

OHR BiH Media Round-up, 25/11/2004

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	BH TV 1 (19,00 hrs)	FED TV (19,30 hrs)	RT RS (19,30)
Statehood Day reception	Car crash near Kakanj	Sugar Affair update	Robbery in Podgradac
ICTY coop. in the region	OHR on Del Ponte's report	2 drug dealers arrested	Reactions to ICTY report
OHR on Del Ponte's report	Vujanovic visited Sarajevo	Reactions to ICTY report	SCG & CR0 on ICTY report
Signing of SAA agreement	Trial to Krajisnik	Statehood Day reception	War crimes against Serbs

Oslobodjenje	ZAVNOBiH reinstated statehood of BiH
Dnevni Avaz	New sanctions against RS possible
Dnevni List	Prosecution is not ready for trial against Prlic and others
Vecernji List	Rebellion of Aluminij workers
Slobodna Dalmacija	They were granting loans which are no being paid back
Nezavisne Novine	Reactions onto report of Carla del Ponte: Ashdown: RS Police is obstructing the BiH progress towards EU; Cavic: Penalties to follow; US troops mission to BiH completed: 150 soldiers from USA remain in BiH; Filip Vujanovic: We can be making amends for non-cooperation of Serbia with The Hague
Glas Srpske	What is behind the latest US ultimatum to Serbia : The flame of extinguished fire

EuroBlic	Republika Srpska might be paying a lot over ICTY issue; Radivojac: Serbia is no loner assisting RS
Vecernje novosti	War crimes against Serbs in BiH: A false picture imposed
Nacional	Features Serbian related topics

War crimes/ cooperation with ICTY
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<p>HR warns RS over cooperation with the ICTY</p>	<p>FTV, RTRS, Oslobođenje pg 4 'RS slows down BiH's path to EU and NATO' by Fena, Dnevni Avaz pg 5 'RS institutions cannot continue to block BiH path to EU and NATO' by E.S., Dnevni List pg 7 'RS obstacle to BiH aspirations towards Europe' by D. Kozina, Vecernji List pg 2 'Sanctions against RS MoI are being expected' by B. Stevandić, Nezavisne Novine cover and pg 2 'Ashdown: RS Police is obstructing the BiH progress towards EU' by R. Cengić-V. Popović; Glas Srpske pg 5 'Omissions in the system'; EuroBlic RSpG 1 'Ashdown: Republika Srpska is on the BiH path towards EU' — The High Representative to BiH, Paddy Ashdown, on Wednesday stated that the lack of cooperation with the ICTY is now the biggest threat to the interests of all BiH citizens. The RS institutions of Defence Ministry and Interior Affairs cannot continue to block BiH's path to the European Union and to NATO, said HR. The statement went on to stress that two weeks ahead of the meeting of NATO foreign ministers in Brussels on December 9th and 10th, the High Representative expressed his concern that lack of co-operation by the RS may once again hinder the progress of BiH on the road to NATO and the European Union. He emphasised that the meetings he had with the officials of USA and EU lately clearly concluded that the RS's failure to arrest a single ICTY indictee is seen as an affront to the values of the institutions that the RS wishes to join.</p> <p>BHT 1 – Ashdown stated for BHT 1 that he doesn't believe that RS could arrest someone from ICTY list of indictees in close future. He announced certain measures against RS, but he didn't want to specify any details.</p>
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**Reactions to
Del Ponte
report:
Cavic,
Mikerevic,
Radojcic,
Ivanic,
Djokic**

FTV by Nikolina Veljovic, **Oslobodjenje** pg 6 'Deadline for arrest cannot be precisely scheduled' by Orijana Vukovic – RS President **Dragan Cavic** said Wednesday that judging on earlier experiences the international community intends to impose certain sanctions against some institutions or individuals in the RS following the report by ICTY Chief Prosecutor **Carla del Ponte** to the UN Security Council. Cavic stated that the report doesn't include any new information, and added that SIPA should also work to arrest ICTY indictees. RS Prime Minister **Dragan Mikerevic** hopes that one of the indictees would surrender before NATO summit in December.

