OHR BiH TV News Summary, 20 October 1999

News Headlines

- European Council delegation arrives in Sarajevo, meets with senior BiH officials to discuss BiH accession to this influential European institution
- BiH House of Representatives session adjourned after four-hour session due to lack of quorum
- BiH Council of Ministers adopts draft of 2000 budget and discusses amendments to Law on Council of Ministers
- Silajdzic comments on Tudjman's statement demanding establishment of third, Croat entity in BiH
- HDZ assesses Tudjman statement on need for third, Croat entity in BiH
- Plavsic says Tudjman, as signatory of Dayton Agreement, should engage in resolution of problems, not attempts to de-stabilize peace accords
- MBO says Tudjman statement is in function of pre-election campaign propaganda
- Prlic returns from official visit to Russia, informs BiH officials of results of talks with Russian Foreign Ministry
- Fall grain harvest in Kopaci near Gorazde prevented by Serbs – TV BiH correspondent in Gorazde
- Tuzla Cantonal Government holds session
- Sanski Most Investigating Judge concludes proceedings against former Mayor Mehmed Alagic
- Confederation of Trade Unions calls on all workers to vocalize support for upcoming 25 October protest due to their difficult social position and unfulfilled demands
- Peace Implementation Council Steering Board meets with Barry and Petritsch, Steering Board supports draft BiH permanent election law

- Libyan delegation visits BiH
- Association Brcko Citizens for Brcko sends open letter to Petritsch
- SDP supports upcoming justified workers' protest
- SNS asks RS Government to complete social aid programs to protect social categories worst hit
- Party for BiH press conference
- Del Ponte to visit countries of former Yugoslav
- World news
- Story on return of Bosniak family Selimovic to Bijeljina

News Summary

Silajdzic comments on Tudjman's statement demanding establishment of third, Croat entity in BiH

The statement by Croatian President Franjo Tudjman on the establishment of a third entity in BiH caused quite a few reactions. Co-chairman of the BiH Council of Ministers Haris Silajdzic said that the Council agreed that this was an important foreign policy issue and should be discussed by the BiH Presidency. "I think this is interference in internal BiH business and, I assume, the Croatian President has his own business and problems in Croatia, so he should stop interfering with and worrying about BiH. This is a definite violation of the Dayton Agreement and good-neighbor relations" Silajdzic said.

00:40

HDZ assesses Tudjman statement on need for third, Croat entity in BiH

The HDZ BiH said that it decisively discards positions that do not allow democratic discussions and, within them, democratic solutions. The party said it fully supported all attempts and ideas that would contribute to efforts to build BiH as a democratic and decentralized country of the three sovereign people. The HDZ said that Croatian President Franjo Tudjman's

statement is not something that should be seen as policy. The HDZ supports the Dayton Agreement, which is the main guiding light for its existence and being.

00:31

Fall grain harvest in Kopaci near Gorazde prevented by Serbs – TV BiH correspondent in Gorazde

BiH Serbs stopped Bosniak refugees from carrying out the fall harvest of their land in the Zone of Separation in Serb Gorazde, a TV BiH correspondent reported. The correspondent said, "a request by the Association of Bosniak Refugees was sent to local Serb authorities in Gorazde to allow the harvest in a timely manner. In response, the President of the Serb Gorazde Municipality, Slavko Topalovic, told them their request and intention to carry this out was forceful and illegal. In spite of this, 300 Bosniaks demanded to be allowed access to their property. Serb police in Gorazde told refugees as they were entering the town that they could not guarantee their safety. Police officers asked the Association to bear the responsibility for any possible incidents that might occur." The presence of OHR and local police prevented further incidents

01:39

Association Brcko Citizens for Brcko sends open letter to Petritsch

In an open letter, the refugee association Brcko Citizens for Brcko called on High Representative Wolfgang Petritsch to directly participate in implementation of the Brcko arbitration decision. In particular, Petritsch should lend a hand in implementing the provision dealing with refugee returns to Brcko, the letter read. The Association said that Brcko Supervisor Robert Farrand has, with his passive attitude, stalled the present situation in Brcko, which is a consequence of ethnic cleansing and genocide committed against

the Bosniak and Croat people of that town.

00:32