

OHR BiH Media Round-up, 22/6/2004

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	BH TV 1 (19,00 hrs)	FED TV (19,30 hrs)	RT RS (19,30)
Njegus on Karadzic, Mladic	Njegus on Karadzic, Mladic	Audit of Foreign Ministry	Njegus: Mistic's suspension
Lozancic visits Tuzla	Sandici exhumation ended	Exhumation in Sandici	Names of war criminals
Wnendt in Mostar, Capljina	Old bridge – security issue	Srebrenica Commission	BiH charges against SCG
Ian Cliff statement	Srebrenica Commission	Statements by Njegus	Finished excavation

Oslobodjenje	12.000 'went missing' in Srebrenica?!; Mladic and Karadzic are not in RS; Lawsuit against Dutch Government ready
Dnevni Avaz	Bahton and Alagic deny terrorism; Karadzic is in RS territory; Army will have nothing more to eat
Dnevni List	OHR does not allow change of Mostar Statute
Glas Srpske	Open letter of the most senior officials of RS to High Representative: Dayton by road, lawsuit by side-roads
Nezavisne Novine	Radomir Njegus on suspensions: PSC Chief protected Mistic; Michael Humphreys: BiH authorities irresponsibly waste citizens' money
Blic	Police was moving house of Ivan Tomljenovic; Minister Radovanovic: BiH has chances for the Partnership; Strict control of state firms in RS

War crimes

<p>Njegus: Karadzic and Mladic not in RS; RS MoI did not hide war-time archive</p>	<p>RHB, FTV, BHTV 1, Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Karadzic and Mladic not in RS for long time', Oslobodjenje pg 3 'Karadzic and Mladic are not in RS', mentioned on cover', by Fena, Glas Srpske pg 3 'Suspensions in imagination', Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'Some Hague indictees occasionally come to RS', Blic, pg. RS2 'Policemen were moving house of RS Deputy President', mentioned on cover 'Police was moving house of Ivan Tomljenovic', by <u>Nedeljka Breberina</u> – At the press conference held in Banja Luka on Monday, the RS Police Director Radomir Njegus said according to the RS MoI information both Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic have not been RS for long time. He also said that: <i>"We have information that a small number of Hague indictees occasionally comes to RS. If proved this information were true, we would prepare a proper police reaction. However, according to our info, majority of war time suspects are not in the RS."</i> Stressed that RS MoI is engaged in an active search after 16 persons from public ICTY lists, Njegus says he expects that RS MoI would soon arrest some of indictees.</p> <p>Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'Njegus: Archive was re-located several times' mentioned on cover 'PSC Chief protected Misic' – NN comment that Njegus presented many contradictory information especially in regard to 16 boxes with war-time archive. Namely, Njegus initially stated that RS MoI had no knowledge on existence of those boxes, and later on presented in detail how the documentation was re-located for several times (from Pale to Banja Luka and inside Banja Luka). He also stated that police was actually in search for documentation of war-time Cabinet of RS President and encountered these boxes concerning war time role police in RS and upto 1998. He stressed: <i>"RS MoI was not hiding war-time archive, neither did it have intention and need to do that. We had no knowledge of whereabouts of the archive, meaning that it was actually at Police Station 2."</i></p>
---	--

<p>Hartmann: Karadzic is in RS</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Karadzic is in RS', mentioned on cover' by S.N. – Spokeswoman for Chief ICTY Prosecutor, Florence Hartman says that four or five ICTY indictees currently reside in RS, including Radovan Karadzic. Commenting Radomir Njegus statement, Hartman said that ICTY expects those war crimes suspects hiding in RS to be arrest.</p> <p><i>“When Njegus says that no [indictee] is in RS territory, that could be true but for today. Otherwise, we don't know that and that is why it is important to control the borders. As for Karadzic, it is difficult to say in which part of the border he was at the time when Njegus said this,”</i> says Hartman.</p>
---	---

