

OHR BiH Media Round-up, 1/4/2003

CROAT RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	BH TV 1 (19,00 hrs)	FED TV (19,30 hrs)	RT RS (19,30)
Potocari burial	Potocari burial	Potocari burial	Potocari burial
Tuta and Stela	Tuta sentenced to 20 yrs	Tuta and Stela sentenced	Tuta and Stela trial
Colak on intelligence ref.	Milosevic's trial	Legija on Karadzic&Mladic	SFOR closes check points
Extradition of M. Markovic	Mubarak's statement	US troops still attacking	OHR on dismissals

Oslobodjenje	Hoping Srebrenica never happens again to anyone!; Tuta 20, Stela 18 yrs in prison; The RS losing army command; Milosevic's trial
Dnevni Avaz	Let the justice be revenge; Shocking SFOR discovery - KOS agents spied on OHR; Union - Biber calling on public to help; The Hague - Naletelic 20, Martinovic 18 yrs
Dnevni List	First 600 identified bodies buried; Tuta got 20, Stela 18 years; By his nonappearance Sarovic amnesties crime; Maric and Rupcic are hiding behind Toby Robinson!?
Vecernji List	Tuta 10 and Stela 18 years of imprisonment; Burial of Srebrenica victims; Barisa Colak - I did not know anything about the espionage affair in the RS
Slobodna Dalmacija	Ashdown removes Sarovic on Wednesday; Justice to victims - peace to survivors; Tuta 20 and Stela 18 years of imprisonment
Glas Srpski	Whilst police still searches for former commander of Red Berets - Legija offers himself to The Hague
Nezavisne Novine	Potocari near Srebrenica - 600 Bosniaks buried; Paddy Ashdown tomorrow will remove Mirko Sarovic and repeal the RS Supreme Defence Council; NN publish secret document of the RS Army: The RS Army intelligence spied on officials of US, EU and NATO; Belgrade - Legija offered information on Karadzic to The Hague
Blic	Affairs undermine RS political top; 600 Srebrenica victims buried; Mikerevic - in RS to equalise the rights of refugees to return and to stay

Potocari burial	
Message of victims' families	Dnevni Avaz special supplement 'Hoping Srebrenica never happens again to anyone' pg. 38 'They did not kill our memory' - Almedina Dautbasic spoke on behalf of victims' families. "You killed our children, our fathers, our mothers, our brothers, our husbands, and you tries to exterminate one people. But remember, you did not kill our memory."
ef. Cerić	Dnevni Avaz supplement pg. 38 'Hoping Srebrenica never happens again to anyone', Oslobodjenje pg. 5 'Let the justice be revenge' - a speech by reis Cerić. "Let sorrow become our hope. Let justice be revenge. Let mother's tear become a prayer. Hoping Srebrenica never happens again to anyone."
Ashdown	Avaz supplement pg. 39 'It is the IC's obligation to repair mistakes from the past', Oslobodjenje pg. 5 'The worst, but not the only horror' - "Now we can bid farewell to the Srebrenica victims to their final peace with dignity, honourably and with love." He also conveyed a message of the UN SG Kofi Annan (see yesterday's Round-Up)
Tihic	Avaz supplement pg. 39 'For the sake of victims, truth and justice it has to be talked about past' and Oslobodjenje pg. 4 'No innocent ones' - Sulejman Tihic, amongst other things said the following. "Why don't the RS authorities show the location of mass graves? Until when will their killers Karadzic and Mladic remain at large and why haven't they tried a single person for this crime? Why didn't the UN protect the safe haven and will anyone be held responsible for it? It is our right to ask questions, and obligations of those asked to answer them."
Ivanic	Avaz supplement pg. 40 'This represents the paying of respect to victims and should not be politicised', Oslobodjenje pg. 5 'A sad day' - a statement by Ivanic that he was there, as he announced he would be, to pay his respect to the victims. He was the only Serb politicians who attended yesterday's ceremony.

