

OHR BiH Media Round-up, 2/8/2004

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	BH TV 1 (19,00 hrs)	FED TV (19,30 hrs)	RT RS (19,30)
Explosion in Prague	BH Steel to be sold	Pre-election campaign	Bond in Banja Luka
Car accident in Croatia	Audit of Srpske Sume	Issue of BiH pensioners	Audit of Srpske sume
300 Anniversary of Aimas	Birth rates in RS	Blaskic to be released	Genetically modified corn
Church in Aimas, Slovenia	Birth rates in FBiH	AIDS/HIV in BiH	Al'Qaeda treats Italy

Oslobodjenje	Hundreds of tons of sugar entering BiH through Bar Port ; SDP: Rich people protected by Ashdown and his reformists; Kozaric denies Minister Maric; Adnan Terzic 'let' ministers to vacation
Dnevni Avaz	Police Administration uses lies to protect themselves; Tihic asked Powell for assistance in strengthening SIPA
Dnevni List	Donald Hays is selling Aluminij
Vecernji List	SDA is pulling down tax system
Slobodna Dalmacija	Blaskic wants to visit Ahmici
Glas Srpske	Will exact number of BiH population be determined next year: They do not want census – they want power
Nezavisne Novine	Clifford Bond: Dayton is obstructing BiH on the path towards EU; Dusan Stojicic: I will not imitate Kalinic; 5000 police personnel in RS and F BiH to lose jobs
Blic	SFOR arrested Mile Pejcic

Political issues

Bond visits BL

Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Colin Powell's visit confirms continuing US presence in BiH' by M.V. – Outgoing US Ambassador to BiH, **Clifford Bond**, visited Banja Luka and met with the RS Prime Minister **Dragan Mikerevic**. During the meeting, Bond stressed that BiH is on the road to being admitted to EU and the Partnership for Peace, adding that the only obstacle left to be removed is the lack of cooperation with the Hague Tribunal. He stressed that it is necessary to appoint RS Interior Minister who enjoys credibility with both people and police. He added it is essential for Minister to have an opportunity to chose his associates.

RTRS – He also commented on the arrest of **Radovan Karadzic**. *"I can tell you that failure to bring him before justice in the Hague will delay the time when you can enter Partnership for Peace, when you can enter the EU. And the best thing for this society is for him to voluntarily surrender and to face justice in the ICTY. And I can tell you that my government would be prepared to offer him secure and safe trip to the ICTY, so he could face trial,"* stated Bond.

<p>NN int with Bond</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine cover and pg 4 'Dayton is obstructing BiH on the path towards EU' by <u>D. Jerinic</u> – In a page long interview to NN, Clifford Bond, USA Ambassador to BiH, says that <i>"in the past three years since I have been here, many things have happened in BiH. From my point of view, Dayton Agreement has left BiH with certain restrictions, which have soon turned into obstruction preventing BiH from becoming a part of Europe. The international community and BiH authorities should overcome those obstructions. Progress has been achieved in many fields, for example in the field of defence, intelligence agency, etc. Now we have reached the point when the admission of BiH institutions into EU is possible, meaning it is possible to launch negotiations on admission of BiH institutions into EU. However, the obstruction on this path is the failure to arrest war crime suspects. This is an obstruction on which RS and BiH must focus."</i> On defence reform, he says that <i>"US Government has been engaged in defence reform to a great extent... We have invested much in this field."</i> He further admits political climate in RS has changed, noting that citizens no longer see war crime suspects as heroes.</p>
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**Election
Campaigns
officially
start today**

FTV – Today pre-election campaign for municipal elections to be held in October officially starts. This year, the citizens will be able to directly vote for heads of municipalities, however not through the same system in entire BiH. BiH Civil Initiative Centre, who lead campaign aimed at adopting the legislation which would enable these direct elections, believe that such way of electing mayors present a beginning of reform of a local self-governance administration. This way, says Center, citizens will be more responsible than parties. However, while in RS municipalities head of municipality is a person winning the most votes, in FBiH the election will be conducted applying the preference system. *“Relation between head of municipality and Municipality Assembly is still not being regulated, it has to be regulated through law on local self-governance”* said **Vehid Sehic**, Chairman of BiH Election Commission.

Sarajevo print media carry short announcement of the beginning of the campaigns.