RTRS by Sinisa Mihailovic – *"All those who do not accomplish a full cooperation in this matter cannot become partners in integration processes and that creates consequences for those states that want such a path"*, said Cavic. He added that there are indications that political situation in RS will be difficult after this report and that this matter is very important for the future of RS. *"I think that the warning is very serious and I think it should additionally stimulate the institutions, especially in RS to do everything possible in order to remove that kind of objection from the agenda"*, said **Mladen Ivanic** BIH Foreign Affairs Minister. **Igor Radojcic** from SNSD says that the sanctions that may follow will affect everyone adding that SNSD opposes constitutional changes that are not in accordance with regular procedures. **Petar Djokic** from RS SP said that the sanctions shouldn't affect the people because people are not to blame and added that sanctions can only relate to individuals that failed to meet certain obligations. Cavic stated that the next reports will be more positive since Interior Ministry, other RS institutions as well as BIH and international community are working to improve cooperation with ICTY. He adds that all those who relate constitutional changes to cooperation with ICTY are wrong since change of constitution is possible only when all 3 peoples in BIH agree on it.

<p>Reactions to Del Ponte report: Tihic, Radivojac, Osmanovic, Ivanic, Tomljenovic</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz cover splash ‘New sanctions against RS possible’, pg 5 ‘Cavic: New sanctions against RS possible’ by <u>E. Sarac</u> – DA brings Cavic statement in the focus. BiH Presidency member Sulejman Tihic commented to the report: <i>“After this report, I think everybody understands that BiH will not be admitted to PfP at upcoming NATO summit and that will be an obstacle on our path to signing Stabilization and Association Agreement to EU. For me there is no dilemma, it is finally a time to transfer all security and police tasks to the state level without any role of entities.”</i> In statement to A, RS Prime Minister’s spokesperson Goran Radivojac said that at this moment RS needs concrete results of cooperation with the ICTY. <i>“This is a key moment for RS, as it will be again on 9/10 December when NATO summit is to be held,”</i> said Radivojac. RS Vice President Adil Osmanovic said that the report was no surprise, adding he expects sanctions against RS Government and RS MoI, in addition to removals of Radomir Njegus and Darko Matijasevic.</p> <p>Dnevni Avaz pg 5 ‘Punishments will not improve cooperation with the Tribunal’ – In statement to DA, BiH Foreign Minister Mladen Ivanic said that Carla Del Ponte report is ‘a strong warning’. <i>“It is not possible to talk about possible consequences, as obviously the proposal has to come from the HR [Paddy Ashdown],”</i> said Ivanic adding that he expects RS institutions to be punished this time. Ivanic stressed that such punishment is questionable from legal point of view.</p> <p>Oslobodjenje pg 6 ‘I expect strong sanctions against RS’ by Fena – RS Vice-president Ivan Tomljenovic told Fena that sharper sanctions can be expected against the RS institutions, and not just the individuals. Tomljenovic declared that the greatest responsibility for the non-cooperation of RS with the ICTY lies with the RS Government and the Ministry of Interior. <i>“Thus, this time the sanctions could be directed to the RS Government if they should be more drastic”,</i> added Tomljenovic.</p>
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<p>Other reactions to Del Ponte report</p>	<p>EuroBlic cover and RSpG 1 'Republika Srpska might be paying a lot over ICTY issue' by <u>Rajna Radosavljevic</u>— Apart from Cavic's statement, paper also brings some comments on the same issue of Desanka Radjevic from SDS, Goran Milojevic from PDP, Tarik Sadovic from SDA, Igor Radojicic from SNSD and Tanja Topic a political analyst. They all agree in the assessment that the High Representative Paddy Ashdown is considering various options regarding possible sanctions against RS, but none of them wanted to prejudice what those might be.</p> <p>Oslobodjenje pg 6 'The most responsible is MoI' by <u>Fena</u> – carries statement by Osmanovic.</p> <p>Oslobodjenje pg 6 'Crucial moment for RS' by <u>Fena</u> – carries statement by Radivojac.</p> <p>Vecernji List pg 2 'Sanctions against RS MoI are being expected' by <u>B. Stevandic</u>, Slobodna Dalmacija pg 9 'BiH is getting further from NATO' by <u>H</u>,</p> <p>Nezavisne Novine cover and pg 2 'Cavic: Penalties to follow' by <u>R. Cengic-V. Popovic</u>; Glas Srpske pg 5 'All the burden onto one shoulder' by <u>M. Dzepina</u> – carry Cavic's statement. <i>MN</i> also carries comments of Adil Osmanovic, Safet Halilovic, SDP of BiH, Krstan Simic, Goran Milolojevic and Ognjen Tadic, all sharing the view sanctions would be imposed against RS. Bosko Siljegovic from SDS doubts sanctions would be imposed.</p>
<p>Reactions to Del Ponte report by SCG, Croatian officials</p>	<p>FTV, Nezavisne Novine pg 3 'Concrete results on cooperation with the Hague soon' by <u>RTS</u> , Glas Srpske pg 5 'She should prove it'— Commenting to the report by Carla Del Ponte presented to UNSC, Montenegro President Filip Vujanovic emphasized that the criticism did not apply to Montenegro. Croatian Prime Minister Ivo Sanader refused all objections presented in the report regarding Croatia stressing that general Ante Gotovina is not in Croatia .</p> <p>RTRS – Serbian Prime minister Vojislav Kostunica stated today that cooperation with ICTY is inevitable. Croatian President Stjepan Mesic said that he expected report to be harsher on Croatia.</p>

