind visit of Prince Selman bin Abdul Aziz to BiH
- Protests over increasing fuel prices spreading throughout western Europe – world news
- Milosevic running intensive pre-election campaign – News from Yugoslavia
- Banja Luka Office of RS Refugee and DP Ministry official vehicle destroyed, investigation underway
- Spanish Government secures 3.5 million DM for projects on electric network rehabilitation in Bijeljina region
- Posters “Mobilisation” and “Referendum” plastered in Central Bosnia Canton area: Gornji Vakuf, Busovaca and

Vitez – BH Press

- SDA rejects as false and tendentious information reported by Banja Luka weekly Reporter about 35 Bosniaks allegedly indicted for war crimes by The Hague Tribunal
- UNMBiH considers Bosniak indictment list published in weekly Reporter as incorrect and counterproductive – Coffman
- Heads of OSCE Mission from Eastern Europe hold meeting in Sarajevo
- OSCE to initiate anti-corruption campaign on September 15 to help inform public of corruption and its negative affects on lives of citizens
- Beginning of multiethnic school year commences in Brcko District Fifth Primary School
- International festival “Sarajevo Days of Poetry” starts on Tuesday in Sarajevo

News Summary:

HVIDR-a announces it will block all roads to Mostar on 1 October if demands not met (01:25) “If our demands are not fulfilled by 1 October, we will block all roads leading to Mostar,” the HVIDR-a warned. The HVIDR-a requested an investigation into the identity of the persons who conducted Monday’s arrest action in Mostar. It adds that, if it is proven that a mono-national unit of the BiH Federation Interior Ministry units carried out the operation, it will demand the resignation of Interior Minister Mehmed Zilic. As compensation to those injured in the arrest operation, the HVIDR-a demands the cessation of work of all Croat officials in all institutions of the authority until the creation, that is initiation, of a general pardon (abolition) law amnestying all the ‘small people’ in the war. To remind, Ante Jelavic, during a commemorative service held in Grabovica, publicly announced this initiative before three days.

BiH Federation Interior Ministry press release on arrest operation in Mostar, and Interior Minister Mehmed Zilic adds

that he has nothing further to comment (00:37) The BiH Federation Interior Ministry issued a press release following the arrest operation in Mostar. According to the release, "On September 11, Goran Vlainic was arrested in Mostar due to his possible connection with terrorist acts. Three hours after the arrest of Vlainic, the facts were established and he was released. Another person that could also be linked to criminal deeds was arrested on the same day. According to Article 15 of the Law on the BiH Federation Interior Ministry, the Interior Minister does not have anything further to comment on the arrest operation in Mostar."

BiH Federation House of Peoples holds session, Croat delegates comment on BiH Federation Interior Ministry arrest action in Mostar (01:44) The BiH Federation House of Peoples held session in Sarajevo. President of the Croat House Caucus Ivan Madunic stated that "enormous pressure has been exerted on the Croat people in BiH in all spheres of life." He added that the "Dayton Agreement was the minimum that the Croats could accept, although they have the worst position of all the people in BiH. (...) It could never-ever have been imagined that the aforementioned minimum would be heaven in comparison to what is now happening to the Croats. The Croats were brought into that position by the partner side, which was assisted by the International Community." The Croat Caucus estimates that such actions (as the one in Mostar) are an intimidation, provocation and unsettle the Croats and could have far-reaching consequences.