**Cekic, Bacon
meet with
families of
Srebrenica
victims**

Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'Association handed lists of the killed to Commission', **Dnevni List** pg 2 'Names of war criminals deliberately omitted in Srebrenica report' by E. Mackic – Members of the Srebrenica Commission **Smail Cekic** and **Gordon Bacon** talked on Monday about the last Srebrenica report with representatives of the Association of Missing Persons. On this occasion Bacon stated that the Srebrenica Commission has come in possession of documents that have not been available either to the ICTY or anybody else. Bacon added that big number of documents contain names and a number of perpetrators who were involved in the crime or who committed the crimes themselves. He added that these names were omitted deliberately in order to prevent endangering of all process that they will be subject to in the future. Representative of Association Mothers of Srebrenica **Munira Subasic** stated that the Srebrenica Commission should have published their names so that ordinary people in the RS are aware that their neighbour is a war criminal.

BHTV 1 – Commenting about the documents found in RS MoI premises and later submitted to the ICTY in Banja Luka, Bacon said that Srebrenica Commission will also use any relevant document.

FTV – According to the report of Srebrenica Commission, genocide was committed in Srebrenica in July 1995, was concluded by **Smail Cekic** Commission Vice Chair, and **Gordon Bacon**, international member of the Commission "Commission, in its report, in introduction, when talking about events in the area of Srebrenica, mentions term genocide," clarifies Cekic.

Oslobodjenje cover page story, pg 7 '12000 people went 'missing' in Srebrenica?!' by A. Becirovic – During the meeting, Munira Subasic also submitted two lists with the names of missing Srebrenica people. The first list carries 9500 names and it was made in accordance with the registered missing persons filed by members of families, while second list contains about 10.500 names and it has been compiled using different sources. Subasic stated that about 12.000 people went missing in Srebrenica. Gordon Bacon said that the commission was still working on final list of missing persons, and that it would be incorporated as an annex to the report.

RTRS – Bacon also confirmed that RS governments started to give useful information about Srebrenica.

<p>Mikerevic: ALL ICTY indictees should surrender</p>	<p>RTRS, Dnevni Avaz pg 11 'It is in Serbs' interests to have ICTY fugitives surrendered', Oslobodjenje pg 9 'All ICTY indictees should surrender', Glas Srpske pg 2 'The Hague is the obligation'; Nezavisne Novine pg 5 'Hague fugitives should surrender because of interests of Serbs' – Dragan Mikerevic, RS Prime Minister, stated in Novi Sad on Monday that each Hague indictee at large should voluntarily surrender, in order to contribute to general national interest of Serbs in BiH and Serbs throughout the world. According to GS, Mikerevic denied any knowledge into whereabouts of Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic, stressing that they would be extradited to the Tribunal the very moment they are available to bodies in pursuit. According to him, <i>"nobody is worth of the entire people, not a single individual"</i>. Mikerevic assessed that: <i>"We all should do all we can to make lives of people easier, to ascertain our values and to weave those values in new European family of peoples, which we deserve."</i> He also added that according to his information, BiH would not be admitted into NATO programme PFP at the June Summit. However, he expressed expectation that BiH would be admitted into PfP by the end of this year.</p>
<p>Exhumation in Sandici completed</p>	<p>RTRS, Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'Exhumation at Sandici completed'; Glas Srpske pg 2 'Skeletons exhumed' – The representatives of the F BiH Commission for search after missing persons on Monday completed exhumation at the mass grave Sandici near Bratunac. The total of 17 bodies have been exhumed from this mass grave, the first of 32 newly identified mass graves in Srebrenica Commission report. Amor Masovic, President of Commission, stated that all exhumed bodies were transported to the facility of "Identification Project of Podrinje", where the bodies would be washed, photographed and DNA samples would be taken.</p> <p>BHTV 1 – BiH Presidency chair Sulejman Tihic visited Sandici exhumation site.</p> <p>FTV – <i>"Process of arresting persons who are responsible for this mass grave will show sincerity of RS authorities on this issue,"</i> commented Tihic.</p> <p>Dnevni Avaz pg 3 'Tihic: This is a confirmation of a genocide over Bosniaks' by <u>A.H.</u> – Tihic added that this, and hundreds of other mass graves, confirms that this was a systematically planned crime against Bosniaks.</p>

