OHR BiH Media Round-up, 2/12/2004

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on2 December 2004

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (12,00 hrs)	**RTRS** (12,00 hrs)
SFOR/EUFOR handover ceremony	RS MoI action under way in East SA
Del Ponte visiting BiH	RSNA in session
FBiH HoR to hold session	Del Ponte visiting BiH

TV news broadcast on 1 December 2004-12-02

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	**BH TV 1** (19,00 hrs)	**FED TV** (19,30 hrs)	**RT RS** (19,30)
Registry Office agreement	Campaign against HIV	Registry Office agreement	Raiffeisen vehicles robbed
HR's meeting with Ponte	RS officials on HR claims	Del Ponte on NATO	Reports vs. Dokic & Pavic
Net support for Karadzic	New RS Police Chief app.	Start of ALTHEA mission	Registry Office agreement
Del Ponte on NATO	Failed attack against Tadic	Leakey-Presidency mntg	RS officials on HR claims

Oslobodjenje	Another Carla Del Ponte warning to RS?!
Dnevni Avaz	Government seeks removal of Sefik Lojo
Dnevni List	Attempt to assassinate Boris Tadic fails
Vecernji List	Ashdown: We were hunting for Gojko Jankovic
Slobodna Dalmacija	None knows where billions of dollars from donations went to

Glas Srpske	ICTY Chief Prosecutor criticised NorthAtlantic Alliance: They did not want to arrest
Nezavisne Novine	Serbian President attacked in Belgrade : Attempted assassination against Tadic; Polcie files denunciation with Banja Luka Prosecutor's Office: Dokic and Pavic suspected of having pilfered BAM 900 thousand; Douglas McElchany: RS failure to cooperate with the Hague results from a system policy; RS Parliament: Unified police already prepared; Robbery in Ljubacevo near Banja Luka : False SFOR soldiers stole BAM 2 million

LATEST NEWS OF TODAY	
EU takes over mission to BiH from NATO	**Herceg Bosna Radio, AFP** – The European Union formally took over peacekeeping duties from NATO in BiH on Thursday, marking the start of the EU's biggest joint military operation to date. The ceremonial transfer of power from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to the 7,000-strong EU mission was attended by EU foreign policy chief **Javier Solana** and NATO head **Jaap de Hoop Scheffer** at CampButmir in Sarajevo.

RS police action to arrest a war crime indictee underway in Eastern Sarajevo	**RS Radio** – A wide-spreading action of the RS Interior Ministry is ongoing in the area of East Sarajevo, confirmed **Darko Matijasevic**, RS MoI. They are in search after one person from the public list of war crime suspects. **Radomir Pejic**, Spokesperson of the PSC East Sarajevo, confirmed that the RS police raided one house in the settlement of Mokro. The action was aimed at arresting one war crime suspect. The action completed without incidents, but the person wanted was not found in the house. Pejic also said that police compiled useful information during the raid, which would be of great assistance in further activities.
RSNA in session	**RS Radio** – Although RS NA was to resume session at 10::0 hrs, the Parliament has resumed session half an hour ago. MP's are to vote on the conclusions reached following last night's discussion on report of RS Government regarding the work of the Police Restructuring Commission. RTRS notes that police has expanded its presence in the area around RS NA building, owing to unofficial announcements regarding pensioners' protests.