Well-organized event	Avaz pg. 2 'Not a single complaint registered' – informs the event was well organized and all praises got the address of workers and managers of the 'City cemetery' company from Visoko and Commemoration Centre in Tuzla.
AI	Oslobodjenje pg. 4 'The RS has to conduct a unbiased investigation' – the Amnesty International called on the RS authorities on Monday to conduct a thorough and impartial investigation on the violation of human rights in Srebrenica. With regard to the yesterday's burial of Srebrenica victims, Dnevni List pg. 5 'By his non-appearance Sarovic amnesties the crime' by B. Kristo – the AI press release. "The RS authorities must immediately start with the implementation of the BiH Human Rights Chamber decision with regard to the lawsuit that a group of 49 survived persons from Srebrenica filed at the beginning of the month." DL also criticise the fact that none of the RS politicians appeared at the burial yesterday including Chairman of the BiH Presidency, Mirko Sarovic, who, according to DL, perhaps spent the day thinking as to how to preserve his position in spite of the 'Orao' affair. The article says that as soon as politicians make that initial step BiH will start to function as a normal state. "Until then, the IC and its High Representative, whose moves very often show that he cares about this state more than domestic power-wielders, will keep passing crucial decisions for all of us. No matter whether we like them or not." Blic pg. 7 – on the AI's appeal.
Commentary in Oslobodjenje	Oslobodjenje pg. 2 'Missed chance' by <u>Mirko Sagolj</u> – the author thinks it's tragic that those guilty for the Srebrenica crime – Karadzic and Mladic- could have watched yesterday's burials in Srebrenica. He thinks this was an excellent opportunity for RS officials to show some remorse, but none of them felt a moral obligation to even show up. Sagolj recalls that Tihic spoke only in his name and not on behalf of the BiH presidency. Because of Sarovic of course, concludes Sagolj, but adds that Covic was not there either. Finally, the author suggests that yesterday's burial HR Ashdown missed a chance to be in the centre of the attention. "If, in his pale speech he could not announce the arresting of the worst criminal who is to blame for the tragedy, then he could have announced a decision to remove Sarovic and other Karadzic's followers and accomplices in genocide against Bosniaks. That would represent at least a symbolic satisfaction of the 'Bosnian Gernica. He did not use the chance. Srebrenica will last for a long time. And everyone will get their chance."
CRO press on yesterday's ceremony	Slobodna Dalmacija pg. 1 and 15, Vecernji List pg. 1, 2 and 3, Dnevni List pg. 1 and 3, Jutarnji List pg. 13 '600 identified bodies of Serb massacre victims buried' and Vjesnik pg. 1 and 2 – first 600 identified bodies of the Srebrenica victims were buried in Potocari yesterday. The burial was attended by 22 accredited Ambassadors in BiH, as well as, representatives of the International Community led by High Representative Paddy Ashdown.
RS media	Nezavisne Novine pg. 1 and 2, Glas Srpski pg. 3 'The truth is pre-requisite for the peace' – The Islamic Religious Head in BiH, Mustafa ef. Cerić, yesterday held a religious service for 600 identified victims from Srebrenica who were killed during the war in 1995. Twelve thousand citizens gathered in Potocari yesterday. The following officials made speeches: Sulajman Tihic, HR Paddy Ashdown, Almedina Dautbasic. Mladen Ivanic, Adil Osmanovic, Sefket Hafizovic, Mirsad Kebo and other officials also attended the funeral.
FRY media	Blic pg. 7 '600 victims buried', Vecernje Novosti pg. 9 'Reminder to all' – reported on yesterday's ceremony and excerpts of speeches by HR Ashdown, Tihic and Dautbasic.

