OHR BiH TV News Summary, 17 February 1999

Attorneys of the BiH Federation and the RS gave their final statements before the Brcko Arbitration Tribunal. Federation attorneys said they clearly proved that this town should be awarded to the Federation, but also agreed that Brcko could become district. The RS negotiation team head, Sarovic said all options remain open.
2:00

Representatives of War Invalids Association, and Organisation of Families of Killed Soldiers of BiH demanded urgent resolving of their existential problems due to the lack of the law on their rights. It was concluded at the meeting that High Representative Westendorp, in accordance with his authority, should insist on adoption of the law, and should there be any obstructions during the adoption, the law should be passed by the OHR.
1:30

BiH TV made a summary on the work of Federation Parliament in the past three months. It was said that two Houses of the Parliament "managed" to appoint the Federation Government President and Co-president, confirm appointments of the Government, and decide on provisional financing of the Federation until March this year. As for laws, the Parliament adopted the changes of the Law on Privatisation of Enterprises, and debts toward citizens. The Law on Rights of Veterans and their Families was not adopted, as well as the Law on Employment, and the Law on Economy Societies.
2:00

Negotiations in Rambouillet are in critical finishing stage. No progress was made and the international mediators are

increasing the pressure on the negotiating sides in order to sign the agreement on the future of Kosovo by Saturday, as scheduled. The Standing NATO Council adopted the operative plan of probable international forces for peace keeping in Kosovo called KFOR.
2:00

Government of Bosna/Podrinje Canton was established after four months. CDU BiH Coalition representatives voted for approval of appointment of Government President and 12 ministers, while representatives of four opposition parties were against.
1:30

Zepce Municipality Council held a session today. Main issues on the agenda were Mato Zovko's resignation, and letter of the CDU BiH Coalition club representatives about situation in this municipality. CDU Coalition delegates insisted that the issue of functioning of joint administration should be discussed prior to discussion on Municipality Governor's resignation, while the HDZ Club representatives demanded the resignation issue to be discussed first. After the CDU BiH Coalition proposal won majority of votes, the HDZ delegates left the session. Participants of the discussion finally concluded that Zepce needs international supervisor and that the High Representative will be kept up to date with the latest information from the municipality.
1:30

Federation President Andric-Luzanski met with Jajce municipality authorities, discussing the issues of return to this municipality.
1:00

About 40 Serb displaced persons visited Bugojno today. The visit was organised by UNHCR, and aims to intensify activities on return of displaced Serbs from Bugojno in this year. RTV BiH brought interviews with three of returnees who said they were not sure whether they would return, or did not want to

declare about it.
1:30

Mostar Major Prskalo met with OHR South head, Ellerkmann, discussing the issues of Croat returns to East Mostar. After the meeting, Prskalo said that there is readiness among Croats to return to their pre-war homes under condition that Bosniak side fulfils all regulations of the Mostar Return Agreement. Ellerkmann did not want to comment results of today's meeting.
1:30

OSCE Ambassador Barry met with RS political Parties representatives in Banja Luka, discussing the issues of electoral law.
1:00