PIC/War crimes processing/cooperation with ICTY

PIC session, Del Ponte to visit BiH	**Herceg Bosna Radio, BHT, FTV, Oslobodjenje** cover page, pg 3 'Another Carla Del Ponte warning to RS?!, **ONASA** – The Political Directors of the Peace Implementation Council will meet at the OHR in Sarajevo on Thursday and on Friday. Spokesperson for the OHR South **Sanela Tunovic** said at a press conference in Mostar on Wednesday that they would review the progress that has been made in BiH's reform program since the last PIC Political Directors' meeting in September. On Friday morning Chairman of the BiH Council of Ministers **Adnan Terzic** and other ministers will take part in the discussions. According to Tunovic, ICTY Chief Prosecutor **Carla del Ponte** will also brief the political directors on Friday morning. Del Ponte will also meet with High Representative to BiH **Paddy Ashdown**. On Thursday afternoon they will visit the Court of BiH, where reconstruction work on the physical infrastructure needed to start war crimes trials in the Court's Special War Crimes Chamber is ongoing. The High Representative and the ICTY's Chief Prosecutor will meet with the BiH Court 's President **Medzida Kreho** and the BiH Chief Prosecutor, **Marinko Jurcevic**. *"The BiH Court is a key element of the reform of the Rule of Law in BiH. The Court has a mandate to deal with War Crimes and the most serious organized crimes case. Completing the establishment of the Court of BiH is one of the key focus areas that the High Representative announced in his first speech to Parliament in May 2002. The BiH War Crimes Chamber plays a major role in the ICTY's mandate completion plan and is due to take on cases from the ICTY early next year,"* Tunovic said. The War Crimes Chamber Project has been developed in co-ordination with the BiH authorities, the ICTY and the OHR. A sum of 16.1 million Euros was pledged by donors in the Hague in October 2003 for physical reconstruction, start-up costs and running costs for the first two years of the Chamber's existence. Substantial additional funds will be required to continue the Chamber into the future and international donors have pledged to revisit this requirement once the Chamber had been set up. *"To make sure that this Chamber gains the benefit of years of international war crimes tribunal experience the project foresees a strong international presence during the first two years that will gradually decline during years three to five and thereafter this specialized Chamber and the corresponding department in the BiH Prosecutors Office will be fully BiH staffed institutions,"* Tunovic said. **Dnevni List**, pg 3 'Del Ponte and Ashdown at Court of BiH today'', by Danijela Kozina, **Slobodna Dalmacija**, pg 17 'Carla del Ponte visits Court of BiH', by F, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 'NATO did not want to arrest Karadzic' also announced Del Ponte's visit to BiH and her meeting with Ashdown.

Del Ponte blames NATO for failures to arrest most wanted war crime indictees in BiH	**Herceg Bosna Radio, FTV, Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 'NATO did not want to arrest Karadzic', **Oslobodjenje** pg 5, **ONASA/BBC** – The war crimes tribunal prosecutor for the former Yugoslavia says the court's most wanted man is free because Nato did not have the will to catch him. **Carla del Ponte** says Nato had enough intelligence to find all the court's most wanted men, including former Bosnian Serb leader **Radovan Karadzic**. But she told the BBC that until recently there was not the political will to do it. A spokesman for Nato said that her remarks were unfair. Del Ponte says the situation has now changed, but it is too late as Nato is leaving Bosnia. It will hand over peacekeeping duties to a new European Union force this Thursday, after nine years in Bosnia. *"You know, Nato is a strange instrument because Nato was supporting us a lot in what we have done in the field to obtain evidence, but Nato has always, always said they don't have the mandate to locate fugitives,"* Del Ponte said. Karadzic and his military chief **Ratko Mladic** have so far evaded capture, including raids by the Nato troops. Nato soldiers had a standing instruction to arrest anyone they come across during normal duties. Nato spokesman **James Appathuray** said the alliance did not shy away from the task and it shares her frustrations. *"A lot of effort has been made,"* he told the BBC. *"This is a complex situation, it is a complex country and they have become very sophisticated at hiding themselves, but that doesn't mean no-one has been trying,"* he added. **Glas Srpske** cover page story 'They did not want to arrest'; **Nezavisne Novine** pg 5 'NATO has no will to arrest war crime suspects' – *GS and NN* carry BBC report and statement of **Carla del Ponte** regarding NATO Alliance. *GS* inset 'Toy in the hands of NATO' carries the statement of **John Lockland,** the expert with the British Department of "Human Rights Watch", saying that back in 2000, **del Ponte** could have sued NATO, but instead she had established the Board to examine numerous complaints against NATO. This Board concluded there were not enough evidence to try NATO, and del Ponte refused to launch investigation. He stresses: "*I do not understand why she now claims she cannot re-open the case owing to lack of evidence. It does not make any sense. She should have launched investigation at the moment when bombs were thrown at Yugoslavia. The indictment brought at that time against **Slobodan Milosevic** served as a sort of moral justification for the assaults ongoing at that time.*"

