OHR BiH TV News Summary, 31 July 1998

An explosion occurred this morning in Travnik. A policeman Ante Valjan was killed in the explosion, while a boy, Muhamed Grajic was slightly injured in his apartment from broken glass. Still unidentified explosive devise went off in the moment when officer Valjan started to his car after finished shift, Minister of Interior Affairs of Central Bosnia Canton, Handzic said. Joint police forces of Canton and Travnik are conducting the investigation, as well as IPTF. Hr deputy Schumacher visited Travnik today. Original motive of Schumacher's visit was to take insight into implementation of his demand for moving out AID from the MUP building, but this morning's bomb attack came into the foreground of Schumacher's discussions with Central Bosnia Canton government President, Travnik municipality mayor, and representatives of Travnik police department. Schumacher severely condemned the new killing of Croat policeman in Travnik, and said that whoever is beside these killings must be common enemy of both Bosniaks and Croats in the city. Schumacher also called upon joint administrative authorities to act in very responsible manner, and also called upon Croat officials that the Croat policemen return to their offices. 4:00

US Special Envoy for Balkans, Gelbard visited Sarajevo, and met with BiH Presidency President Izetbegovic and Bosniak officials in the Federation. Gelbard addressed to the press and discussed the issues of events in BiH and US standpoints in regard with those events. Gelbard said that USA will strongly oppose with all mechanisms possible to all attempts of partitions of the country and revisions of <u>Dayton</u> <u>Agreement</u>. Gelbard called these ideas ridiculous and garbage. Gelbard added that those behind this idea of partition reside in Pale, and Mr. Krajisnik and Mr. Hajudkovic who is Karadzic's lawyer are the ones who have been spreading the stories that the US Government wants the partition of BiH. Gelbard said this was a lie, just as they lie about so much else. 2:30

BiH Presidency President Izetbegovic received a visit of Ambassador of Arabic Republic of Egypt to BiH, Abu-Talib. Izetbegovic thanked for Egypt assistance, while Ambassador Abu-Talib conveyed the invitation to Izetbegovic from Egypt President Mubarak to visit Egypt. 0:30

BiH Federation government held a session in Sarajevo and determined the draft Law on Banks and draft laws on enterprises and public registry. Two other main issues of the session were frauds at the customs and uncontrolled exploitation of forestry. Minister Kadic expressed the data, as said, from the first man of OHR, that damages from customs frauds are bigger than all donors conferences, which was estimated at the session as exaggerated, but it was said that figures are enormous. 2:30

Offensive of Serbian forces calmed today in Kosovo, except for the region around Albanian border. Belgrade daily "Dnevni Telegraf" said that Milosevic made a "big agreement" with the USA, to give autonomy to Kosovo within Serbia, and for return he got the green light for final conflict are registered in Kosovo, but their status and locations are uncertain. 2:00

Federation Ministry for Industry and Energetic representatives visited Odzak today. Ilija Bozic and Sulejman Hrle from BiH Trade Union were also present at the occasion. The purpose of the visit was to find out about desperate condition of economy in this town, where Bosniaks and Croats started to return jointly right after the Dayton.
2:00

Brcko MUP representatives said that four persons have been apprehended under suspicion of responsibility for murder of Almir Karic. It was said that Karic was beaten by these four persons, which caused his death. 0:30