<p>Exhumation in Tomasica mass grave</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'First bodies found at 8-meters depth', Nezavisne Novine pg 9 'Majority of bodies re-located' – Jasmin Odobasic, FBiH Commission for Missing Persons Chief, yesterday stated that after five days of exhumation at the location of Tomasica mass grave, it is evident that a large part of bodies had been re-located. So far, four complete skeletons and over hundreds of human bones have been recovered. Odobasic expressed regret over the failure of local authorities of Prijedor to attend the exhumation. And visit the site.</p>
<p>Families of Srebrenica victims to file lawsuit against Netherlands</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 3 'Lawsuit against Netherlands ready', mentioned on cover' by <u>S. Rozajac</u> – Team of lawyers from Mostar, together with about 50 members of the Association of Mothers of Srebrenica and Zepa, will travel to Holland on 29 June in order to submit the lawsuit against the Dutch Government. The lawsuit would charge Holland of carrying a part of responsibility for events in and around Srebrenica in July 1995.</p>
<p>SCG allegedly to offer BiH out-of-court settlement</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pgs 4-5 'There is no bargaining on 200.000 victims of aggression', mentioned on cover, by <u>Azhar Kalamujic</u> – Former BiH representative in a lawsuit against SCG, Francis Boyle was informed that SCG representative Tibor Varadij will ask from BiH on Friday to cease processing of the case before the International Justice Court in the Hague. In turn, SCG will offer compensation. Sulejman Tihic, chair of BiH presidency, says he is not aware of such proposal coming from SCG, however added that he would not be surprised that SCG uses this to postpone the process. He added that no matter of the settlement, it is not possible <i>"to bargain on 200.000 victims of aggression."</i></p>

<p>Interview with Zeljko Vujadinovic, Srebrenica Commission member</p>	<p>Patriot magazine pgs 6-8 <i>“Reconciliation through a complete truth”</i> by <u>Slobodan Vaskovic</u> – In an interview to Patriot, Zeljko Vujadinovic, member of Srebrenica Commission says of the Commission report: <i>“Completion and adoption of Report were directly linked to responsibility of the highest RS institutions. Failure to accomplish the mandate would result in serious consequences for the RS.”</i></p> <p>He regrets over the fact that the mandate of Commission was a sort of partial, since it had to investigate solely into developments in Srebrenica from 10 to 19 June 1995. He supports creation of methodology related to entire developments and creation of the thorough analysis [refers to the statement by Philippe Morion, UNPROFOR Commander, that Srebrenica '95 developments cannot be regarded and acknowledged without analysis into Srebrenica '93 developments]. He believes that Commission great success was locating 32 new mass graves. He denies reports of FBiH media referring to alleged existence of the so called “Krivaja 95” operation.</p>
<p>Patriot op-ed on Srebrenica Commission report</p>	<p>Patriot magazine pg 9 <i>“Srebrenica is Serb Katinsky forest”</i> by <u>Slobodan Vaskovic</u> – The author is writing about Srebrenica Commission Report, saying that <i>“Crime against humanity was committed in Srebrenica. There is no room for pathetic here – it is all about horror. Because Srebrenica is Serb Katynska Forest (NOTE: Poland), Srebrenica is black hole on the Serb soul, Srebrenica is a humiliation for the Serb people, but Srebrenica is also a point, from which Serbs must go ahead by facing the horror that was committed.”</i> He calls on RS authorities to urgently identify and prosecute those responsible for these crimes, even if there are thousands of them, because only in this manner the shame from Serb people can be removed. He admits crime against Serb population has preceded Srebrenica crimes, stressing that crime cannot be justified by a crime.</p>