DL on del Ponte's visit	**Dnevni List**, pg 2 'What does Chief Prosecutor bring?', by Ivica Glibusic – Commenting on announcement of arrival of the Chief ICTY Prosecutor, **Carla del Ponte**, to BiH, the author reckons it is yet another warning to BiH authorities related to failure to honour conditions, which are pre-requisites to joining the Partnership for Peace and EU. The author notes that del Ponte will most likely bring along the remaining indictments and will look into the readiness of BiH authorities to cope with the issue of war crimes trials in BiH. In the context of the latter, the author says there are speculations that some courts are already making combinations about how many people will be sentenced to long-term prison sentences and how many will be acquitted and that the national key plays an important role here too.
Oslobodjenje op-ed on Del Ponte's statement	**Oslobodjenje** pg 9 'In front of the bars' op-ed by Edin Krehic – Editorial refers to the statement by ICTY Chief Prosecutor **Carla Del Ponte** who said that NATO did not want to capture **Radovan Karadzic** due to lack of political will, author notes that BiH is a complex country, *"but also thanks to internationals who exchanged justice for Dayton's compromise. Because, at that time, there was also no political will to punish [mass] murderers and save the victims. I guess it was easier to talk about 'parties in conflict'. The IC politics since 1992 has not changed much even ten years later. Nor it could have in this world. Nor it ever will."*
Money for Karadzic being collected on Internet	**Herceg Bosna Radio, Slobodna Dalmacija** pg 8 'Money for Karadzic is being collected through Internet' by H – SD says that supporters of war criminal **Radovan Karadzic** are collecting money for his successful hiding on Internet (www.srb-obraz.org). SD also says that according to the phone number presented on their web page, the movement, which stands behind this campaign called 'Every Serb is Radovan', is located in Serbia.
Osloboodjenje commentary on RS non-cooperation with ICTY, HR pressures	**Oslobodjenje** pg 9 'Banja Luka variety show' op-ed by Gojko Beric – Editorial refers to events in RS recently – such as the decision of the RSNA not to talk about Srebrenica report, police reform and initiatives to changes Constitution, visit of Serbian Parliamentary Speaker **Predrag Markovic**, statement of **Darko Matijasevic** that RS authorities do not know about Karadzic whereabouts. Authors compares all these to the activities of the variety show, wondering until when RS will be allowed to keep books on its obstructions by adding new ones. *"[Threats] that recently came from [**Paddy**] **Ashdown** are not heard anymore. IC in BiH is the condition of confusion,… completely insensitive to the fact that local authorities constantly pull them by their noses, while everything around us falls apart. Is there end to it?"*

VL interview with HR Ashdown: RS has to prove cooperation with ICTY	**Vecernji List**, front pg splash 'Ashdown: We were hunting for Gojko Jankovic', and pg 3 'Aim of our operations was arrest of Gojko Jankovic', by Jozo Pavkovic – Carries parts of an interview with the High Representative for BiH, **Paddy Ashdown**, (full interview will be published tomorrow), in which the HR notes that a war crimes indictee, against whom the most convincing activities regarding the arrest of him were carried out, was **Gojko Jankovic** (charged with crimes against humanity in the Foca area). Talking about the operation aimed at arrest of Jankovic, HR Ashdown says: *"Gojko Jankovic was warned by members of the RS MoI several hours before his house in Foca got raided. We are convinced that he had been warned from the highest levels of the RS MoI. Jankovic felt that confident about the Police corruption that he came to Foca the following day, walked the streets in public and went to a funeral. It tells us that the Police prevents the arrest of war criminals and that the Police, as far as Foca is concerned, is corrupt to an extent that a war criminal, against whom arrest operations were carried out, walks freely down the street 12 hours later"*. In the rest of the interview, HR Ashdown notes that is only one thing between BiH and doors leading to NATO, the one thing being the cooperation with the ICTY. In that context, HR Ashdown says he is optimistic that BiH can fulfill European standards, however the HR is not optimistic regarding the RS's capability to do what's necessary to prove that the cooperation is there.
HR interview for Vecernje Novosti: I will not abolish RS	**Vecernje Novosti** pg 2 'I will not abolish RS' by Dusan Stojakovic – In a statement given to Thursday's issue of "*Vecernje novosti*",**Paddy Ashdown**, High Representative, says that in the next few weeks, he would determine what measures to undertake, noting these would depend on possible new developments in the RS regarding the RS cooperation with the ICTY. He notes that he himself and the international community do not want to abolish the RS, adding that the RS is the greatest jeopardy for itself. He says: "*If RS complies with the Dayton Peace Agreement and protects it, nobody will touch it. Otherwise, it brings itself to a jeopardy.*" He does not want to speculate onto journalists' claim that he plans to abolish SDS and RS police. He agrees with the journalists' note that the administration expenditures in the F BiH are large, adding that this issue needs to be settled. He also stresses he would not follow the example of former US Ambassador to BiH, **William Montgomery,** who stayed to live in the region after his mandate expired, adding that Great Britain is his home.
Jankovic, Zelenovic to be tried in BiH	**Oslobodjenje** pg 8 'Jankovic, Zelenovic to be tried in BiH' – ICTY Spokesman **Jim Landale** said on Wednesday Chief ICTY Prosecutor **Carla Del Ponte** had proposed that cases of **Gojko Jankovic** and **Dragan Zelenovic**, indicted for war crimes in Foca, are transferred to the BiH authorities.