RS Espionage Affair

KOS agents spied on OHR	<p>Avaz pg. 1 and 3 by <u>S. Numanovic</u> – an ‘exclusive’ story in today’s Avaz that reveals the RS Army intelligence 410 centre followed activities of the OHR, US embassy, NATO Alliance countries, SFOR and many other international and local officials. The information was then forwarded to the KOS in Belgrade, the RS intelligence-security agency and so-called RS Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Documents confiscated during the recent SFOR raid indicate that the RS intelligence was not acting independently, but as a part of a system that led an intelligence war against the RS citizens, Federation and its bodies in Croatia, as well as against the IC. A senior SFGOR official (no name) told the daily that the activities were conducted systematically and with the knowledge of military and political authorities. He also said the information were forwarded to civilian addresses in Banja Luka and Belgrade. Added that the RS political top would have to explain activities of the 410-intelligence centre and be held responsible politically. Blic pg. 2 ‘Connection between the OSVRS and Zemun clan? – reps of the international community in BiH have indications that members of the RS Army’s Intelligence Service (OSVRS) and KOS (Counterintelligence Service) were in contact with the Zemun clan, which is responsible for the assassination of Serbian Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic – Beta learns from a source at the OHR.</p>
RS losing control over army	<p>Oslobodjenje pg. 3 ‘The RS losing the army command’ by <u>A. Omeragic</u> – the daily finds out from a source close to the OHR that the RS would lose control over its army and the same would be put under control of the state. HR Ashdown will, claims the source, change the RS Constitution, meaning paragraphs that allows entity structures to manage the army. The source stated the RS was acting as a state, and according to their Constitution the RS has been given control over the Army while BiH gets no mention. Furthermore, HR Ashdown plans to abolish the Supreme Defence Council since they have been compromised through the ‘Orao’ affair. It is however uncertain whether the IC use the latest espionage affair to exert pressure on the RS to agree to the establishment of a joint army. The OHR is also apparently still waiting to see whether Sarovic resigns, as they have been getting mixed signals about it from the SDS. As for Ivanic, he also shares responsibility in the ‘Orao’ affair, but he might remain in the position because the IC could use his cooperation in the future.</p>
FBiH intelligence	<p>Oslobodjenje pg. 7 ‘FBiH military intelligence do not know anything’ – the daily reports that the FBiH military intelligence-security service had no information or indication of espionage activities conducted by the RS Army intelligence against the federation. A source from the FBiH intelligence told the daily that the FBiH intelligence respected the BiH Constitution as well as SFOR instructions, which prohibit the mutual spying of entity bodies.</p>
Commentary in Avaz	<p>Avaz pg. 3 ‘KOS as a vampire’ by <u>Fadil Mandal</u> – the author describes KOS as ‘a monstrous clan that gathers former and current members of the state security services on both sides of Drina, Hague indictees, corrupted politicians, and criminals of each sort’. He recalls that German and Russian authorities had a showdown with similar agencies at the end of 1980’s when they sacked notorious agents and tried them. Mandal concludes that this country missed a chance to do that and the IC remains the only hope because without their help KOS could never be defeated. “After all, HR Ashdown at the top of his priority list put the fight against organized crime in southeast Europe.”</p>
Colak	<p>Vecernji List pg. 1 and 5 – an interview with BiH Minister of Security Barisa Colak. Commenting on the ‘espionage scandal in the RS Army and ‘Orao’ affair’. He said these were the worst violations of the DPA, which showed the need to organize the intelligence service at the state level and put it under the parliamentary control. Colak says the affairs should be used by both domestic and international institutions to bring order to the intelligence and military structures in BiH by way of introducing the parliamentary control of the structures. “I expect a stronger contribution by the IC because so far there has not been strong engagement in that area or it (the IC) stood aside,” said Colak. The Minister goes on to say that he has not so far received any documentation pertaining to the espionage affair and when questioned whether there was a possibility that the Federation intelligence service is doing similar things against the RS, Colak said the possibility existed adding it was hard to prove anything without any evidence.</p>

Secret document on wire-tapping	Nezavisne Novine pg. 1 and 3 – According to an NN source close to the SFOR HQ, the RS Army Intelligence Administration performed surveillance and spied on political, diplomatic and military activities of officials from the US, NATO and EU in BiH. The secret document also discloses that RS Army spied on OHR activities against crime and corruption in Bosnia and Herzegovina. NN learnt from its source at OHR that the OHR is doing all it can to assist Serbia in completing the investigation on the assassination of the Serbian PM and also in completing fight against crime in the Balkans. As NN learnt, the SFOR confiscated 38 intelligence files from the RS Army Intelligence Administration related to the wire-tapping of SFOR.
RS Army HQ	Blic pg. 2 HQ without a comment – Head of the RS Army HQ’s Information Service, Branko Pralica, said the Army HQ did not want to comment on the alleged spying. “Everything we heard in the last few days were speculations and we will treat it as speculations until we receive an official report.”

