

OHR BiH TV News Summary, 22 march 1998

Kosovo – The Kosovo Albanians have ended their voting for the President and the Parliament. The Serb authority treats these elections not as official elections but as local polls. Three Albanian parties boycotted the elections, being of the opinion that under such dramatic circumstances in Kosovo elections should not have been carried out. The foreign diplomats estimate that these elections were a risky step

1:30

Officials in Kosovo arrested six American citizens who worked for the non governmental organisation Peace Workers and gave them 10 days imprisonment, informs Reuters, citing the announcements by the American Officials. The US citizens, among which is a women, were arrested for failure to register their presence with the local Serb police.

1:00

Sarajevo -The citizens of Srebrenica who survived the war, gathered in Sarajevo from the whole country today in order to discuss their prospects and future, return to their homes, adequate participation in the newly elected local authorities, as well as the Brcko Decision and the implementation of the electoral results in this town. In some moments, the dramatic excesses of some attendance, brought discussion to the reciprocal roll calls for responsibility. The Brcko Municipal Commissioner in exile, Abdurahman Malkic, called for this gathering in the hope that it will become an Assembly of the people from Srebrenica, Bratunac and Zepa, which will in future take place regularly. In order to address the newly constituted bodies in these towns with clear requests, the organiser of the gathering distributed information of the vacancies in the Srebrenica municipality and other places. The

gathered citizens were also asked to fill in forms related to their wish to return to the town.

Ibran Mustafic, an independent candidate demanded that the Senate discusses only the way of condemning the Brcko Arbitrage Decision and called on the Brckans not to accept a return to their homes as long as they are in the "Chetnik's territory", as he calls RS. The Srebrenica mothers, who one after the other addressed the gathering, accepted only a discussion on seeking their missing sons.

The Coalition Municipal Deputies should for the first time since the aggression and their exodus, the day after tomorrow take part in the session of the Municipal Council of Srebrenica in which is still ruled by the SDS party.

2:30

Ahmici – For the first time since their exile in 1993, a return to their homes is closer for the 530 residents of Ahmici. A political agreement opened the door for free visits and first work on the destroyed homes. A BiH TV crew was together with the Ahmici residents also for the first time in five years.

1:30

Footage of the people in Ahmici who were expressing a wish to return back to the own homes included even small children. This village is still not on the list for returns – which means it is still waiting for a donation for reconstruction. Footage of the residents speaking positively about the possibility for common life.

1:00

Sarajevo – The Sarajevo Cantonal police arrested the Serb Milomir Tepes (born 1969) charged with committing war crimes against civilians as a VRS member during the year 1992. Having seen the documentation, the Hague Tribunal Office informed the Cantonal Court and Cantonal Prosecutor's Office in Sarajevo,

that the Hague Prosecutor estimates that, according to the international standards, there is enough evidence that Milomir Tepes had committed serious violations of the human rights against civilians who did not participate in the hostilities.

1:00

Association Circle 99 organised a promotion of the book The Serb Side of the War in Sarajevo today. The book comprises 30 pieces written by 28 authors from Belgrade. They were all in various political positions in the period between 1992 and 1995. The book represents a significant scientific work of the high level ethical responsibility of the authors. It enables us to carry on investigations and to discover the basic moments of the war in ex FRY, the promotor, Prof. Gajo Sekulic said.

1:00

Follows footage of the BiH citizens who began large actions for donations in Frankfurt to help children without parents.

1:00

CoM Co-Chair Haris Silajdzic received a delegation from Kuwait which informed him of the Kuwaiti Government's decision to participate in the investments for the Iron Plant in Zenica to start production.

0:30

Budapest – At the First Innovation Olympics which ended in Budapest, the BiH representatives achieved significant success among the 40 participants.

0:30

Brcko – Acting Supervisor for Brcko, Ian McLeod announced that the Bosnian and Croatian multi-ethnic authority Officials will return to their jobs in Brcko tomorrow, after a Supplement to the Brcko Decision has been issued.

0:30

The Association for Endangered Peoples, Subsidiary for BiH will inform its Sections in Germany, Austria, Italy, South

Tyrol, Swiss and Luxembourg, about the unacceptable arrest of Mirsad Hasanovic, Director of the BiH Gas Company. These Associations will then through the Governments of their countries, demand that Hasanovic is immediately set free.

0:30