<p>Montenegrin president on ICTY</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine cover and pg 5 ‘‘We can be making amends for non-cooperation of Serbia with The Hague’ by <u>A. Sisic</u> – This is an interview with Filip Vujanovic, Montenegrin President, where he admits his fear that Montenegro might be making amends over the Serbian failure to cooperate with the Hague Tribunal. The lead of the article is the issue on cooperation with the ICTY, where he expresses expectation that Serbian officials would come to an agreement and immediately start cooperating with the ICTY.</p>
<p>GS op-ed on Del Ponte report</p>	<p>Glas Srpske pg 5 ‘Game without a draw’ – GS carries a sort of op-ed unsigned, commenting on the latest report of Darla del Ponte before the UN SC. The conclusion of the op-ed would be that the ICTY Chief Prosecutor decided not to allow – at any cost – war crime suspects to evade justice only because the Court is a sort of short with time. Report further refers to <i>Tanjug</i> claims that the mandate of ICTY, scheduled to complete in 2008, might be extended for two years, in order to process big war crime cases.</p>
<p>NN op ed on Del Ponte report</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine op-ed pg 7 ‘In wait of punishment’ by <u>Dragan Riseojevic</u> – The op-ed follows the address of Carla del Ponte before UN SC. The author claims that if the announcements of the IC officials come true, the RS will face with another “slaughter of dukes”, but also possible abolishment of RS institutions. He notes IC seems to be ready to take advantage over this moment of weakness to go further with abolishment of RS institutions and removals of officials. Removals of officials should not be of any problem, according to the author, bearing in mind who assumes them, but the abolishment of RS institutions would represent undermining of the Dayton Bosnia foundations. Owing to this reason, all the institutions in the RS must push hard and get down to work and fulfil promises they have been giving for the past years.</p>

<p>Del Ponte announces six new indictments</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 6 'Six new indictments before the Christmas', mentioned on cover, by <u>Fena</u> – The Chief ICTY Prosecutor Carla Del Ponte accused Vojislav Kostunica to be the biggest obstacle in the cooperation between ICTY and SCG. She added by the end of the year her office will complete the investigations currently on going and that six new indictments will be raised before the Christmas.</p>
<p>DL on trials against 6 Herceg Bosna officials</p>	<p>Dnevni List cover pg splash and pg 5 'Prosecution is not ready for trial against Prlic and others' by <u>I. Glibusic</u> reports that the status conference on the case against 6 war-time Herceg Bosna political and military officials (Jadranko Prlic, Milivoj Petkovic, Berislav Pusic, Slobodan Praljak, Valentin Coric and Bruno Stojic) that ICTY charged with war crimes was held on Wednesday. According to lawyer Zeljko Olujic, who represents one of the suspects, after the yesterday's status conference it was obvious that the Prosecution is not well familiar with this case and it is not ready for the begging of the trials. Olujic added that the trials will not start before 2006 or 2007.</p>

Political issues

**Paravac did not
attend BiH
Statehood Day
reception**

RHB, Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'Covic: Holidays should be looked forward' by A. Sisic – A formal reception was held in the BiH Presidency building on Wednesday evening to mark 25 November, the BiH Statehood Day. BiH Presidency member **Dragan Covic** hosted the reception, while **Borislav Paravac** did not attend.