Political issues

RS leaders write to HR stressing their opposition to BiH lawsuit against SCG

FTV, Oslobođenje back page 'Opposing to BiH lawsuit against SCG', **Glas Srpske** cover page story 'Dayton by road, lawsuit by side-roads'; **Nezavisne Novine** pg 4 'BiH lawsuit against SiCG will hinder integration processes'- Senior RS officials and RS representatives in BiH institution sent an open letter to High Representative **Paddy Ashdown** on Monday expressing their "*clear opposition*" to the lawsuit filed by BiH against Serbia and Montenegro before the International Court of Justice in the Hague. Officials believe that processing of this lawsuit would drastically deteriorate relations between the two neighbouring countries and hinder integration processes. The letter was signed by BiH Presidency member **Borislav Paravac**, BiH House of Representatives deputy speaker **Nikola Spiric**, BiH House of Peoples Deputy Speaker **Goran Milojevic**, BiH Foreign Affairs Minister **Mladen Ivanic**, RS President **Dragan Cavic**, RS National Assembly Speaker **Dragan Kalinic** and RS Prime Minister **Dragan Mikerevic**.

RTRS – Signatories stated that the lawsuit poses an obstacle for the development of better relations, both in BiH and the region and added that this lawsuit has not been filed by this BiH. Furthermore they claim that it is not known which BiH institution and when made the decision to sue Yugoslavia , now Serbia-Montenegro, in 1993 because there is no decision or any other document.

Dnevni Avaz pg 9 'RS leaders demand from Ashdown to solve the issue of BiH lawsuit against SCG' by Fena – In the letter to Ashdown they also stated that it is not known how the lawsuit is being financed and reminded that the RS National Assembly rejected the lawsuit on October 1 last year with the conclusion that all issues need to be resolved through dialogue. "*We think that the lawsuit is in violation of the policy and principles implemented by the international community in this region for the last ten years. The international community decided to prosecute individual responsibility, i.e. the responsibility of all those who have in any way breached international law during the past war*", was stated in the letter. They also said that Ashdown should keep in mind that the lawsuit has been politicised to the extent that today it is in most cases used for daily political purposes, and even the election campaign. Serb representatives expressed confidence that Ashdown would provide his contribution to overcoming this import issue for BiH. OHR Communications Director **Julian Braithwaite** stated that this is an issue for relevant BiH institutions.

Comments to the letter

Dnevni Avaz pg 9 'Instead of talking about the lack of cooperation with the Hague, they switch to the issue on lawsuit' by E.S. – Chairman of BiH Presidency Sulejman Tihic says that BiH lawsuit against SCG would help, not deteriorate, neighbouring relations between two countries. Commenting the letter sent by RS officials to Paddy Ashdown [see above], Tihic wonders why such letter has been sent now adding this has not come up during the BiH-SCG Interstate Council meeting: *"In any case, the lawsuit is legitimate and legal which is confirmed by the BiH Presidency's decision following the Dayton."* Tihic adds that instead of *"being held responsible for the lack of cooperation with ICTY"* Serb officials resumed the story on the lawsuit, calling this a trial to switch stories and avoid responsibility. He also concluded that HR Ashdown was not authorized to bring decision regarding the lawsuit and that this was a legitimate issue for BiH authorities.

Dnevni Avaz pg 9 'Tokic: They act as lawyers of neighbouring state' by Aj. D. – DA brings several comments to the letter sent by a group of Serb officials in BiH and RS institutions to Paddy Ashdown expressing their opposition to BiH lawsuit against SCG. Presidency member of Party for BiH, Beriz Belkic states that allegations made in the later were ridiculous and that the lawsuit is legitimate. BiH agent in the lawsuit against SCG before the Hague court, Sakib Softic said he believes that SCG was closely cooperating this letter with Serb politicians. Sejfidin Tokic from SDU says this shows that leading politicians in RS act as representatives of a different country.

