

OHR BiH TV News Summary, 2 April 1998

Pale – Glamoc – The media featured a report on NATO drill underlining NATO's resolution to keep peace in the Balkans.

1:00

Sarajevo – Chairman of the BH Presidency Alija Izetbegovic held a meeting with HR Carlos Westendorp. The talks dwelt mainly on the return of refugees to Mostar and the implementation of electoral results in Srebrenica. A statement issued by the Office of the Chairman stated briefly that concrete measures have been agreed on.

1:30

Mostar – Mayor of Mostar Safet Orucevic and Bishop of Mostar-Duvno Ratko Pejicme held talks today. The collocutors agreed that perseverance for the truth, justice and tolerance should continue.

0:30

Sarajevo – At its session in Lukavica today, the CoM once again failed to agree on policy towards the IMF. Co-chair Haris Silajdzic explained that some ministers including Co-chair Boro Bosic took the position that liquidation of the National bank was not within the competence of the CoM. The liquidation of the National Bank is a pre-condition for institution of a convertible dinar, he added.

A set of laws related to property transactions, return of refugees, human rights and inter-entity communication have been taken off the agenda. According to Co-Chair Silajdzic, a 15-month impasse in the adoption of these laws is caused by two different interpretations of the Dayton Accord. It was concluded that some ministries within the CoM should review proposed drafts to be later submitted to the BiH Parliament.

2:30

The two Co-chairs of the CoM are to sign commercial agreement with the US Ambassador and the USAID Director securing additional US\$ 45 million for reconstruction of infrastructure and US \$ 30 million of commercial credits.

0:30

EU representatives and Prime Ministers of the two entities signed a Memorandum of Understanding related to de-mining operations . EU representatives also signed 17 contracts with NGOs to enhance the process of return.

1:00

The media featured an optimistic report from Stolac where the polled Bosniaks who recently returned to Stolac expressed enthusiasm about their return. The report underlined a positive role of SFOR in providing good security conditions for the return of Bosniaks.

1:30

Ismet Grbo, SDA Spokesman told the press conference in Sarajevo that the SDA would request HR Westendorp to dismiss the top officials in Mostar west holding them responsible for a delay and obstructions in the process of return.

1:30

President of the Republican Party Stjepan Kljubic stated that the Parliamentary Commission for Investigation was prevented from carrying out an investigation into embezzlements and tax evasion, because after six months it did not come up with documents to support Minister Cook's statement. The Republican leader opined that conditions for the September elections were not good and accused the R TV BiH as being one-party oriented. He suggested that this media house should be closed down prior to elections.

1:00