

OHR RTRS News Summary, 17 February 2000

News Headlines

- Radisic meets separately with Bildt and Adams
- RS Army HQ holds session in Bijeljina
- Frowick holds press conference in Banja Luka
- Deadline for RS privatization registration extended until 21 March – RS Government
- OHR welcomes RS Government decision to extend deadline for privatization registration – Stiglmayer
- RS Government fully supports action to suspend black market – RS Trade and Tourism Minister Kragulj
- RS market well supplied – Kragulj
- Dodik meets with Brcko Board for Protection of Serb National Interests
- ERBD grants development and reconstruction credit to railways in RS and BiH worth 40 million euros
- SPRS to make final decision whether its ministers will leave RS Government or not
- SRS will only support SRS representatives and those in BiH common institutions with same position as SRS – SRS General Secretary Tadic
- CD Coalition and SDP BiH refusal to adopt election law should receive same IC reaction as Serb refusal of BiH Border Service Law – RS Democratic Patriotic Party
- RS Interior Ministry holds session
- [OSCE](#) and OHR will not work on BiH election law any further and will not impose it – Barry tells ONASA
- International organizations hold press conference in Sarajevo
- RS and BiH Federation defense ministries meet to discuss return of military apartments
- Serbs must be equal in BiH Federation as other people in

BiH Federation BiH are – Christian Schwartz-Schilling

- One person dies and one injured in explosion in Bascarsija, Sarajevo – BETA
- IMC closes down TV Erotel
- TV Erotel has been working illegally for some time now – Haselock
- Decision of BiH PBS Establishing Board unfounded – SDA BiH
- BiH Federation House of People decide that BiH Federation Supreme Court should be composed of 27 justices
- Central Bosnia Croats should acknowledge their crime against Bosniaks in Ahmici – Mesic
- New Drvar executive authority not functioning – Head of Drvar Association of Serb Returnees Mile Marceta
- Entry of Serbs into Kosovo Interim Administration vital to resolution of Kosovo crisis – Bildt
- Situation in Kosovo still tense – Robertson
- 3,000 Albanian students protest against division of Kosovska Mitrovica – Agence France Presse
- Larger number of [UN](#) police officers should be sent to Kosovo – [UN](#) Security Council member
- Greek Foreign Ministry concerned over situation in Kosovo and condemns terrorist attacks on Serbs in Kosovska Mitrovica
- KFOR reports bombings of two Serb houses in Kosovska Mitrovica
- Milosevic re-elected SPS President during fourth SPS Congress in Belgrade
- Izetbegovic, Mihajlovic and Prlic to participate in Mesic presidential inauguration
- Alliance for Change representatives Djindjic and Batic to participate in Mesic inauguration
- Representatives of 54 countries confirm participation at Mesic inauguration in Zagreb
- World News
- RS Education Ministry holds press conference on its

activities in 1999 and plans for 2000

- Weather
- RS refuses to be victim of Belgrade regime – Dodik
- Montenegrin and Albanian governments agree to open three border crossings between their countries
- French library Victor Hugo opens in Banja Luka
- Sports

News Summary

Radisic meets separately with Bildt and Adams

BiH Presidency member Zivko Radisic met separately with [UN](#) Special Envoy Carl Bildt and [SFOR](#) Commander General Ronald Adams in Banja Luka to discuss the present political situation in the region. Bildt stated that the “failure of the BiH Parliamentary Assembly to adopt the election law is a very serious issue and brings into question the credibility of all those who took part in it.” He added that steps towards correcting that mistake could be taken very shortly. He expressed concern that the chaotic situation in Yugoslavia could be spill over into BiH. Bildt accused Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic of privatizing all state institutions that are chasing Montenegro out of the Yugoslav federation. Radisic said professionalizing institutions that deal with corruption is very important. Bildt said that the RS couldn’t be satisfied with level of the fight against corruption going on in that BiH entity. Adams assessed that good progress in the demilitarization of Brcko had been achieved. According to an announcement issued by Radisic’s office, they also discussed the functioning of the BiH common institutions as well as constitutional and legal RS institutions.

01:46

Frowick holds press conference in Banja Luka

US Special Envoy for [Dayton Agreement](#) Implementation Robert Frowick held a press conference in Banja Luka. Frowick spoke

of his one-day visit to Banja Luka and meetings with SNS President Biljana Plavsic and other political leaders. He said he also planned to visit RS Prime Minister Milorad Dodik. Frowick said that the US supports the implementation of the [Dayton Agreement](#) and that requests for the peace agreement's revision would not change it. He explained the situation in the RS before the local and general elections, saying it had two sides. On one side, according to him, there is rising hope and expectation. While on the other, there are certain fears.

In certain cases, political forces that may want to continue with the old ways instill those fears. Frowick said that the US is confident that the people will choose the path of hope and progress. He invited the BiH House of Representatives to adopt the BiH draft permanent election law because it is vital for BiH to join the Council of Europe. As a good example of change, he quoted presidential and parliamentary elections in Croatia. He added that during his visit to Croatia, the election winners were very interested in renewing pre-war cooperation with and investment in the Banja Luka Municipality. In his opinion, opposite to Croatia is the Milosevic regime that wants to maintain the region's destabilization.

01:55

IMC closes down TV Erotel

The IMC issued an announcement stating that it had suspended TV Erotel broadcasting in an action carried out on Mount Mikuljaca. A team of IMC engineers performed the action with a security presence provided by [SFOR](#) and in the presence TV Erotel technicians. This action, reads the announcement, creates conditions necessary for providing frequencies for the work of BiH Federation TV and completion of a plan on managing frequencies in BiH. This is the first time during the 18 months of the IMC's work that it had to physically realize a decision on banning the broadcast of a radio and TV station.

00:44

Decision of BiH PBS Establishing Board unfounded – SDA BiH

According to ONASA, SDA Vice-president Edhem Bicakcic stated that the decision of the BiH PBS Establishing Board on replacing the TV BiH General Director is unfounded. His mandate in office should end when an agent for the transfer of property assumes his duties. Bicakcic added that such an act opposes OHR decisions. Those decisions include the establishment of the BiH Federation TV, the suspension of TV Erotel and property sharing between the BiH Federation TV and TV BiH, concluded Bicakcic.

00:35