Agreement on establishment of Registry Office at BiH Court signed	**Herceg Bosna Radio, BHT, FTV, RTRS, Oslobodjenje** pg 3 'Impartiality ensured', **Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 'Conditions for war crimes processing created', **Dnevni List**, pg 3 'Conditions for accepting cases from The Hague Tribunal created', by E. Mackic, **Vecernji List**, pg 2 'Independent support to Court of BiH', by Dejan Jazvic, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 3 'War crimes trials before BiH Court enabled' by A. Sisic, **ONASA** – BiH Presidency member **Sulejman Tihic** and High Representative **Paddy Ashdown** on Wednesday signed the Agreement on the establishment of the Registry Office at the BiH Court. The Agreement foresees the establishment of a Registry Office for the Department I for war crimes and Department II for organized and economic crime and corruption of the BiH Court. *"Establishment of the Registry Office will guarantee an efficient and independent judiciary, even when dealing with war crimes and organized crime,"* Tihic said, adding that the conditions for processing of war crimes by the BiH Court have hereby been created. Pursuant to the Agreement, the domestic authorities have agreed to use the services of international judges and prosecutors, which is *"necessary at this time,"* according to Tihic, as the *"BiH judiciary is unprepared to process war crimes independently."* Establishment of the rule of law in BiH is a priority in the reforms process in BiH, Ashdown said, adding that the BiH Court and State Informatio and Protection Agency are *"two key pillars"* upon which the BiH judiciary system is based. The opening of the Registry Office will increase the capacity of the BiH Court , which will be able to respond to the challenges it faces.
Ashdown supports Tihic: To establish Truth Commission at the state level	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 4 'To establish Truth Commission at the state level' by A.M. – The member of the BiH Presidency, **Sulejman Tihic**, stated that Truth Commission should be established at the state level: *"That Commission could eventually could have groups to examine mass graves, demolished religious temples, concentration camps and suffering of the local population."* Tihic further explains such Commission could also establish the exact name of victims in specific cities to avoid current guessing by some politicians. HR **Paddy Ashdown** has also agreed with the need for such Commission, adding that when he met with the UN Secretary General **Kofi Annan** he also told Ashdown that setting up the commission alike the one for Srebrenica would be extremely good move.