<p>GS feature on population census</p>	<p>Glas Srpske, cover page story 'They do not want census – they want power' by <u>R. S.</u> – The article reads that it is questionable whether a census will take place next year in BiH, in spite of conclusion brought by BiH House of Peoples, because of opposition expressed by Bosniak parties. PDP delegate and Chairman of HoP of BiH Parliament Goran Milojevic says that it is necessary to organise a census not only because of demands of the international community but also because of internal relations and planning of development in BiH. According to the Chairman of the Republic Council for Demographic Policy, Stevo Pasalic, a census should be organized latest in the first half of 2006. SDS delegate at the HoP Momcilo Novakovic says that a census would not be convenient for Bosniak parties, noting '<i>Setting factual situation would not be convenient for them, because many date Bosniaks bring in public are far from truth</i>.' GS inset 'Term' quotes SDS delegate at the HoP Ljiljana Milicevic as saying that a census is one of pre-conditions for the admission of BiH to EU.</p>
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NN interview
with RSNA
Speaker
Stojicic

Nezavisne Novine pg 6 'I will not imitate Dragan Kalinic in my work' mentioned on cover 'I will not imitate Kalinic' – In an interview to NN, **Dusan Stojicic**, RS NA Speaker, says that the RS parliament majority might be small in number (44), but it is strong. He adds that this Parliament composition will be able to preserve this majority by the end of mandate, which is the best for RS. He further reiterates that SDS is still faithful to its request for removal of SDA Ministers, noting **Premier Mikerevic** is now to make a concrete move. On this he adds that if SDA became the part of opposition, it would not jeopardise the functioning of the RS Parliament, *"but would open the need for majority to speak with opposition parties and find joint stances related to issues of importance for RS."* He expresses satisfaction over the fact that journalists have noticed MP's do not get in so eager disputes ever since he has become RS NA Speaker, unlike times when **Dragan Kalinic** assumed this position. He stresses: *"You will meet new Dusan Stojicic as RS NA Speaker. I am no longer SDS Spokesperson."* He brings into question claims that almost all important decisions and personnel changes in RS had been created in the Cabinet of Dragan Kalinic, noting that Kalinic has left a large mark in the work of the RS NA by his work.

**SNSD asks HR
to sanction
all anti-
Dayton
activities**

Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Anti-Dayton activities should be sanctions' by Fena, **Oslobodjenje** pg 4 'Sanctions against anti-Dayton ideas' by Onasa – The Chairman of the SNSD Main Board, **Nebojsa Radmanovic**, stated on Sunday that the High Representative Paddy Ashdown should sanctions representatives of political parties and authorities that carry out anti-Dayton and unconstitutional activities. Radmanovic has added such statements and initiatives to change BiH Constitution and Dayton Peace Agreement characterize pre-election campaign in BiH which has started unofficially. At the press conference in Banja Luka, he said that HR has a right to sanction such activities, stressing that Ashdown should apply same criteria to all. He reiterated SNSD's attitude that well organized entities are not an obstacle to BiH, adding that RS is better organized entity than FBiH.

Nezavisne Novine pg 5 'Same penalties to apply against all' by A.S. – NN says that Radmanovic refers to **Sulejman Tihic** and **Barisa Colak**.

<p>Oslobodjenje on CoM vacation</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 5 'Terzic 'let' Ministers to go for vacation', mentioned on cover, <u>not signed</u> – Daily carries that after moratorium, set by the Chair of the Council of Ministers Adnan Terzic, on taking annual leave expired on Friday, members of the government went for vacation. Apparently Ministers and their deputies have been allowed to switch off their mobiles for next two weeks and not to call Government's Secretariat and Prime Minister. Next session of the CoM is scheduled for 19 August.</p>
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**Reactions to
Tihic's
initiative to
change RS name**

Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Eliminate everything that doesn't ensure equality for three BiH peoples' by Aj. D. – Daily brings several reactions from FBiH to the announced initiative of BH Presidency Chairman **Sulejman Tihic** for changing the name of Republika Srpska. FBiH Vice President **Sahbaz Džihanović** stresses that that *"equality of all three peoples must be ensured. That includes the change of all existing names which are mono-ethnic, as well as the names of a number of institutions."* BiH House of Representative Deputy Speaker **Sefik Džaferović** said he absolutely supports the initiative. SDU Vice President **Sejfudin Tokić** he welcomes any initiative with an aim to *"remove discriminatory rules and laws."* In inset 'Spirić: Legality of launching initiative cannot be disputed', member of the SNSD Main Board, **Nikola Spirić**, comments: *"Tihic has a right to launch initiative, but it is entirely different thing whether that is good and useful for BiH and its citizens. According to the decision of BiH Constitutional Court all peoples are constituent, but I still think these are political games... If Tihic believes that the launching this initiative is the most important thing, he is legal and legitimate person for such proposal."*