<p>Wnendt visits Mostar, Capljina: There is no chance to change Mostar Statute</p>	<p>RHB, Dnevni Avaz pg 11 'There is no chance for change of Mostar statute', Dnevni List front and pg 11'OHR does not allow change of Mostar Statute' <u>not signed</u> – Senior Deputy High Representative Werner Wnendt visited Mostar on Monday where he talked with President of the Mostar Election Commission Halil Maksumic and other members of this Commission. During this talk Wnendt stated that the October elections will be significant for Mostar since the city budget has not been adopted yet. Commenting on speculations that HDZ and SDA announced the possibility of changing the Mostar Statute in case that they come to power, Wnendt stated: <i>"New Statute is very good, it is being implemented and there is no way to change this situation. The Statute represents compromise of all sides that were involved in the process of its creation and the ground for the unification of the city and normal life of citizens."</i> Wnendt also believes that there will be no political obstructions in the application of the Statute and that the application of this Statute will continue after the October elections. SDHR also visited Capljina, and during this visit he was interested in the position of returnees and displaced persons and he stated: <i>"The information I have received are very encouraging. It is necessary to continue the reconstruction process and more develop the process of the economic development. Obviously, Capljina has big potential for agriculture and this can contribute to creation of new places of work and bigger incomes."</i></p>
<p>Lozancic visits Tuzla : BiH constitution must be changed</p>	<p>RHB – Niko Lozancic, president of FBiH, visited Tuzla on Monday. In talks with mayor Jasmin Imamovic, Lozancic he supports all discussions for quality constitutional reforms in BiH. He stated that the present system is expensive, irrational and to the detriment of citizens. BiH needs a European system, says Lozancic pointing out that the Parliament is the only right place for such debates. Oslobodjenje pg 4 'Abolishment of cantons and entities necessary', Dnevni Avaz pg 5 'Lozancic's support to water supply' – Lozancic stated that BiH needs new constitution, which would abolish cantons and entities.</p>
<p>On change of 'Srpsko Sarajevo' name</p>	<p>FTV, Oslobodjenje pg 7 'Three proposals for change of name', Blic, pg. RS11 'Three proposals for new name of Serb Sarajevo' by BETA – Serb Sarajevo Mayor Milivoje Gutalj stated on Monday that there are three proposals on new name of Serb Sarajevo. <i>'The three offered names are: Sarajevo in Srpska, Sarajevo of Srpska and Dayton's Sarajevo. The proposal that gains the greatest support of citizens will be sent as a proposal to the RS Government'</i>, Gutalj said.</p>

<p>CoE Parliament discusses BiH</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 3 'Slow progress of BiH' – Five-day summer session of the Parliamentary Assembly of Council of Europe yesterday commenced in Strasbourg. During yesterday's session, Monitoring Committee observes reported that the progress in BiH towards democratic society is "<i>slow, but constant</i>". The report concluded, "<i>with regret that progress in BiH has been mainly achieved thanks to international community, mainly High Representative</i>".</p>
<p>Oslobodjenje: Crosses in Stolac not removed</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 7 'Crosses in Stolac untouched' by <u>A.B.</u> – Oslobodjenje writes that despite the fact that FBiH Urban and Construction Inspector, Danijel Cepelj, has ordered removal of big cross placed in Stolac's Stari Grad [Old city] by 21 June, this has not happened. In addition to cross, concrete foundations laid down in the 'cross road' were to be removed as well. At the same time, Oslobodjenje says that the removal of the stadium wall [allegedly Catholic Church removes the wall in order to build a square] is on going.</p>

Security and defence issues

Njegus: Mistic suspended due to abuse of office

BHTV1, Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Why was Mistic suspended', **Oslobodjenje** pg 9 'Private things during the working hours', **Nezavisne Novine** pg 2 'Njegus: Archive was re-located several times' mentioned on cover 'PSC Chief protected Mistic', **Blic**, pg. RS2 'Policemen were moving house of RS Deputy President' mentioned on cover 'Police was moving house of Ivan Tomljenovic', by Nedeljka Breberina – RS Police Chief **Radomir Njegus** at the press conference stated that the Commander of Police Station 2 from Banja Luka, **Sasa Mistic**, has not been suspended over finding the RS Ministry of Interior archive, dating from 1992-1998. Njegus explained that Mistic has been suspended over abuse of office, because on May 21 he revoked entire police shift from field and ordered them to move pre-fabricated house of RS Deputy President **Ivan Tomljenovic**. He claims nobody was hiding the archive, as well as that it has been found accidentally after a commission of RS MoI was searching for an archive of RS President. He added that there had been several omissions in the work of Sasa Mistic and the Head of Banja Luka Centre for Public Safety, **Zeljko Spasojevic**, had protected him from sanctions.