Cavic says RS Army not assisting war crime indictee Mladic	**BHT, FTV, RTRS, Oslobodjenje** pg 2 'RS Army does not help Mladic', **Slobodna Dalmacija** pg 16 'Mladic has not been receiving military salary for 9 years' by A. Macanovic, **Glas Srpske** pg 3 'There were no payments' – **Cavic's** statement on **Ratko Mladic's** military index-card. Also carried in **EuroBlic,** pg. RS3 'Mladic's file in SRY since 1996' by M. J., **ONASA** – Commenting on the media publication of most wanted Serb war criminal **Ratko Mladic**'s personnel file, Republika Srpska President **Dragan Cavic** said on Wednesday that no one can claim that the RS Army is assisting Mladic. Cavic said that Mladic was sacked from the RS military commander post in 1996 by former RS president and convicted war criminal **Biljana Plavsic**, which marked the end of his military status. Rejecting the irrefutable evidence that the RS is continually violating the Dayton Agreement, Cavic added that *"no one can claim that the RS Army has any unofficial contacts with any institutions."* High Representative **Paddy Ashdown** said on Tuesday that the RS authorities have, through the RS Army, violated the Dayton Agreement for seven years by keeping Mladic in their military register until the year 2002.
RS authorities persist Mladic relieved from duty back in 1996	**Vecernji List** pg 2 'Mladic was relieved of duty in 1996' by bs – The RS authorities persist in their claims that an ICTY indictee, **Ratko Mladic**, was relieved of duty of the Head of the RS Army Supreme Headquarters on November 8, 1996 and since then he has been on the list of the 30th personnel center of the Yugoslav Army, which was not under control of the RS Army or the RS authorities. **RTRS** also covered the issue.
US Ambassador says reports on Mladic's personnel military file shocking	**Oslobodjenje** pg 4 'Shocking reports on Mladic's file', **Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 'It will be a shocking news for US Government if it is proved that the allegations are correct', **Nezavisne Novine** cover and pg 5 'RS failure to cooperate with the Hague results from a system policy' by ONASA, **ONASA** – US Ambassador in BiH **Douglas McElhaney** said on Wednesday if press reports on a personnel military file of accused war criminal **Ratko Mladic** are true, then it is shocking news. *"It is a further demonstration, unfortunately, that the failure of the Republika Srpska to cooperate with the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia results from a systematic policy, in which top Republika Srpska political and military leaders play a role,"* McElhaney told Onasa. *"I support the High Representative's call on Republika Srpska authorities to investigate these disturbing reports,"* said the US Ambassador.

Cavic on possible sanctions against RS	**FTV, Nezavisne Novine** pg 5 'SDS abolishment would result in vast consequences' by **Dragan Cavic,** RS President and SDS Acting President, stated that possible sanctions against the RS would be counter-productive and would represent an undemocratic act, which would result in a political crisis in RS. He stressed that possible abolishment or ban of further work of SDS or any other political party would represent the killing of democracy. He is of the view that nobody in F BiH bears responsibility, although there are many examples of "*flagrant violations of the provisions on constitutionality of peoples and cantonal constitutions*".
Cavic on documentation on crimes against Sarajevo Serbs	**Nezavisne Novine** pg 6 'The Federation must face crimes' D. Risojevic; **Glas Srpske** pg 2 'A test of seriousness' not signed – The RS President, **Dragan Cavic**, said Wednesday in Banja Luka that finding of documentation on murders of 5,000 Serbs in Sarajevo during the war should be a support to the initiative on forming of commission, which would investigate sufferings of Serb civilians during the war. He added: "*This disclosure will show whether politicians from the Federation of BiH were ready to face the facts and conduct investigations on sufferings of Serb people in Sarajevo.*"
Tihic on documentation on crimes against Sarajevo Serbs	**Glas Srpske** pg 2 'Suspicious numbers' not signed- The BiH Presidency Chairman, **Sulejman Tihic**, is suspicious of correctness of a statement of the Head of East Sarajevo PSC **Dragomir Andan** regarding the existence of 5,000 files containing data on Serb victims of war in Sarajevo and wonders why such list was not submitted earlier.

SFOR/EUFOR	
EUFOR takes over from SFOR today	**BHT, FTV, Vecernji List** pg 2 'European soldiers concerned about stability of state' by D. Jazvic, **Slobodna Dalmacija** pg 16 'SFOR is leaving, EUFOR is coming' by F, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 3 'Scheffer and Solana to attend the ceremony' – In presence of NATO Secretary General, **Jaap de Hoop Scheffer**, and EU High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy, **Javier Solana**, a ceremony marking the end of the NATO forces' (SFOR) mission and inauguration of EUFOR and permanent NATO's Headquarters in BiH will take place in Butmir today (Thursday).