FTV – According to Paravac, 25 November is not the BiH Statehood Day, as BiH doesn't have a law on state holidays.

BHT 1 by Mirela Cosic – Borislav Paravac: *"There are certain misunderstandings, and we must strive to have less of such misunderstandings."* All members of BiH Presidency agree that these problems must be solved as soon as possible. Dragan Covic, member of BiH Presidency stated that BiH Statehood Day should be celebrated in all parts of BiH. According to Covic, this would be a clear message to the world that BiH peoples can reach an agreement. According to Sulejman Tihic, member of BiH Presidency, BiH does have a law on state holidays, since all pre-war laws still apply, unless they have been annulled by Dayton Agreement. However, Tihic accepts possible objections on law on holidays, and he is willing to discuss these objections. November 25th is non-working day in FBIH. Features statements of citizens. Citizens of FBIH agree with celebration of Statehood Day. Citizens of RS refuse to celebrate this holiday.

RTRS – As BiH still hasn't got a law on holidays, 25 November is not marked as a holiday in RS, and in FBIH tomorrow is a non working day.

Dnevni Avaz pg 3 'BiH needs to be a formula to which Europe aspires' by A.M. – At the reception Covic stated that there is still a very strong influence coming outside of the BiH institutions of those not willing to see normalisation of relations in the country.

<p>Brcko District Assembly holds inaugural session</p>	<p>FTV, RHB, Oslobođenje pg 9 'Representatives only took oath' by <u>V. Jahic</u>– The Brcko District Assembly held the inaugural session. The 29 representatives also failed to reach an agreement with the regard to Mayor, possible coalition, and the position of Assembly Speaker. The discussion will be continued at the next session on 30 November. Representatives said there are optimistic and that they believe that all problems will be solved then. The Assembly was also addressed by the Brcko District Supervisor Susan Johnson: <i>"The District is facing a critical juncture in its development. When you vote, you will make choices that will affect whether Brcko District retains its special and unique self-governing status defined by the Arbitral Awards and the Statute, or whether it becomes just another pawn on the political chessboard of BiH."</i></p> <p>BHT 1 – BHT 1 carries that the agreement on Mayor was not reached due to alleged conflict inside SDA.</p>
<p>Ceremony at "Eagle" base in Tuzla</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine cover and pg 9 '150 soldiers from USA remain in BiH' by <u>J. Sarac</u> – The ceremony upon completion of the US troops' mission to BiH was organised at the SFOR Military Base "Eagle in Tuzla. It was stated during the ceremony that 150 American soldiers would remain at this base, which will be handed to EUFOR. According to Timothy Right, Base Commander, these men would be under the command of NATO, adding: <i>"Karadzic and Mladic will be main task of the American troops remaining in BiH. These men will remain in BiH until these two war crime suspects are apprehended."</i></p> <p>RHB, FTV, RTRS, Oslobođenje pg 3 'SFOR transferred duties to EUFOR' by <u>S. Smajlovic</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 3 'General Bel" We were successful because people in BiH wanted peace', mentioned on cover 250 US soldiers will stay in BiH', by <u>A. Hadzic</u> – also reported.</p>