Political Affairs	
Sarovic	Avaz pg. 3 ‘Mirko Sarovic waiting for a final decision by HR’ – BiH Presidency Chair, Mirko Sarovic, will not make any statements until the OHR made a final decision on his status. This was yesterday announced from Sarovic’s Cabinet. The BiH Presidency will continue working by the previously made schedule and so far nothing has been cancelled or changed.
HR to remove Sarovic	Nezavisne Novine pg. 1 and 3 – NN learnt from its source close to OHR that HR Paddy Ashdown tomorrow should announce a decision regarding the removal of Mirko Sarovic from the position of the Chairperson of the BiH Presidency. HR is also to repeal the RS Supreme Defence Council and pass package of reforms concerning RS Army. NN source further stresses that Mladen Ivanic will not be removed from the position. Vecernje Novosti pg. 3 ‘Ashdown replaces Sarovic?’ – FoNet report that HR Paddy Ashdown will announce at tomorrow’s press conf his decision on removing BiH Presidency’s Chairman Mirko Sarovic because of illegal weapon trade with Iraq. “It is difficult to believe that the RS political top did not know and was not directly involved in Orao’s illegal trade with Iraq and in spying of the IC by RS intelligence,” OHR Spokesman, Julian Braithwaite said, but did not want to speculate on HR’s decisions in regard to these affairs. Vecernje Novosti further reports that is still unknown who will replace Sarovic on the post of BiH Presidency Chairman – Borislav Paravac or Nebojsa Radmanovic although there is a possibility that the BiH House of Representatives will elect a new chairman. As FoNet learns from a source close to the OHR, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mladen Ivanic, will not be removed. Blic pg. 2 ‘OHR: there will be consequences’ – reports that HR Ashdown refused on Monday to comment on claims that due to the ‘Orao’ affair he would replace Mirko Sarovic and Mladen Ivanic. OHR Spokesman, Oleg Milisic, had said earlier that it would be unreal to expect there would be no consequences, announcing that reaction from the OHR might be expected soon. On Blic’s question High Representative would remove Sarovic, Ivanic, and abolish the RS Supreme Defence Council because of the alleged spying of the IC by the RS Army intelligence, OHR Spokesman Mario Brkic said ‘he was not going to speculate on future High Representative’s actions based on media report’.

SDS	Dnevni List pg. 5 'Ashdown does not have a mandate to remove elected authority reps' – SDS Spokesperson, Dusan Stojicic, said the SDS believes that HRPaddy Ashdown does not have the mandate to remove democratically elected representatives of authority although it happened before. Stojicic says that an atmosphere of lynch with an aim to remove politicians is being created, something that, according to Stojicic, is unacceptable to the SDS. "The High Representative will not succumb to this media hysteria when reaching a decision and we believe that his decision will be based on facts contained in the report on the 'Orao' affair that was submitted by the RS institutions," says Stojicic adding that sanctioning of politicians would deepen the political crisis and bring reforms into question. Glas Srpski pg. 2 'Speculations on removals' – SDS Spokesperson yesterday accused the media of 'attempting to create an atmosphere of lynch in the RS by presenting speculations related to the Orao affair'. He further stressed that the SDS opposed to personal sanctions, because 'there was no evidence on direct involvement of any of officials mentioned in public on this affair'. Vecernje Novosti pg. 3 'Hysteria from Sarajevo' – commenting on allegations that the RS Army intelligence service spied on the RS citizens, Federation, Croatia and the IC, Stojicic says that 'the impression is that this entire story has been blown out of proportion by certain political and media circles'. According to Stojicic, armies have the right to have intelligence services and to gather appropriate information.
Commentary in Oslobodjenje	Oslobodjenje pg. 2 'Evil seed' by Zijo Dizdarevic – recaps on the most recent affairs that shook the RS and BiH – 'Orao' and espionage. It leads to a conclusion that the RS is a monstrous realisation of the Greater Serbia obsession. He claims the West is to blame for it too as they recognized them as a creation made on the basis of aggression and genocide. Adds that the return of Croats and Bosniaks in being exaggerated without foundations and terror and discrimination are being minimized. "The RS all the time is getting the worst blows to RS Serbs – crazed, ashamed, humiliated and robbed by their leaders."
HDZ-Demo Christians-HNZ press conf	Avaz pg. 10 'Unhappy with the speed of the establishment of executive authority in BiH' – yesterday's press conf by HDZ-Demo Christian-HNZ Coalition. Barisa Colak, President of the Coalition Council, stated they were unhappy with the pace of the establishment of BiH authority, especially in the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton. As for the espionage affair, Colak stated that very little has been done on reform and putting military-intelligence services under the parliamentary monitoring. "It's no longer a problem of BiH, but a regional. We have to get down to working on improving professionalism of these service and putting them under control." Dnevni List pg. 4 'Establish parliamentary control over intelligence services', Slobodna Dalmacija pg. 17 'Censorship on radio waves' and Vecernji List pg. 2 'Coalition dissatisfied' – expressed dissatisfaction over the establishment of the executive BiH authority.
Anti-Terrorist Team	Avaz pg. 5 'The Anti-Terrorist Team was another one in line of Lagumdžija's deceptions' – poses a question of whether the Coordination team for Fight Against Terrorism, established on 24 of September 2001 as a reply to the US request to join the fight against terrorism, really exists. The daily claims it is impossible to get a real answer. Milan Lovric, the last Chief of the Team, said they were in a pahse of transformation. Mladen Ivanic however stated he knew nothing about it, as not a single session of the same was held so far. Adnan Terzic also knew nothing of their activities and actually said he saw no purpose in it. An insert 'A meeting att he OHR scheduled' – Lovric said they had a meeting scheduled at the OHR on Thursday to discuss the Team.
Mikerevic in Zvornik	Nezavisne Novine pg. 6 'The RS must take a clear stance towards crime' – Dragan Mikerevic, RS Prime Minister, yesterday in Zvornik expressed his full conviction that the RS security forces undertook appropriate measures, which guaranteed that tragedy akin to Serbian one would not take place in the RS.
RS NA to convene tomorrow	Glas Srpski pg. 3 'Elektroprivreda to be discussed again' – the RS NA is expected to hold the 4 th regular session on Wednesday, 2 nd April. According to the agenda proposed, MP's are to discuss and vote on the changed version of the RS Action Plan on the restructuring and privatisation of the BiH elektro-energetic system, as well as a report of the RS Chief Audit on the RS public sector and report on performance of the Commission for securities.