BiH Presidency welcomes EU force commander	**FTV, Oslobodjenje** pg 4 'Welcome to new EU forces in BiH', **Dnevni Avaz** pg 2 'EU forces should be as successful as SFOR', **Dnevni List**, pg 5 'SFOR being replaced by European Unions troops – EUFOR', by Z. J., **FENA** – The chairman of the BiH Presidency, **Borislav Paravac**, and Presidency members **Dragan Covic** and **Sulejman Tihic** received the first commander of the EU forces (Eufor) in BiH, General **David Leakey**, in Sarajevo on Wednesday. A statement issued by the public relations bureau of the BiH Presidency says that chairman Paravac welcomed the new EU force in Bosnia, which, according to him, also demonstrated BiH's determination to join the EU. The BiH Presidency members voiced the expectations that the Eufor mission would be equally successful as the outgoing Sfor mission and supported future activities of the EU forces in our country. General Leakey stressed that the Eufor mission would continue to support the BiH authorities in their fight against organized crime and terrorism, as well as meeting conditions for joining the EU, the statement adds. Both **Oslobodjenje** pg 3 'Good bye to SFOR, welcome to EUFOR and **Dnevni Avaz** pg 5 'Scheffer: BiH has made tremendous progress' reported on last night dinner at the BiH Presidency in regard to upcoming SFOR's handover to EUFOR also attended by NATO Secretary General **Jaap de Hoop Scheffer.**

BiH politicians on EUFOR	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 3 'EUFOR's arrival means that BiH's has become stabile', mentioned on cover, by A.M. – SFOR is to hand over its mandate to EUFOR today which will end NATO's 9 years long peacekeeping mission. Most of the BiH officials agree it is a fact that NATO forces played significant role in establishing peaceful and stabile environment in BiH. Member of the BiH Presidency, **Sulejman Tihic**, said he has all confidence in EUFOR. BiH Presidency member **Dragan Covic** stresses that SFOR played not only a big role in defence reforms, but that it also assisted to civilians especially in the severe weather conditions. BiH Defence Minister, **Nikola Radovanovic**, says that there are a number of positive things done during the NATO's mission, concluding it was successful. BiH Foreign Minister **Mladen Ivanic** believes that EUFOR's arrival is extremely positive as he believes it is a single that biH has become stabile country.

Political affairs/reforms

BiH, Entity's prime ministers sign statement on single VAT rate	**BHT, FTV, RTRS, Oslobodjenje** pg 6 'A single VAT rate of 17 percent', **Dnevni Avaz** pg 4 'Terzic, Hadzipasic and Mikerevic for a single VAT rate', **Glas Srpske** pg 2 'One rate to tax' by G.D.; **Nezavisne Novine** pg 3 'Three Governments for one VAT rate' by P.K., **ONASA** – Chairman of the BiH Council of Ministers **Adnan Terzic**, Prime Minister of the Republika Srpska (RS) **Dragan Mikerevic** and Federation of BiH Prime Minister **Ahmet Hadzipasic** signed on Wednesday in Banja Luka a joint statement on the introduction of the value-added tax and harmonized positions on consolidation of entity budgets and budgets of common bodies. The introduction of a single value-added tax rate of 17 per cent, of a zero value-added tax rate only for export, defining of a threshold for registration of 50,000 KM per year and the introduction of the value-added tax by 1 July 2005 are supported in the statement. Terzic said he expects the BiH Parliamentary House of Peoples to support this statement, which represents a statement of the BiH Coordination Board for Economic Development and European Integration, in order that delegates of this house accept a text of the law on the value-added tax proposed by the Indirect Taxation Administration and the BiH Council of Ministers.

Speculations on new RS Police Chief	**BHT** – Chief of East Sarajevo Public Security Centre **Dragomir Andan** still didn’t decide if he is going to apply for the position of new RS police chief. There have been speculations that Andan would replace **Radomir Njegus**, who had resigned on Tuesday. In his statement for BHT1, Andan said that the atmosphere in RS Ministry of Interior has improved, since it is now possible to consider arrestment of ICTY indictees, which hasn’t been the case in the past. According to Andan, RS MoI is working hard in order to arrest ICTY indictees.

RS Vice-president Osmanovic: I am shocked with nationalism of the Minister Darko Matijasevic	**Dnevni Avaz** pg 5 'I am shocked with nationalism of the Minister Darko Matijasevic', mentioned on cover, by E. Sarac – In an interview to DA, the RS Vice President, **Adil Osmanovic**, expressed his concern over the statement by the RS Interior Minister **Darko Matijasevic**, who rejected possibility for Bosniak to take up position of the RS Police Director. He said it is additional worry that nobody from OHR, EUPM or authorities in RS have reacted to this statement, further accusing Matijasevic of acting as "master of the RS": *"This statement… is nothing else but fume of nationalism against two other constituent peoples living in RS."* Osmanovic also says that the resignation by the **Radomir Njegus**, former RS Police Director, was forced and a result of political and other pressures. "*I am worried that politics has been deeply interfered with the resignation of the police officers*," concludes Osmanovic.
NN op-ed on Njegus	**Nezavisne Novine** op-ed pg 7 'Resignation' by Aleksandar Sekulic – The author is writing about the resignation of **Radomir Njegus,** noting that his resignation has opened many issues (including the issue of cooperation with the ICTY). The author is also critical of **Njegus** saying that he has had two years to demonstrate willingness to do something about arrests of war crime suspects and failed. Sekulic notes that **Njegus** would be remembered of his bad approach towards the members of the press.