<p>Four candidates proposed for Mostar Mayor</p>	<p>FTV, Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Four candidates proposed for Mostar Mayor' by <u>F. Vele</u>, Vecernji List pg 5 'Ljubo Beslic new Mayor' by <u>M. Relota</u> says that parties whose representatives are Councilors in a new composition of the Mostar City Council submitted to the OHR the names of their candidates for the position of the Mostar Mayor on Wednesday. On the same issue Dnevni List pg 14 'Mayor; Vucina, Hasandedic, Beslic or Huesinagic?' by <u>V. Soldo</u> carries that current Mostar Deputy Mayor Ljubo Beslic is the HDZ Coalition candidate, NSRZB candidate is Adisa Vucina, Mirsad Huseinagic is SBiH candidate, while Suad Hasandedic is the SDA candidate for the position of the Mostar Mayor.</p>
<p>BiH Presidency meets Parliamentarians</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 7 'Covic defended Paravac' by <u>V. Zivak</u> – Members of the BiH Presidency held talks with members of collegiums of both Houses of the BiH Parliament on Wednesday. BiH House of Representatives Speaker Martin Raguz, BiH House of Peoples Speaker Goran Milojevic and BiH Presidency Chair Borislav Paravac stressed that such meeting are in the service of more responsibly implementing priority activities and projects important for the future of BiH, its peoples and citizens. Presidency member Dragan Covic commented to the journalist question regarding the absence of Paravac at the reception on the occasion of Statehood Day saying that it is more important to build BiH on things in common. It was also agreed that BiH Presidency members will attend Parliament's plenary sessions.</p> <p>RHB, BHT1, FTV, Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Presidency members will attend Parliament's plenary sessions' by <u>H. Orahovac</u> – also reported.</p>

<p>Radivojac/Barasin deny claims of US Congress</p>	<p>Glas Srpske cover page story 'The flame of extinguished fire' by <u>Lj. C.</u> – <i>GS</i> carries comments of Goran Radivojac, Spokesperson of the RS Prime Minister, and Ostoja Barasin, military and political analyst, regarding decision of the US Congress to condition assistance to SiCG with the arrest of Ratko Mladic. Radivojac notes that all RS institutions are financed from the RS budget, adding that claims some institutions in RS are financed by somebody else are ridiculous. (EuroBlic cover 'Serbia is no loner assisting RS' carries statement of Radivojac.) Barasin observes that the issue of authenticity of information US administration gets need to be examined, stressing: <i>"Serbia and Montenegro offers no sort of assistance to Republika Srpska and its institutions...Regardless of nature of these claims, these information were bad-intentioned and do not reflect public statements of official Washington."</i></p>
<p>Raguz on comments to Ivic Pasalic statement</p>	<p>Dnevni List pg 9 'Lawsuit against Croatia because of aggression ungrounded', mentioned on front, by <u>I. Rozic</u> – Commenting on the reaction of some Bosniak officials to the statement given by President o Croatian Block Ivic Pasalic, HDZ vice President Martin Raguz stated that a possible lawsuit against Croatia because of aggression is completely ungrounded when it is known that Croatia received 7000 000 refugees from BiH and thus prevented humanitarian catastrophe in BiH.</p>

<p>Lozancic demands from HR to secure equal representation of Croats in 6 crucial FBiH institutions</p>	<p>Vecernji List pg 3 'Ashdown should remove one Bosniak' by <u>Z. Kresic</u> – Federation of BiH President Niko Lozancic called on High Representative Paddy Ashdown, SDA or the FBiH Parliament to secure equal representation of Croats at 6 crucial positions in the FBiH in accordance with constitutional amendments on constituency of BiH peoples. Lozancic added: <i>'The most simple solution is that Ashdown secures implementation of the amendments of his predecessor Wolfgang Petritsch.'</i> Lozancic stressed that the Constitution does not prescribe the possibility that the FBiH President reacts in this case.</p>
<p>VL says Izetbegovic to be new SDA president</p>	<p>Vecernji List pg 4 'Izetbegovic brings Orucevic back to SDA' by <u>M. Relota</u> – VL says that Bakir Izetbegovic will become a new SDA President at the next SDA Congress that is to take place in May next year and according to VL the biggest problem might emerge when election of SDA Vice President from Herzegovina is in question. The article also says that many people believe that current President of the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton SDA Board Salko Sokolovic will get this position, however, a source close to SDA claims that former Mostar Mayor Safet Orucevic (he left SDA and joined SBiH) has already demanded to return to SDA and according to VL this might disturb Sokolovic's plans. The article goes on to say that most probably Bakir Izetbegovic will accept Orucevic's return and people from HNC SDA Board who support Sokolovic announced that they will leave this party if Orucevic returns.</p>

