OHR BiH TV News Summary, 4 February 1999

BiH Parliament House of Representatives confirmed appointments for CoM. The HoR also elected Neven Tomic for the CoM Vice-Chairman as well as Ministers of the CoM. Opposition bloc left the session during voting for members of BiH delegations in European institutions, considering that they also have the right to have their representatives in these delegations, according to the number of seats in the Parliament. HR Senior Deputy Hanns Schumacher said that the fact that finally the government of this country has been elected is a positive matter. Schumacher also said that this Parliament showed its capability to work constructively and positively even after yesterday's abandoning of the session by the SDS and Radicals delegates.

7:00

CoM Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, Kurtovic signed with Finnish Ambassador to BiH three contracts on donations of the Finnish Government to BiH, and the entire value of contracts is 7.6 million DEM.

1:30

Federation Government held a session in Mostar. One of the main issues of the session was the draft Law on the Radio-Television of the BiH Federation. After discussion on this issue, the draft law was addressed to the Parliament procedure. According to unofficial data from the OHR Sarajevo, Croat delegates already announced that they would not vote for this draft law in its current form. The Government also adopted the new Law on Restitution and other decisions and regulations.

2:30

Public Debate "Brcko — Mother of All Hopes" was held today in Sarajevo, where Brcko Supervisor Farrand was also one of speakers. Farrand also caused special attention of the audience during his speech about Brcko, where he said that Brcko will remain a multi-ethnic town as it was before the war, when Bosniaks were more than half of Brcko population. Farrand also said that decision of the Arbitration Tribunal for Brcko would keep Bosnia on the right way to permanent peace.

2:00

Seven new victims in Kosovo — five Albanians and two Serbians. Fighting also continued in north regions of Kosovo. UN Secretary general Annan called the both sides from the Kosovo conflict to participate in negotiations. US Defence Minister Cohen said that should the agreement on Kosovo be reached, US troops would be sent to Kosovo to provide assistance for the NATO troops in supervising the agreement implementation.

2:00

180 Bosniaks in the Prijedor area are to be employed in the joint police forces during this and the next year.
1:00

Yesterday's appointment of Petar Djokic for the RS designate caused lot of reaction in the RS. Petar Djokic himself reacted to this decision of the RS President Poplasen, saying that Polasen did not have Djokic's approval to appoint him for the designate. The "Sloga" Coalition reacted, saying that Poplasen did not respect the democratic principles to hold consultations with all Assembly parties. The SDA spokesman Jahic said that the CDU Coalition would not support Petar Djokic for the RS Designate if he has intentions to return the SDS and Radicals to the RS Government.

2:00