RS NA on police reform	**RTRS, BHT, Nezavisne Novine** cover and pg 4 'Unified police already prepared' by V.P.-S.G. – The RS Government Wednesday evening presented the report on the police reform, saying that the work of the Police Restructuring Commission has entered a complicated phase, where the attempts to impose the prepared concept of unified force dominate. In his address to RS MP's **Dragan Mikerevic,** RS Premier, said that the future police structure in BiH must preserve RS MOI with the Minister and Police Director, who would be financed from the RS budget and would follow RS Laws. **Darko Matijasevic,** RS Interior Minister, said that the RS MoI officials at PRC did not agree with the request for entity police abolishment. **Milorad Dodik,** SNSD President, proposed that RS NA supports the members of the PRC in their efforts not to accept solutions including constitutional changes. **Glas Srpske** pg 2 'Less courts and expenses' by D. Zec – RS NA at Wednesday session adjourned 20th session with discussion on Proposed law on RS courts. **Dnevni Avaz** pg 4 'Government supports survival of Entity's Interior Ministry' also reported on the session.

SNSD on BiH Law on Pardon	**Nezavisne Novine** pg 4 'SNSD did not vote for the BiH Law on Pardon' by D.R. – The SNSD Caucus at the BiH Parliamentary Assembly addressed a letter to the High Representative to BiH, **Paddy Ashdown,** informing him that SNSD had not taken part in voting and adoption of the controversial Law on Pardon (recently annulled by HR). SNSD Caucus addressed the letter with the attachment proving this claim.

Legal proceedings/judiciary/terrorism/crime

Dnevni Avaz: Government seeks removal of Sefik Lojo	**Dnevni Avaz** cover splash 'Government seeks removal of Sefik Lojo', pg 4 'FBiH Government will seek the removal of Lojo from the position of FDS director' by A. Hadziarapovic – FBiH Government will seek the removal of **Sefik Lojo** from the position of the Director of the Sarajevo Tobacco Factory [FDS] through its authorized representatives in the company's supervisory board and assembly of shareholders. The reason for such decision is the first instance verdict of the council of the Sarajevo Cantonal Court which sentenced Lojo to two years of imprisonment due to office misuse. FBiH Prime Minsiter, **Ahmet Hadzipasic**, stated that Lojo's removal is necessary, especially having in mind that FDS is very profitable company in majority ownership of the state, nonetheless Lojo manages it with 60% of shares. **Oslobodjenje** pg 7 "I am disturbing those wanting to enter Factory and sell it", mentioned on cover, by R.I. – Sefik Lojo states for daily that he is not surprised with the media attack against him, adding that FDS works very well without debts and wondering why would he be removed. Asked by daily what is the reason for attacks against him, Lojoc said this has been repeating since privatization of FDS concluding he is a disturbance to all those who want to enter the Factory it and sell it.

Denunciations against Dokic and Pavic	**RTRS, Nezavisne Novine** cover and pg 2 'Dokic and Pavic suspected of having pilfered BAM 900 thousand' by Sn. K.; **EuroBlic,** pg. RS3 'They were suspected of abuse of office' by N. B. – PSC Banja Luka filed a denunciation with Banja Luka District Prosecutor's Office against two former RS Ministers of Transport and Communications **Branko Dokic and Marko Pavic.** They are suspected of office abuse and damaging of the RS budget for BAM 198,521. They also damaged the budget of BiH Ministry of Civil Affairs and Communications for BAM 707,432. Denunciation ahs also been filed against an independent financial consultant with initials V.J., also charged for the same offence.
Prce's lawyer unhappy with written verdict against his client	**Dnevni List**, pg 5 'Will Prce be charged on 21 accounts of indictment?', by Arijana Beus – The Court of BiH's Appeals Council will be holding a session today (Thursday) to discuss an appeal submitted by **Miroslav Prce's** lawyer **Zarko Bulic**. Since Prce cut a deal with the BiH Prosecution, which resulted in Prce admitting charges on 5 accounts, Bulic originally requested the Court of BiH to acquit his client of the remaining 21 accounts, to which the Court of BiH agreed. However, Bulic notes that the verdict i.e. the Court of BiH failed to verify that in writing, which could have consequences on his client in the future.