RTRS – Talking about Sunday's explosion of bomb planted under Mistic's father van, Njegus said that the investigation is on going.

<p>Prosecutors on possible Mostar ‘terrorist attacks’</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 6 ‘Prosecutors investigate the possible attack in Mostar’ by <u>A. Omeragic</u> – Officials of the BiH and FBiH Prosecutors’ Offices have confirmed that they have launched investigation on possible terrorist attacks during MostarOpeningOldBridge ceremony. The investigations are based on information received from FBiH Police Director Zlatko Miletic. Chief FBiH Prosecutor Zdravko Knezevic said he “<i>already done his part of job</i>” adding that the entire team works on this.</p> <p>Dnevni Avaz pg 4 ‘I would not say what I have done following Miletic’s information, not even in a dream’ – BiH Chief Prosecutor Marinko Jurcevic refused to given any details of action the Office carries out with regard to information submitted by F MoI.</p> <p>Nezavisne Novine cover and pg 3 ‘BiH Prosecutor’s Office holds information on terrorist threats’ – NN informs that BiH Prosecutors Office information on terrorist threats.</p>
<p>Bahto, Alagic deny they participate in preparations for terrorist attacks</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz cover page ‘Bahto and Alagic deny terrorism!’, pg 4 ‘Pure fabrication is that we planned terrorist attack’ by M. Kukan – Former BiH Army commander, Hamid Bahto and Nedim Alagic, strongly deny allegations of some media that they have been participating the preparations of the terrorist attacks in Mostar. They estimate those information as pure fabrication and stupidity.</p>

**Halilovic
convenes
Security
Board meeting
on Old
Bridge
terrorist
attacks
speculations**

Oslobodjenje pg 3 'Is it safe in Mostar?'
– FBiH Interior Ministry **Mevludin Halilovic** scheduled a session of the board in charge of security during the opening ceremony of Old Bridge in Mostar. Press release of FBiH MoI reads that Halilovic, who also chairs the board, schedule a meeting due to the series of media speculation on possible terrorist attacks during the opening ceremony.

Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Halilovic: No concrete information on danger has been presented' by M.K. – Halilovic stated for DA that the session will include presentation of the information on possible attacks by Miletic. He stresses all information that appeared in media to date were just speculations. Halilovic added that the *“operational information obtained through international exchange should be a subject to serious and professional checks, instead they became a subject of media speculations.”*

<p>DA on source of 'terrorist attacks' case</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Interpol distanced itself from information given by Sabit Makas' by <u>M.K.</u> – DA refers to article that appeared in Zagreb-based Vecernji list which lists names of people apparently involved in preparations of Old Bridge terrorist attacks. One of the people mentioned is Sabit Makas, BiH citizen living in Germany, who said he has information on terrorist attack being planned in Sarajevo. According to DA, Makas offered this information in December to German police claiming he attended the meetings at which some people, including high-ranking officials such as Hasan Cengic, talked about this attack. DA further says that German Interpol passed this information to BiH Interpol, who discharged it learned that Makas owes money and for that reason cooperates with police.</p>
<p>NN editorial on Old Bridge case</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 7 'Fight at Neretva' by op-ed <u>Almedin Sisic</u> – The author claims that the representatives of confronted political options in BiH have infiltrated in the case of "OldBridge". He claims that the opening of the ceremony is being used in daily political purposes, starting with statement of Zlatko Miletic regarding possible terrorist attack during opening ceremony, which was extensively reacted on. The author stresses Miletic should have presented such information, if true, in a more cautious manner.</p>

BiH will not be invited to PfP at Istanbul summit

Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'BiH will not be invited to Partnership for Peace' – BiH will not be invited to joint Partnership for Peace at the upcoming NATO summit in Istanbul.

This was confirmed by NATO Secretary General **Jaap de Hoop Scheffer** and EU High Representative **Javier Solana**. Talking to journalist after the meeting between EU and NATO, two officials stated that they were satisfied with the pace of defence reforms in BiH, however added that the only questionable thing left is the lack of cooperation with the ICTY. Scheffer said that NATO summit will also bring decision on ending SFOR mandate in BiH.

