OHR SRT Evening News Summary, 5 March 1998

President Plavsic met with a delegation of Serbs from Croatia led by Milorad Pupovac, the President of the Serb National Party (SNS) in Zagreb. The meeting discussed the status of the Serbs in Croatia, with special emphasis on the situation of Serbs in E. Slavonia.

0:30

Situation in Kosovo still remains tense. According to a statement by the Serbian Ministry of Interior, 2 police officers and 20 terrorists were killed in today's fighting. In a police action to liquidate a terrorist base, a large amount of weaponry, including hand grenades and different explosive devices, was discovered. Tanjug yesterday released an announcement denying claims by some Albanian political parties about the involvement of the FRY Army in today's police actions.

1:52

After meeting President Milosevic today, the British Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, stated that the EU and Great Britain were firmly against any terrorism and that he expected to see a political settlement to the Kosovo issue. 0:20

A representative of the Russian Foreign Office, Genadi Tarasov, stated that his country was advocating the idea of a political dialogue on the Kosovo issue.

0:13

The 7th session of the BH Parliamentary Assembly House of Representatives in Serb Sarajevo today failed to pass the draft law on the BH flag, whereas the draft law on direct foreign investments and had not even been included in the agenda. The session was addressed by a Deputy HR, Hanns Schumacher, who suggested that the session should pass the draft laws and stated that international support would cease in the coming year.

2:37

The BH Council of Ministers today decided that a proposal by the OHR regarding the organisation and the permanent seat of the Council should be finalised at the beginning of next week. The final draft law on the Council should be prepared by the 12th march deadline. The Council appointed a joint commission that will be in charge of negotiations on access of BH to the Adriatic Sea.

0:46

Elizabeth Rehn today stated in Brcko that the situation had improved in the town in comparison to last year. At a press conference there, Rehn stated that: "Whatever the final decision on the town, we need to do our job". 0:37

RS Vice -President, Dragoljub Mirjanic, today met with the Slovenian Secretary of State, Franko Juri, and stressed that the interest of the RS was to establish closer cooperation with this former Yugoslav republic. Mirjanic went on to say that the main goal of the policy pursued by the RS President was to ensure that the RS could become a full member of European institutions.

0:39

A solemn ceremony to mark the hand-over between the incoming and outgoing Chief of the RS Army General Staff is to take place tomorrow.

1:36

NATO released a statement this evening expressing their commitment to see a full implementation of the DA, and warned Croatia of its obligations assumed in the Peace Treaty.