

OHR BiH TV News Summary, 24 January 1999

Calm inside the storm could describe today's situation in Kosovo, according to OSCE Mission Head, Walker and Kosovo Albanians leader, Rugova. Allocations of Serbian forces toward the borderline area with Albania were reported today.

2:00

Public discussion on BiH nations constituency at the Supreme Court in Banja Luka commenced yesterday and will continue tomorrow.

1:00

Border area between BiH and Croatia near Martinbrod is calm today, Bihac cantonal MUP said. Croatian and BiH Commission for Borderlines is supposed to hold a meeting tomorrow in Sarajevo. ' Crisis in the RS is growing, before tomorrow's session of the RS National Assembly. The National Assembly delegates are to vote on appointment of RS Designate Miljus. RS President Poplasen said that if delegates do not support Miljus, he would appoint the third candidate, but Poplasen added this would not be Dodik, saying that this would increase the crisis in the RS. Polasen also said that there are serious indications that "disorder, demolition, and breaking" might occur tomorrow during the Assembly session. Poplasen added that demonstrations are being prepared "with engagement of certain people from the state."

1:30

On the upcoming decision on Brcko, which is in 14 days, BiH TV made interviews with Brcko citizens of Serb and Bosniak nationality. All of the Serb interviewees said that Brcko should be in the RS, some of them even in a very arrogant manner (one even said that borderline marks should be put and

that there is not going to be co-existence, no matter what anybody tries), while Bosniak interviewees said Brcko should be the city of Brcko citizens, or that it should be in the Federation. BiH TV reporter Comment: "As we could see, one side supports the status quo, created by force, neglecting the pre-war national structure and attempts to preserve comfort "on other people's property", which is also shown by the example of Croat returnees to Gredice, who have many problems as they returned, and even announced that they would leave their houses in the days of Arbitration. These Bosniaks from the zone of return are together with them, asking only for justice and fairness for Brcko."

2:30

CoM Co-chairman Silajdzic commented on the upcoming Brcko session and said that Brcko will remain priority number one, in every sense, political, economic, cultural or educational.

1:00

26.000 Bosniaks and Croats, currently residing in the BiH Federation applied for return to Banja Luka. 429 houses were registered for reconstruction, and the Una/Sana Canton authorities said that they would do their utmost to help Banja Luka citizens to return to their town.

2:00