Economic and judiciary issues

**FBiH HoP
rejects draft
Law on
Privatisation
Audit**

BHT 1, Oslobodjenje pg 7 'Draft law on privatization audit rejected', mentioned on cover, by S. Sehercehajic, **Dnevni List** pg 4 'Croats support audit but comprehensive one' mentioned on front, by NINA— At the session held on Wednesday, the FBiH House of Peoples didn't adopt the draft law on privatisation audit. BHT 1 comments that HoP representatives were sceptical as the privatisation audit would not include all privatised companies. Representatives from Croat Caucus refused this manner of a selective privatisation audit, believing that the audit should be applied to all companies. FBiH Prime Minister **Ahmet Hadzipasic** stressed that the audit should be conducted only of those companies in which crime activities were reported, in order to save money and time.

Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Prime Minister Hadzipasic announced that Parliament sends new draft law on privatization audit' by A. Basic — Hadzipasic said that the new draft law will be presented to the HoP in 15 to 20 days, however added that it is a waste of time.

FTV — Hadzipasic added that the representatives made several excellent suggestions, and the new text of draft law will include them.

RHB, Oslobodjenje pg 7 'Budget decreased for 67 million KM' by S.Se. — The FBiH House of Peoples at the session on Wednesday accepted the Draft amending the FBiH Budget for this year. The FBiH Government has been tasked to forward the Proposal FBiH Budget Rebalance for this year and the Draft FBiH Budget for 2005 to the Parliament in the period of fifteen days. With the rebalance, this year's Budget has been reduced for 67 million KM.

