

OHR BiH TV News Summary, 13 December 1999

News Headlines

- Tudjman funeral held at Zagreb Mirogoj cemetery
- BiH Croats to stay on road to equality in BiH opened by Croatian President Tudjman – Jelavic meeting with Pavletic
- Izetbegovic addresses telegram of condolences to Pavletic
- Adams meets with Radisic to discuss Brcko District demilitarization
- Big dilemma concerning BiH police participation in UN
- Swiss Government to assist BiH budget with 8.4 million DM to be distributed between entities
- Bicakcic visits textile and shoe factory Borac in Travnik
- Bosnia Hotels and Restaurants Company sold for 6.5 million DM on privatization auction block
- Tuzlanska Bank Director explains report on 5 million DM blocked at Slovenian border was regular transaction, not illegal operation
- Syndicate of Education Workers in Bosnian-Podrinje Canton go on strike
- BiH Federation Government send proposal to BiH Federation Parliament to reduce social-welfare contributions, which will automatically increase incomes
- World news
- BiH Liberals disappointed BiH Council of Ministers failed to harmonize Law on Council of Ministers
- LBO protests against TV BiH editorial policy
- Group of youths attack Catholic priest delegation, led by Cardinal Vinko Puljic, in Derventa
- Jajce Civic Forum addresses letter to IC regarding

intransigence of current Croat-majority Municipal authorities

- EC Committee for Political Matters to consider BiH request for EC membership
- Merhamet Co-ordination Board for Bosniak Returns to RS donates ambulance and medical supplies to Banja Luka Merhamet healthcare center
- Identification of bodies exhumed in Jelec village to be carried out on Tuesday in Visoko cemetery
- Promotion of Esad Durakovic's translation of Arabic literary work '1001 Nights' published in four volumes
- BiH Association of Refugees and DPs asks US Government help to secure pre-conditions for return of Teslic refugees
- Eleven Serbs press charges against BiH Federation at BiH House of Human Rights
- Bosnia Hotels and Restaurants Director Midhat Kulo guests TV BiH newscasts and speaks of auction where company was sold
- Sports
- Weather

News Summary

Big dilemma concerning BiH police participation in UN

Regarding a call for the participation of BiH entity police officers in UN police missions, BiH Federation Interior Minister spokesperson Nazif Dinarevic stated that the ministry had received around 100 applications to-date and that 63 of the 100 applications were forwarded to the IPTF. Dinarevic said that of the 63 candidates, the IPTF Commissioner informed BiH Federation Interior Minister Mehmed Zilic that 51 had met their requirements. The RS has a list of 11 candidates it will propose as suitable for UN missions. It was planned that the candidate-officers would join UN police in mid-January and then go to East Timor. However, the greatest dilemma remains the symbol that BiH police officers would display on their

uniforms. Police officers will remain in same uniforms they currently wear, but on one shoulder there will be a BiH flag and, on the other, a UN logo, above which would be a small entity inscription. UN Special Representative Jacques Klein explained the issue in Banja Luka, saying that this would put the RS into the international arena. Reacting to Klein's statement, Co-chairman of the BiH Council of Ministers Haris Silajdzic said that it is contrary to the UN Charter and BiH Constitution. UN spokesperson Douglas Coffman stated that, regardless of where they are going to serve, they are going to represent BiH. TV BiH found out that preliminary testing of the candidate-police officers was supposed to be held on Thursday in Sarajevo, but did occur. The UN said that the testing was not held due to unforeseen circumstances.

03:15

BiH Liberals disappointed BiH Council of Ministers failed to harmonize Law on Council of Ministers

The BiH Liberals are disappointed with the fact that the BiH Council of Ministers have failed to reach an agreement on the Law on the BiH Council of Ministers. The Liberals consider that the problem of the Council's dysfunction lies in the personal relationships of its members. The party blame RS Prime Minister Milorad Dodik's policy as the stumbling block for failed refugee returns to Banja Luka and other towns that, "with the assistance of the IC, are intentionally maintaining the checkpoints of hard-liners in the RS."

00:28

LB0 protests against TV BiH editorial policy

The Liberal Bosniak Organization (LB0) protests against TV BiH editorial policy and considers this TV station to be under complete control of the SDA. In a letter to High Representative Wolfgang Petritsch, the LB0 states that RTV BiH has to-date not given any opposition party the opportunity to present itself to the public. Furthermore, the LB0 does not

support the OSCE decision postponing the municipal elections in Srebrenica.

00:26

Jajce Civic Forum addresses letter to IC organizations regarding intransigence of current Croat-majority municipal authorities

The Jajce Civic Forum addressed a letter to international organisations in BiH concerning the unprecedented arrogance and self-will of the current Croat authorities in this municipality. According to the letter, military police patrols raided all cafčs owned by Bosniaks on 11 December, ordering the music to be stopped and verbally abusing customers. This Civic Forum has requested SFOR, the OSCE and OHR to undertake adequate measures to sanction the persons that ordered these raids.

00:33

Eleven Serbs press charges against BiH Federation at BiH House of Human Rights

Eleven Serbs have raised charges in the BiH House for Human Rights against the BiH Federation. The Serbs had requested that their properties not be included in plans for the Glamoc military training field. The BiH House for Human Rights President Michelle Picard said that, on the basis of the charge, it has ordered the BiH Federation to stop all activities concerning the training field, especially continuing military drills, until the case is resolved.

00:34