Maric and Rupcic hide behind the name of Toby Robinson	Dnevni List pg. 1 and 7 <u>S. Kuzman</u> – former employee of the Herzegovina Insurance, who wanted to stay anonymous because of her security and security of her family, contacted Dnevni List editorial office saying that she and a few other workers were dismissed with an explanation that it was done following a decision by Hercegovacka Bank Provisional Administrator Toby Robinson. This employee contacted Robinson's Office in order to check this information, and was told that there was no instruction by Toby Robinson to dismiss extra employees, but only to assess the welfare situation of employees. The dismissed employee of the Herzegovina Insurance said that this was just another illegal activity that was done in this company under the leadership of Herzegovina Insurance Manager, Stipe Maric, and Steering Board President Miro Rupcic.
DL editorial	Dnevni List pg. 6 'New test for Ashdown' by <u>Slavko Kukic</u> – the author tackles the issues of audits in public BiH companies and the possible removal of Chair of BiH Presidency Mirko Sarovic. With regard to the former, Kukic is not convinced the path the HR has taken, 'the labeling and executing of manager', is the right one. Kukic however does not rule out a possibility the HR does it as some sort of an intermediate phase en route to advancing the big brass. In this context, Kukic connects the 'Orao' affair to the issue of removals of big players saying the affair could be used as a broom to sweep up the smaller BiH entity. "The target is namely, no more no less, but the first man of the BiH Presidency. The issue is whether the High Representative will have the courage to pull the trigger. The other question is whether Ashdown's broom will stop on him (...) What tactic did the British Lord choose? The power of the fact or, perhaps, the logic of the national balance. Or perhaps something else."
Mostar re-organization	Dnevni List pg. 11 'Status quo in Mostar is not sustainable' – President of the Association of Refugees and Displaced Persons of BiH, Mirhunisa Zukic, sent a letter to HR Paddy Ashdown proposing to involve a representative of returnees in the Commission for Drafting of Proposals on New Mostar Organization. She also reminds in the letter that majority in Mostar's national municipalities sidelines reps of so-called minority peoples. This is also being manifested through the policy of employment in the municipal authority bodies where the structure of employees is mostly mono-ethnic. Zukic also says that over 25% of councilors in the Mostar City Council were elected through the election engineering and they were not authentic representatives of peoples they are suppose to represent.

