

OHR BiH TV News Summary, 19 April 1998

In an announcement it was said that the Orthodox in the whole world and in BiH are celebrating their important holiday – Easter. (More later)

Ravno in Brcko – Kresimir Zubak, BiH Presidency Member attended the opening of a new veterinary station, a bank and a hall for cultural and sports events in the municipality Ravno. In such a celebratory occasion questions of the future as well as a status of Brcko could not be avoided.

1:30

Drvar – Two high level Federal delegations paid a visit to Drvar today: Federation President and Deputy Ejup Ganic and Vladimir Soljic talked with OHR and IPTF representatives in order to help the situation there to calm down and to extend double way returns to go ahead. Soljic expressed his dissatisfaction about replacement in the municipal and police leadership. He also attended in HDZ meeting which discussed Drvar problems.

The Minister for Internal Affairs and his Deputy Mehmed Zilic and Jozo Leutar held talks about the investigation into the murder of two Serbs murder on 16 April, reads a Federation Ministry statement. Their talks focused also on the establishment of the joint police powers according to the Federation Forum decisions as well as the instructions from the Special UN Secretary-General's Envoy, Elisabeth Rehn. The instructions foresee inclusion of Bosniaks, Serbs and others in the Joint Police Powers, the abolition of one nation insignia from vehicles and police uniforms, placing of the Federal signs on the police caps and nomination of a Bosniak for the position of the Deputy Minister for Internal Affairs

in the Herceg-Bosnian Canton.

2:30

Sarajevo – The succession on ex FRY has been going on for six years. According to the evidence, a list of unsolved items is still very long.

1:30

Stockholm – A BiH political and economic delegation will leave tomorrow to pay an official visit to Sweden with the aim of expanding already very good economic co-operation. All members of the BiH CoM are travelling together for the first time. I wish once more to confirm that each state visit contributes to the strengthening of the international status of BiH, Haris Silajdzic told the news.

2:00

Hera-Prozor – The first 80 Bosniaks, former citizens of Hera returned to their homes. This return represents the realisation of start of the H-N canton return project in which this village has priority.

0:30 **Sarajevo** – On the occasion of the first day of the Orthodox Easter Holiday the holy liturgies were served in the Old Orthodox Church and The Holy Transfiguration Church in Sarajevo. At the end of the religious services, the Easter message of the Orthodox Patriarchate from Belgrade was read.

There follow descriptions of the Easter celebrations in other BiH towns: Zenica, Konjic, Mostar, etc. Talking of the greatness of Easter, the preachers called upon the Orthodox people to share their joy for Jesus resurrection with their nearest, as they always did. On the occasion of the Easter holiday, the Zenica SCC invited officials from the political, cultural and public life of Zenica Canton and Municipality to traditional reception.

There follow a list of those who celebrated Orthodox Easter. Among them is the BiH Association of refugees and DPs sent

their congratulations to Orthodox believers.

3:00

Banja Luka – According to RS President Biljana Plavsic' statement during Radio B92 interview, Slobodan Milosevic exercises a pressure on the new RS Government to include members of SDS and Radical party in the Cabinet. Very self-confident, Plavsic sent a negative answer to Belgrade.

1:30

Zenica – On 19 April 1993 16 Zenica citizens were killed by only one grenade. The parents, relatives, Zenica municipality delegations and parliamentary parties, as well as the Association of the civil war victims laid flowers on the monument in the central town square.

1:00

Sarajevo – The Association of Independent Citizens Circle 99 supported the initiative of the ICG about exchange of the electoral system in BiH and in this way supported also ethnic defence in the political framework. Chris Benett, the ICG analyst, in his introduction speech, presented the problem. He favoured a breakage of the ethno-centralism in the political presentation in BiH and supported building of defence mechanisms which would provoke also, the electoral, but most probably constitutional reform. He favours the electoral system from 1991.

2:00