<p>DL on distribution of positions in Mostar City Administration</p>	<p>Dnevni List pg 6 ‘Political distribution of civil servants?’ by <u>Z. Jukic</u> – DL says that almost all employees of the Mostar City Administration (CA) have been on a collective leave as of today and most of them do not know whether they will return to their places of work after the leave or not. Namely according to the sources close to SDA and HDZ intensive negotiations on distribution of positions within the Mostar CA have been underway. The sources also claim that competent ones from SDA and HDZ who are working on this issue have decided to get around the Law on Civil Servants in order to preserve at the current positions persons who got job in the Mostar CA on the ground of their political suitability.</p>
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<p>VL on initiative for Croat channel in BiH</p>	<p>Vecernji List pg 3 'Who needs fictitious Croat national institutions in BiH', mentioned on cover 'There is no TV, millions were spent', <u>by M. Bosnjak</u> – The author says that the initiative for the establishment of a Croat TV channel is another HDZ pre-election trick that has been seen many times during previous pre-election campaigns. The author believes that destiny of Croat TV outlets in BiH is well known and that it is clear that there was no political will for realization of such initiatives. VL also says that another few Croat, media and cultural projects had the same destiny. According to the author, skilful manipulation with Croat national projects and interests have been the only pre-election ace card of HDZ for years.</p>
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<p>Op-eds on Powell's visit to BiH</p>	<p>Dnevni List pg 2 'Merilin show' (referring to a concert of BiH singer Dino Merlin) by <u>V. Vujovic</u> – DL carries an editorial in which, among the other things, the author comments on the visit of US State Secretary Colin Powell paid last Saturday. The author is surprised by the Powells' statement about the progress achieved in BiH since the author believes that this statement does not correspond the truth about the situation in BiH. The editorial also says that the one could hear from Powell numerous phrases that have been repeated many times before and according to the author the most important thing for the USA is that BiH will send its de-mining unit to Iraq and that BiH signed the agreement on immunity of US citizens before the International Criminal Court. The rest of the editorial carries rather negative comment on a concert of Dino Merlin because of the singer's political background.</p> <p>Dnevni Avaz pg 3 'Encouraging messages of US' op-ed by <u>Mersiha Drinjakovic</u> – DA op-ed notes that during the Powell's visit to BiH, encouraging messages from US administration have been sent to BiH public. However, author also notes that warning regarding the cooperation with ICTY should be taken seriously.</p>
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**Audit of
Srpske sume**

Glas Srpske pg 4 'Pure cutting more important than Law' by D. Vrhovac Mihajlovic – The general assessment of **Bosko Ceko**, RS Chief Auditor, is that the financial report of the Public Forestry Company "Srpske Sume" for 2002 does not provide true and objective review into financial situation and business results. The Auditor concluded that Director of Lumber Camp "Ribnik" failed to accept the deficit of BAM 949 thousand established by Inventory Commission, but instead ordered accounting department to show surplus of BAM 65 thousand. Auditor is of the view that the management of "Srpske Sume", together with Ministry of agriculture and forestry, should initiate regional re-organisation in regard to reduction of organisational units.

BHTV 1 – Following audit of the financial business of "Srpske Sume" company, which showed loss in amount of 10 million KM, OHR demands the audit to be performed by the international experts. RS Government, which owns the company, stressed that it would not tolerate breaches of the Law on Legal Woodcutting that Srpske sume carried out. *"The Government will protect a single Minister who misused his authorities and violated the law"*

Radoljub Trkulja, RS Minister of Agriculture, Water management and Forestry, said. *"Surely, special auditor will submit the report, which will be presented to 'Srpske Sume' by OHR and that will present the second stage of our attitude on the situation and work of this company"* **Dragan Mikerevic**, RS Prime Minister, commented. RS Government decided to reduce number of wood companies by the end of this year.

RTRS – Audit reports earlier established that Srpske sume carried out illegal woodcuttings, that losses made by company were hidden through fictitious replacements and the company did not respect the law on public purchases. *"There is special audit team in Srpske sume... I am sure will wait for their report for several months"*, said **Donald Hays**, the Principle Deputy High Representative.

SDP answers
HR's
accusations
over internal
debt

Oslobodjenje pgs 4-5 'Rich people protected by Ashdown and his reformists!', mentioned on cover, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 5 'We are fighting for citizens, not a handful of the rich', **Dnevni List** pg 5 'Protection of interests of citizens and not of war and current profiteers' by M.B. – Press release issued by SDP denies that this party has blocked the solution to the issue of internal debt in FBiH in order to protect a handful of rich Croats, and that the country is facing bankruptcy because of this. These accusations, directed against HDZ and SDP after they failed to support proposal FBiH Internal Debt Law, were stated by the High Representative **Paddy Ashdown** in an interview to Dnevni Avaz on Saturday [please see Weekend Media Brief]. SDP's press release reads that *"SDP estimated that offered solution to the internal debt were contrary to the interests of robbed pensions, workers who defended the country and old foreign currency savings holder... In order to protect the interests of these citizens, to build healthy business environment and trust into the state institutions, SDP clubs of representatives... have rejected law offered and through concrete amendments presented new solutions."* It further claims that *"solutions proposed by HR and his false reformists are not only unjust to the most vulnerable social categories in BiH but they also present the call to current authorities to continue to make new debts which, since Alliance left the authorities, increased for new 300 million KM."*