Economic Affairs

VL on economic reforms	Vecernji List pg. 3 by <u>Zdenko Jurilj</u> 'The OHR imposes reforms should BiH politicians fail' – MPs in both state and entity parliaments have one month to adopt 50 new laws from the area of economy in order to improve the economic surrounding and attract foreign investments to BiH. In this context, should MPs fail to adopt the laws, their role would be assumed by the High Representative for BiH, claims the daily. It goes on to say that regardless of pressures exerted by the OHR to enact the laws, there are indications that some MPs in the parliaments are neglecting the economic reforms in order to protect their business lobbies, and in this context VL says that the OHR does not want to hear about these type of obstructions. VL carries an OHR Spokesperson, Kevin Sullivan, as commenting on the situation. "At this stage, the OHR is not thinking about MPs not adopting the project of economic reforms in the parliaments (...) Last week we had a meeting with MPs from all parliaments and we got an impression that they all wanted these new reformed law to come to life as soon as possible. I do not see a reason that some delegate elected by the voters does not want to strengthen economy in this country, which would open new jobs."
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Sarovic with IMF Head	Nezavisne Novine pg. 7 'Strategic orientation of the new stand-by arrangement for BiH' – Mirko Sarovic, Chairperson to the BiH Presidency, and Director Executive of the IMF for BiH, Jerren Kramers, yesterday in Sarajevo assessed that the new stand-by arrangement would be strategically oriented. The meeting also concluded that this year would be of extreme importance in the process of transition of BiH into the European integrations.
Hurtic criticizes Bulldozer	Glas Srpski pg. 4 'Driving into uncertainty' by <u>N. Zelenovic</u> – Zlatko Hurtic, Co-ordinator of the BiH Development Strategy and member of the Bulldozer Commission, expressed suspicion that measures proposed by the Bulldozer Commission might be implemented in a short time frame set by the international community. "We are of the view that majority of measures must and should be implemented, but doing that in a rather short time frame seems like a 'heave' system. And it is not in accord with our reality, because each measure proposed results in new measures." He further stressed that measures proposed by the Commission, established by HR Paddy Ashdown in November last year, might not all be good and it could happen that governments or parliaments denied their implementation for justified reasons. He further warned that many proposals made might represent 'requests of some lobbies', that want to achieve their personal interest, and accordingly destroy and violate the interests of others'. He also emphasised the establishment of the Bulldozer Commission resulted from the lack of dialogue between governments and businessmen, but also from the non-functioning of the chambers of commerce. "The Bulldozer Commission is doing a job for which chambers and newly-established associations of businessmen are in charge." As we learnt at the OHR Economic Department, not a single measure proposed has been accomplished so far, but some of these have been included into governmental or parliamentary procedures. "The proposals were made by private entrepreneurs. These were then forwarded to governments, that should amend them and give their opinion on," the daily was told at the OHR. Also, at the OHR Economic Department the word was that 'the BiH economy is not a competing economy to economy of Croatia, Macedonia, and especially Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia and other states of middle and east Europe at this point in time.'

Media Affairs	
SDS vs. RTRS	Nezavisne Novine pg. 7 'Selection of RTRS Director is secret for the SDS' – Dusan Stojicic, SDS Spokesperson, yesterday stated that the SDS possesses information that the RTRS Steering Board continued with activities aimed at selecting and appointing the new RTRS director. According to Stojicic 'the illegal Steering Board is performing these activities under the veil of secrecy'.
PBS vs. BHTV	Nezavisne Novine pg. 6 'Situation at the PBS catastrophic' – Collegial of the BH TV 1 editors expressed serious concern over the slow transformation of the RTV of BiH into the Public Service. The press release further stresses that this chaotic situation has been lasting for months and no way out of it can be seen at the moment. Avaz pg. 10 'Stepping away from an initial concept of establishing a state TV' – also reports on a press release issued by the editors who think that no one has so far considered the catastrophic situation the BHTV is currently facing. Contrary to their opinion, Drago Maric, General Director of the BHTV, thinks some of the claims in the press release are questionable.