OHR RTRS News Summary, 14 January 2000

News Headlines

- Orthodox New Year celebrations in Banja Luka, Srpsko Sarajevo, Bijeljina, Prijedor, Trebinje, RS Army barracks in Bileca and Brcko
- New Year serves held in all Serb Orthodox churches
- Foreign Ministers of US, UK, Italy, Germany and France ready to help Serbia and people in Serbia, they say that Milosevic regime responsible for isolation of Yugoslavia
- 15,000 celebrate Orthodox New Year in Podgorica
- 15,000 celebrate Orthodox New Year in Belgrade
- Serb Patriarch Pavle officiates at liturgy in Belgrade church
- Year 2000 turning-point in BiH history – Barry
- Petritsch chairs session of BiH Commission for Public Corporations attended by Dodik, Bicakcic, Covic and World Bank envoys; they discuss necessity of establishing public corporations in BiH
- BiH Federation Banking Agency revokes BH Banka dd operating license
- BiH Federation Government starts initiative to lift embargo on import of weapons
- Croatian electric power company rejects claim of BiH power company that it did not allow transport of electric energy across Croatia to Slovenia
- BiH Federation Ombudsmen's Office in Zenica realizes 60% of 1,703 cases of human rights violations
- Kosovo Serbs hold protest rally in northern Kosovska Mitrovica because of Kouchner decision appointing Justice Ministry employees
- Russian KFOR soldier dies after attempting to repair power network – KFOR

- KFOR prevents conflict between Kosovo Serbs and Albanians in Ranilug
- Forty-three officers of Kosovo Protection Corps take oath – UNMIK Spokesperson Nadja Johns
- Kosovo Party of Democratic Progress President Thaci states that the best period for Kosovo elections in September
- IC must immediately fulfill obligations in protection of human rights in Kosovo – Amnesty International
- Fifteen Kosovo Albanians released from prisons in Serbia – ICRC Pristina Office
- Yugoslavia needs radical democratic change – OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Permanent Council
- SPO President Vuk Draskovic raises charges against Yugoslav Information Minister Goran Matic because he said Draskovic cooperating with French Intelligence Service
- ICTY judgment on five BiH Croats – BETA
- Dusan Tadic defense team requests ICTY Appeals Chamber to reduce Tadic sentence
- Romano Prodi to meet with Racan and Pavletic in Zagreb and welcomes arrival of democratic change in Croatia
- Yugoslavia and BiH have not given consent for holding of Croatian presidential elections on their territory
- World news
- Air Srpska cancels route Banja Luka-Belgrade due to commercial reasons
- Sports
- Weather
- RS will emerge from political crisis during this election year – Sarovic
- BiH can only be democratic if people living in BiH want that – US Ambassador to BiH Thomas Miller
- BiH Federation Interior Minister Mehmed Zilic delivers report on assassination Deputy Interior Minister Jozo Leutar to public prosecutor
- BiH HDZ Presidency holds session in Mostar, gives

warning in regard to non-implementation of special relations agreement between BiH Federation and Croatia
- Tuzla Mayor Beslagic requests Tuzla and BiH Federation Governments to close Tuzla salt mine
- 10,000 Moslems hold protest rally in Prizren, Kosovo
- KFOR uses helicopters to protect three Nis Express buses on route Nis-Gracanica
- Schools in Kosovo do not work because of electric energy shortages
- Montenegro could be new crisis area – US Defense Ministry
- Romano Prodi meets with Pavletic, Granic and Racan
- Branimir Glavas resigns duties in HDZ and is now only party member
- Coordinator of Stability Pact for Southeast Europe hold session in Athens

News Summary

ICTY judgment on five BiH Croats – BETA

The ICTY issued its judgment on five Croats who were indicted of the murders of Moslems in village of Ahmici, handing down sentences ranging from six to 25 years imprisonment. The sixth defendant, Dragan Papic, was released due to lack of conclusive evidence. Zoran Kupreskic was sentenced to ten years, his brother Mirjan Kupreskic to eight and Vlatko Kupreskic to six for aiding and abetting in the commission of the this crime. Drago Josipovic was sentenced to 15 years for persecution and murder. Vladimir Santic received the stiffest sentence, 25 years in prison. According to evidence the judge presented, Santic was the commander of military police and Special Forces unit Jokers that participated in the Ahmici operation.

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Yugoslavia and BiH have not given consent for holding of

Croatian presidential elections on their territory

Yugoslavia and BiH have not as yet consented to allow voting on their territories for the upcoming Croatian presidential election. In according to the Croatian State Election Commission, Croatian citizens in foreign countries will vote for presidential election in 29 countries. Besides Yugoslavia and BiH, the Commission is awaiting consent from the U.S. and Italy. Commission President Marijan Ramuscak said that the deadline for consent is 18 January at midnight.

00:31