Judges, prosecutors on HR's initiative to reduce their salaries	**Oslobodjenje** pg 6 'Nobody asks justices and prosecutors', mentioned on cover, by A. Nezirovic – Following announcement of the HR **Paddy Ashdown** that he will soon discuss decrease of salaries of justice and prosecutors with the BiH High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council, daily brings reactions for several justices and prosecutors on this. State Prosecutor **Jasmina Gafic** says she still doesn't know what to think as decision has still not been past. Sarajevo Cantonal Court Justice **Hilmo Vucinic** says nobody asks them when salaries are either increased or decreased. Chair of the FBiH Justice Association, **Aleksandra Martinovic**, says that justices should have been a part of this decisions, alike any other within judicial reforms.

Mektic says 7 terrorist suspects being monitored in BiH	**Dnevni List**, pg 7 'International search after seven BiH citizens', by Arijana Beus, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 3 'Movements of seven persons suspected of terrorism monitored' by M.C. – **Dragan Mektic**, Deputy Minister of Security in the BiH Council of Ministers, stated that movements of seven Afro-Asian terrorist suspects were being monitored in Bosnia and Herzegovina. *"An investigation has confirmed that the names of these persons are on lists compiled by Police from European and other states and that they are linked to terrorist organizations. They were granted BiH citizenship by the FBiH Interior Ministry in very suspicious circumstances,"* Mektic said. According to Mektic, the suspects have entered Bosnia-Hercegovina only occasionally and so far they have spent only seven days on its territory. Mektic also noted that to date the work of 10 international aid organizations had been banned in BiH because they had supported terrorist networks in the world and that KM 30.000.000 in their accounts had been frozen. This leads DL to say that by saying this, Mektic denies earlier statements of senior officials involved in these issues, who stated, according to their knowledge, that there no activities of terrorist organizations in BiH.

Reiffeisen bank's vehicle robbed	**RTRS, Dnevni List**, pg 50 'Reiffeisen Bank's money robbed', not signed, **Nezavisne Novine** cover and pg 2 'False SFOR soldiers stole BAM 2 million' by S.G.-Sn.K. – In the settlement of Ljubacevo near Banja Luka, the five persons camouflaged as SFOR soldiers on Wednesday intercepted the vehicle of *Reiffeisen Bank,* which was transporting the money from Banja Luka to Sarajevo, and stole BAM 2 million. Banja Luka police confirmed that three employees of "Alarm Best" Agency and "CIPOS 007" were transporting the money in armoured vehicle. Police investigation is ongoing, according to **Rade Mutic,** Spokesperson of Banja Luka PSC, who also said that there are some indications the vehicle used for hijack was located.

Miscellaneous

SD: BiH CoM not interested in control of donations to BiH	**Slobodna Dalmacija** front pg splash and pg 17 'None knows where billions of dollars from donations went to' by Z. Tulic – SD wonders as to why the BiH Council of Ministers refused to carry out control of donations that BiH has been receiving for years. The article goes on to say that domestic economic experts believe that donations that BiH has received amount from 5 to 9 billion US dollars. SD also says that some people believe that the BiH CoM is not interested in the aforementioned control because of the pressure exerted by the International Community, whose individuals also participated in spending money from the donations.
RS got loan for construction of Gradiska-Doboj highway	**EuroBlic,** cover 'RS got a loan for a highway in the amount of 31,4 million €' and pg. RS2 'Another 31,4 million € for highway' by T. Veselinovic – RS President **Dragan Cavic** and a representative of the EBRD, **Rikardo Pulitti (sp)**, on Wednesday signed an agreement on a loan amounting 31,4 million € for the construction of Gradiska – Doboj highway.