OHR BiH TV News Summary, 26 November 1998

The constitutive session of the BiH Parliament House of Representatives began today with the presence of the BiH Presidency members, BiH CoM, and the International Community representatives. the session was finished without reached agreement on election of candidates for the chairmen of HoR. It was decided to continue the session next week.

1:30

German Defence Minister Sharping visited BiH, meeting with BiH Presidency members and HR Westendorp, and discussing the current issues in the <u>DPA</u> implementation.

1:30

BiH TV interviewed Mirza Hajric and BiH FA Minister Prlic, regarding Westendorp's statement that BiH might become a member of the European Union in the next six months. Hajric said that Westendorp went a step further, and before the Madrid conference, sent another signal to participating countries that they should open the door of the European Union for BiH. Prlic said it is unreal to talk about membership in the European Union and that BiH is still, probably decades, distant from this point, but this period can be shorter if we in BiH fulfill the tasks we are expected to fulfil.

2:00

The Hague Tribunal severely reacted to BiH Presidency member Jelavic's statement, which, among other things, accused the ICTY for trying to impose the mortgage of collective guilt to Croats, for crimes committed during the war. The ICTY said that such accusations can show that Mr. Jelavic does not understand the basic concept and the meaning for which the ICTY was established.

BiH CoM held a session today and made decision on establishing a working group whose aim is to determine reasons for not issuing of passports in BiH diplomatic and consular offices abroad. Albijanic said that the BiH Foreign Ministry is responsible for this.

1:00

The RS Missing Persons Committee commenced exhumations in Sarajevo cemetery "Lav". RS MPC President Rosic said that it is supposed that about 150-200 persons will be found in this cemetery, who were killed from 1992-1995. OHR spokesperson Stiglmeyer, who was also present at the exhumation site, could not confirm whether this was a mass grave or not, and expressed gratitude to Sarajevo authorities and citizens for enabling this exhumation to take place. In a phone conversation this afternoon, Stiglmeyer said that about 10 bodies were exhumed today.

1:30

Exhumation of the first mass grave in Nevesinje at the Zdrijelo locality commenced today, led by the State Experts Team for Missing Persons. President of the MPC Masovic said that approximately 8-18 bodies are expected to be found.

1:00

Reconstruction of the Sarajevo settlement "Stup" was finished today. 167 residents received keys to their houses, and the project was supported by the European Commission.

1:00

At today's press conference of international organisations held in Mostar, <u>SFOR</u> representative Grandeau said that <u>SFOR</u> has strengthened road controls on approaches to Stolac and Capljina, due to numerous incidents that occurred in these municipalities.

1:00