"NATO however will stay engaged in BiH, it will have its mission there, and EU will have field troops. That is extremely important event not only for NATO and EU relations, but also for BiH citizens,"
said Scheffer.

**DL on
appointment
of generals**

Dnevni List, pg 4 'Filling of leading posts in BiH armed forces by Istanbul summit', by Danka Polovina-Mandic – The House of Representatives of BiH Parliament will again on Friday discuss the list of candidates for the senior posts in the BiH armed forces. DL reminds that appointments of brigadiers **Sifet Podzic**, **Slavko Puljic** and **Vlado Dzoic** caused plenty of polemics during the last session of the HoR.

Reminding that appointment of senior officers to the BiH armed forces is one of pre-requisites for joining the Partnership for Peace, DL carries BiH Deputy Defence Minister, **Marina Pendes**, as hoping the pre-requisite would be met by June 28, adding that the BiH MoD has sent the BiH Presidency an additional list of six candidates. DL also notes that the Joint commission for security policy and supervision of defence structures of the BiH Parliament discussed the issue of appointment of generals to BiH armed forces. Apparently, the positions will be presented at the next session of BiH HoR. Furthermore, DL notes that the President of the said Commission, **Elmir Jahic**, stated that the Commission believed that the vetting procedures were not transparent and in accordance to principles that respect human rights.

**Nikolic
proposes
temporary
halt of
conscription
for FBiH Army**

Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Soon Army will have no food to eat', mentioned on cover, by E. Sarac – FBiH Defence Ministry **Miroslav Nikolic** stated for DA that he will submit proposal to BiH Presidency and BiH Defence Ministry for temporary halt of conscription for FBiH Army due to the critical financial situation. Nikolic stresses that Federation Army goes through agony, and that it has no money even for food. In case authorized institutions failed to agree with the proposal, FBiH Defence Minister Nikolic says he is not sure what would happen in the next month as he is not authorized to bring such decision.

**VN makes
claims on
terrorism in
BiH**

Vecernje novosti, pg. 12 'Mujahedeens are lounging in Bosnia' By Dubravka Savic – The article quotes the American 'Defence and Foreign Affairs' newspapers as saying that a number of representatives of Islamic groups have recently visited BiH to buy grenades with rocket drive and to recruit fighters for Iraq. According to the article, the person in charge of recruiting is **Emir el Aziz**, who resides in Maoca near Brcko, *"one of 15 towns in BiH that are under a complete control of mujahedeens, to NATO also known under the term 'terrorist bases'"*. The article also quotes an anonymous source from SFOR as criticizing High Representative **Paddy Ashdown** by saying: *'His only worry is to protect his reputation and to protect his old Muslim friends, who turned to be radical Islamists and not moderate democrats as he had thought. Ashdown is a great part of the problem'*. "Defence and Foreign Affairs" article reads that Ashdown had attempted to show that Bosnian Serbs were responsible for delay in BiH's admission to PfP, *"although sources of SFOR say that Serb forces were far more ready...than Muslim-Croat forces from the Federation of BiH'*.

**Investigation
of Starovlah
case**

Blic, pg. RS11 'Disputable claims of SFOR' by R. R. – The Chairman of the Commission for determining truth in relation to events in Pale, **Ivo Miro Jovic**, has stated that the Commission has reached a central phase of the investigation on SFOR action in Pale on April 1, on which occasion Priest **Jeremija Starovlah** and his son **Aleksandar** sustained sever injuries. He says that the Commission assessed as disputable claims of SFOR that the Starovlahs sustained injuries from an explosion of the entrance door because both father and the son were at the first floor at the moment of the explosion. They also wonder how was it possible that the Priest's wife was not injured when one knows that she was in their vicinity.