<p>Vujanovic meets BiH Presidency, expresses interest in Buk Bijela project</p>	<p>Glas Srpske pg 3 'Economy is the bridge of cooperation'; Nezavisne Novine pg 5 'BiH and Montenegro have same political goals' by <u>A.S.</u> – Borislav Paravac, Chairperson of the BiH Presidency, stated after Wednesday's meeting with Filip Vujanovic, Montenegrin President, that BiH and Montenegro have the same political goals, which is that both, BiH and Montenegro are to be admitted into PfP and European Union. According to Paravac, the meeting also discussed the possibility of seeing BiH open a consulate in Podgorica. Apart from economic issues discussed at the meeting, Vujanovic said that he informed BiH Presidency members of the Montenegrin interests in the project "Buk Bijela", adding: <i>"We in Montenegro are of the view that we must wait for UNESCO report first. Depending on that report, we would determine our further position on this issue."</i></p> <p>RHB, BHT1, FTV, RTRS, Oslobođenje pg 3 'Soon, BiH consulate in Podgorica' by <u>M.K.S.</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Montenegro interested in Buk Bijela dam' by <u>A.M.</u>, Vecernji List pg 2 'Consulate in Montenegro would improve relations', mentioned on front, 'BiH Consulate will be in Podgorica', by <u>E. Medunjanin</u>, Dnevni List pg 5 'BiH Consulate in Podgorica soon' by <u>NINA</u>, Slobodna Dalmacija pg 17 'BiH Consulate in Podgorica' by <u>B. Kristo</u> – also reported.</p>
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<p>Aluminij workers protest against privatisation audit</p>	<p>RHB, BHT1, FTV, Oslobodjenje pg 9 'Prevent damage of large scale consequences' by <u>E. Gagro</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 9 'We will not allow company to be managed by companies from Katar or Kuwait' by <u>F.V.</u>, Vecernji List cover pg splash 'Rebellion of Aluminij workers' and pg 5 'Workers left plants and they do not want to give Aluminij to SBiH' by <u>Z. Kresic</u>, Dnevni List pg 2 'Zigic, Jahic and Biber singled out', mentioned on front, by <u>V. Soldo</u>, Slobodna Dalmacija pg 16 'We do not want to give Aluminij', mentioned on front, 'We rescued Aluminij, we do not want to give it to you now' by <u>Z. Zekic</u> report on the protest rally of Aluminij workers, which was held in front of this company on Wednesday. In this way workers expressed their dissatisfaction over frequent singling out of this company with regard to privatization process and they addressed their accusations at Federation of BiH Minister of Industry Izet Zigic, President of the BiH Trade Union Edhem Biber and Mostar Mayor Hamdija Jahic. They called on the FBiH Government to speed up <i>'an honest privatization of Aluminij while on contrary the FBiH Government will be responsible for consequences if the proposal of changes and amendments to the Law on selective privatization audit was adopted'</i>.</p> <p>Dnevni Avaz pg 9 'Privatization audit is in the interests of the Aluminij workers', mentioned on cover, by <u>Az. B.</u> – FBiH Minister for Energy and Industry Izet Zigic sats that he doesn't understand why Aluminij workers protests, as the privatisation audit would be in their best interests. He concludes that they were obviously 'helped' by management to do so.</p>
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<p>Two detained in case of sugar affair</p>	<p>FTV – Following reports of illegal trade in sugar earlier this year, the BiH Prosecutor's Office has launched an investigation into the sugar industry in BiH. So far, ITA, the FBiH Tax Administration and the FBiH MoI assisted by CAFAO have executed over 20 search warrants targeted at 3 of the main sugar importers in BiH. The investigation has also revealed large scale tax fraud, and charges relating to various counts of tax evasion and fraud are being prepared. So far, two persons are in custody with further arrests expected. Enquires are continuing into these and other companies, with further searches to be performed. According to unofficial information, FTV says that two people in custody are Pero Tokalic, owner of Tok Prom company, and Bozo Medic, owner of MB company. RTRS, Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Two persons detained, new arrests to follow'– also reported.</p>
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<p>Robinsons testifies no document indicate Jelavic responsibility in HB case</p>	<p>Vecernji List pg 4 'Toby Robinson did not accuse Jelavic of anything' by <u>Z. Kresic</u>, Dnevni List pg 3 'Jelavic is getting closer to freedom', mentioned on front, by <u>D.P. Mandic</u> and Slobodna Dalmacija pg 16 'Toby Robinson: We do not have evidence' by <u>Z. Tulic</u> – Hercegovacka Banka Provisional Administrator Toby Robinson continued her testimony on the Hercegovacka Banka (HB) case on Wednesday presenting the report on abuse in the work of this bank and the Federation of BiH Ministry of Defense. Robinson stated that the bank was not solvent when she became the Provisional Administrator in April 2001. According to VL she also stated that the bank was faced with problems because of loans, which were not paid back, and reiterated that suspect in this case Ante Jelavic cannot be brought in connection with the situation in the bank and granted loans. DL says that Robinson could not present documents, which prove claims of HB shareholders according to which Jelavic signed, approved or ordered purchase of HB and Hercegovina Osiguranje shares. SD says that most of those who follow this trial have an impression that the whole case is about strong conspiracy among the OHR, prosecutors and Panel of Judges to prove something that was not done.</p> <p>Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'Robinsons testified there are no documents proving Jelavic's responsibility' by M. Kukan, Oslobodjenje pg 10 'Jelavic is not in the documents', also mentioned on cover, by A.N. – also covered.</p>
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<p>SD on SBiH malversation in FBiH Investment Bank</p>	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija cover pg splash and pg 17 'They were granting loans which are no being paid back' by <u>Z. Tulic</u> carries that according to information close to the Federation of BiH Government, SBiH is preparing a new 'patriot' action whose goal is covering up of financial malversation of SBiH members in FBiH Investment Bank. SD goes on to say that the aforementioned bank was granting loans to members and supporters of this party, however, so far, they paid back only 30 % of granted loans and some of these persons got rich in an illegal way.</p>
<p>On meeting of banks with ITA's Steering Board</p>	<p>Dnevni List pg 9 'Undisturbed collection of VAT secured', mentioned on front, by <u>A. Beus</u> – After 4 banks refused last week to sign the agreement on offering their services in collection of incomes to ITA, the meeting of these banks with the ITA's Steering Board was held in Banja Luka on Tuesday and stands of 4 banks were accepted, that is, the conditions prescribed by the tender were adopted and therefore the tender will not be annulled.</p>