OHR RTRS News Summary, 19 February 2000

News Headlines

- SPRS Main Board session still not finished
- Dodik visits Germany and meets with German businessmen to discuss cooperation with RS
- Petritsch meets with UK Foreign Minister Robin Cook and UK State Secretary for Renewal and Development Claire Short in London
- Security situation in RS more favorable – RS Interior Minister Sredoja Novic
- BiH Central Bank Head Peter Nicole signs agreement with three Czech commercial banks on exchange of KM
- RS Journalist Association Managerial Board press release
- RS justice on BiH Constitutional Court Vitomir Popovic leaves session of BiH Constitutional Court
- Inter-religious Council of BiH on return of refugees
- HRTV Mostar reaction to Erotel closure
- HDZ BiH reaction to Erotel closure
- Third Assembly of Croatian National Council of BiH holds meeting in Sarajevo
- Association of Refugees from Drvar Head Mile Marceta on problems with return of Serbs to Drvar
- Simon Haselock gives interview to Sarajevo newspaper Vecernje Novine, says BiH politicians want to have influence in electronic media
- TV BiH General Director Mirsad Purivatra reaction
- Two Serbs dead in Gornja Gusterica and one in Podujevo – KFOR spokesperson Philip Anido
- Group of 30 Kosovo Albanians attacks Serb civilian in his vehicle in Gnjilanje
- Albright visits Albania
- New Yugoslav TV stations begins to broadcast in

Montenegro without permission of Montenegrin authorities
- SDS criticizes statement of ICG Head James Lion
- RS Health Minister Zeljko Rodic on situation in Banja Luka hospital
- Economic news
- Problems with illegal work in RS
- Sports and weather
- SPRS Main Board session still not finished
- Group of 45 Kosovo Albanians released from temporary detention – UN spokesperson
- Leaders of Serbian opposition parties hold meeting in Belgrade
- EU and US to support some projects in Serbia – Alliance for Changes Coordinator Vladan Batic
- World news
- Concentration of cyanide in Danube river is serious in Bulgaria
- Sports and weather

News Summary

RS Journalist Association Managerial Board press release

The Managerial Board of the RS Journalist Association held a session in Modrica and issued a press release, which concludes that media in the RS is in a very difficult situation. Present regulations are not good for the work and development of sources of information, because they do not have any legal order in the form of rules and regulations. The Managerial Board warned the RS Information Ministry, RS Government and RS National Assembly to work responsibly and quickly to bring a law on information for the RS. The Law should be a basic act for the building of free and responsible media. The Board also warned all offices of international organizations concerned with media not to experiment and not to suggest models and solutions never seen anywhere in the world. The Board invited these organizations to cooperate with journalist associations to build a system adequate for democratic societies. The

Managerial Board invited all journalists and editorial offices to give a fair chance to all political options during the election campaign and to work professionally and impartially and, in that way, to contribute to the development of a democracy.

01:25

HRTV Mostar reaction to Erotel closure

HRTV Mostar protested against the violent interruption of the work of TV Erotel in Mostar. With the action against Erotel, a flat refusal of constitutional rights to the Croatian language was made. Director of HRTV Mostar Mate Bandur signed the press release.

00:20

TV BiH General Director Mirsad Purivatra reaction

General Director of RTV BiH Mirsad Purivatra warned that the decision of the Establishment Board of the Public Broadcast Service to introduce a Transitional Board of RTV BiH is a very risk business move. Purivatra gave an interview to Radio Sarajevo, during which, he stated that the decision can cause very serious consequences, because expected revenues can be seriously damaged and conducting the business of RTV BiH can be meet with a financial crisis.

00:27