Economic issues

**Auditors to
meet
Parliament**

Oslobodjenje pg 3 'BiH parliament starts to analyse costs on Friday' by Az. Kalamujic – The top auditors of financial workings of BiH institutions, **Samir Musovic** and **Dragan Kulina**, have been invited to attend the session of the BiH House of Representatives Commission for budget and finances on Friday. Day before that, Musovic and Kulina will meet with BiH Presidency, upon auditor's request who said they would inform BiH Presidency members on ways to save money and the issue of public spending which has to be regulated by the law. Auditors have not yet received the answer to their request. Musovic adds that this is the first that BiH Parliament has reacted to an audit report. Journalist says that it appears that the State Prosecution is not currently too much interested in the reports [*which included heavy accusations of irregularities in work of seven BiH institution, including BiH Presidency*], also saying that Prosecutor Office said to deal with the report following the parliamentary discussion.

**FTV says
Foreign
Ministry
'panics'
over audit
reports**

FTV by Sanjin Beciragic – According to source close to BiH Presidency, some officials of the BiH Foreign Ministry are in panic following the audit reports. Apparently the reason is inexplicable spending of a million KM. FTV comments that such spending could happen due to the lack of internal control, and that a number of irregularities were present in usage of cars and fuel. In addition, there are thousands of suspicious daily allowances and money transactions related to paying house rents for employees.

**NN op ed by
EC Chief
Humphreys**

Nezavisne Novine pg 7 and mentioned on cover 'BiH authorities irresponsibly waste citizens' money' op-ed by Michael Humphreys – In op-ed, Humphreys, Head of European Commission delegation to BiH, says that we all hope to buy as good as possible goods or fruits or vegetables at favourable prices and accordingly expect our money be spent in the same manner. In relation to this, he criticises over-spending at joint institutions of BiH, that spend the money collected from citizens of BiH. In the conclusion, he stresses that EC is currently engaged in a project with local authorities, which would see the establishment of European standards in public funds' management, which would prevent further money-wasting of such kind. *"Only through a complete respect of public procurement procedures and giving the example to governments at all levels, politicians can show they are really working in the interest of their people."*

**Efforts of
FBiH
authorities
to fight
economic
crime**

Oslobodjenje pg 6 'Fall in customs revenues' by fena, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 5 'We have to eliminate trend of fictitious companies' by A. Hadziarapovic – FBiH Prime Minister Ahmet Hadzipasic on Monday held the meeting on collecting public revenues. The meeting was also attended by the Director of the BiH Indirect Taxation Administration **Kemal Causevic**, Chief Inspector of Financial Police **Zufer Dervisevic**, directors of Customs and Taxation Administrations, **Zelimir Rebac** and **Midhat Arifovic** respectively, FBiH Police Director **Zlatko Miletic**, and OSA representative. Hadzipasic explains that this was a regular meeting aimed at strengthening financial discipline, but also cooperation between these institutions. FBiH Prime Ministers demanded from all participants to put maximum efforts to eliminate trend of fictitious companies which damages budget to great extent.

<p>Update to HB case</p>	<p>Dnevni List, pg 3 'Robinson: HT Zagreb controls Eronet's management', mentioned on cover, by <u>Jurislav Petrovic</u> – Notes that the Management of 'Eronet' Company is yet to allow access to 'Eronet's' documentation to the Provisional Administration for 'Hercegovacka bank', as confirmed by the General Manager of 'Hercegovina osiguranje', Robert Gavranovic, the second largest share holder in 'Eronet'. DL reiterates statements of the Provisional Administrator for Hercegovacka bank, Toby Robinson, that 'HT Zagreb' is controlling 'Eronet's' management, which denies access to the documentation, thus blocking the sale of 'Hercegovacka bank'. Robinson also stressed that no serious company would send a bid (for sale of Hercegovacka bank) without looking into the documentation of the company it is bidding for. Small box within the article under title 'There will be no sanctions against Management', reads that Ms. Robinson stated that no legal action would be undertaken, since 'Eronet's' Management agreed to submit the necessary documentation.</p>
<p>New factory opens in Srebrenica</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 5 'New refrigeration plant employs 30 people' by <u>S. Smajlovic</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'First post-war factory opened in Srebrenica' by <u>A.H.</u> – Swedish company <i>Olle Svensson</i> opened refrigeration plant for fruit storage and modifications. This is the first post-war economic premise opened in Srebrenica municipality.</p>