OHR BiH TV News Summary, 5 February 2000

News Headlines

- Live interview with Mesic and Budisa on TV BiH
- Barry very explicit, April local elections to be held
- Silajdzic assesses holding of April elections in current situation one more mistake
- SDP continues regular preparations for elections – Lagumdzija meets local SDP branch members to discuss upcoming elections
- Tomic denies he and Prlic will leave HDZ to form own party, adding they will concentrate on democratization of party
- GDS press conference
- HNV holds to its concept of BiH cantonization
- Djokic says SPRS main board will support Tihomir Gligoric and Dragutin Ilic, who were recently dismissed by Dodik
- DNZ believes election of new Una-Sana governor represents beginning of the end of national party rule and signal that opposition ready to take over and lead BiH citizens out of darkness
- BPS assesses draft national holidays law, submitted to Parliament by Tokic and Divkovic, as unacceptable
- BiH Democratic Party press conference
- 2000 is key year for privatization process – Bicakcic during meeting with Graham Hand
- Confederation of Independent Trade Unions demands RS authorities extend deadline for privatization registration for workers/refugees
- Vujanovic says Montenegro will extradite war criminals Veselin 'Batko' Vlahovic and Nebojsa Ranisavljevic if The Hague requests it

- Sarajevo Canton delegation pays respects to all victims of Markale market massacre, denotes massacre's seventh anniversary
- Banja Luka Bishop Franjo Komarica guest of Council of Bosniak Intellectuals (VKBI), speaks of sincere reconciliation
- World news report
- Certain Tuzla Canton companies did not prepare documentation necessary for privatization process
- Interview with Bicakcic on current political issues
- Culture
- Architect Amir Pasic runs Mostar revitalization and Old Town and Old Bridge reconstruction
- IMC informs all media in BiH that election silence period for Croatian presidential elections begins on 5 February at midnight
- Report on juvenile delinquency in Sarajevo area
- Weather

News Summary

Live interview with Mesic and Budisa on TV BiH

The TV BiH news anchorman interviewed Croatian presidential candidates Stjepan Mesic and Drazen Budisa. They were asked to explain their recent statement that BiH Croats will not be able to vote in Croatian elections in the future. Mesic stated that BiH Croats are BiH citizens, not Croatian refugees. Budisa expressed hope that an agreement on dual citizenship will be reached by the year 2003, assuming that the agreement will deny BiH Croats the right to vote (in Croatian elections). Budisa believes that Croats from BiH should maintain dual citizenship. The TV BiH anchorman asked what they would do to convince the Croatian Parliament to include Bosniaks and Slovenes in the Croatian Constitution as national minorities. Mesic stated that it would be difficult for him to do that, although he would initiate the issue. Budisa stated that the six opposition parties that are now the authorities

in Croatia included Bosniaks and Slovenes in the draft election law and would return them to the Croatian Constitution. Both candidates said they believed that they would win the presidential elections in Croatia.

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