<p>BHTV 1 on sale of BH Steel</p>	<p>BHTV1 – The contract on sale of ‘BH Steel’ to London based company LMN will be sign by the beginning of next week. It is expected that LMN will invest more than 215 million US dollars into paying off the companies existing debts and raising the level of production. Reporter spoke with workers who said they are satisfied and eager to start working. Out of 4 600 workers who used to work in BH Steel, with LNM’s purchase 2850 of them will start working, and the company promised to hire additional 2000. FBiH Government stresses that this purchase will increase the production and overall domestic gross product for 15 %. <i>“Before the war BH Steel was producing about 1,85 million of tones of steel; and this project will increase production to 2,2 millions of tones”</i> said Ahmet Hadzipasic, FBiH Prime Minister.</p>
<p>DL: ‘Donald Hays is selling Aluminij’</p>	<p>Dnevni List front and pg 5 ‘Donald Hays is selling Aluminij’ by <u>A. Beus</u> – DL says that Principal Deputy High Representative Donald Hays stated in Sarajevo that he expects the sale of Aluminij company after the sale of BH Steel. The article reminds that Hays also said that Aluminij is interested in privatisation and that this is one of basic prerequisites for construction of new electrolyses. According to DL, the Hays’ statement is rather strange or premature since the ownership’s issue in Aluminij company has not been resolved and the international arbitrage on this issue has not started yet. DL also says that the on the ground of the Hays’ statement the one can suppose that Hays is familiar with this issue and that the parties involved in the aforementioned dispute realized that the whole dispute does not make any sense and damages all of them.</p>

<p>Oslobodjenje: import of sugar through eastern border crossings</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje cover page, pg 3 ‘Hundreds of tons of sugar enter BiH through Port Bar’ by <u>Az. Kalamujic</u> – Daily writes that companies from BiH in the last month continue to import big quantity of sugar, despite the fact that experts estimate that BiH has long ago imported needed sugar quantity. It further claims that since traders from Herzegovina [which mainly use Ploce Port for importing their goods] have been under the scrutiny of customs and taxations inspectors over the suspicion of participating frauds which damaged EU budget, the traffic of sugar has increased in the eastern borders of BiH. According to Oslobodjenje, in less than a month over 400.000 kilos of sugar have been imported using border crossing Hum near Foca, after being delivered to Bar Port.</p>
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<p>VL interview with F BiH Finance Minister Dragan Vrankic</p>	<p>Vecernji list, cover page ‘SDA subverts tax system’, & pg 7, ‘SDA and Party for BiH subvert unified tax system’, by <u>Zoran Kresic</u> – in the interview entirely dedicated to financial issues, Dragan Vrankic, F BiH Deputy Prime Minister and F BiH Finance Minister, comments that it is hypocritical of Adnan Terzic, the Chairman of BiH Council of Ministers, to blame F BiH President Niko Lozancic for coming into force of amendments to the Law on Sales Tax which refer to the distribution of that money since it is the Parliament that passes and amends laws. Vrankic finds the amendments themselves to be an attempt to infringe the state management of the tax system. Vrankic adds the entire case is well organised and represents the hardest blow to the Indirect Taxation Agency. <i>“Unless one reacts promptly, the entire system could get infringed”</i>, he says. Speaking of VAT, Vrankic could not speculate on increase of price of specific items, but adds that the model with unified VAT generally gives better results. Talking of rebalance of F BiH budget, he says the consequences of it would be primarily felt by workers since the Government decided to reduce salaries by 10%. The Government plans to increase taxes on cigarettes and other high-tariff goods in September in order not to have to resort to other restrictions.</p>
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<p>Central Bank: Nobody asked for our advice on succession money</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 7 ‘Nobody asked for our advice on succession money’, mentioned on cover ‘Kozaric denies Minister Maric’ by <u>Az. Kalamujic</u> – “<i>BiH Council of Ministers and authorized Treasury and Finance Ministry have never asked BiH Central Bank for expert opinion, or the advice about the money from succession,</i>” stated Kemal Kozaric, Vice Governor of the BiH Central Bank to daily commenting to the statement by Minister Ljerka Maric. After the audit report of Ministry accused the Minister and institution of being responsible for loss of 7.6 million KM caused by keeping the money from succession in US dollars despite its decreasing exchange rate, Maric stated that Central Bank was advising the Ministry and that IMF banned money to be exchanged.</p>
<p>VL: Public companies benefit from their privileged status</p>	<p>Vecernji List pg 2 ‘At the cost of citizens Telekom and Elektroprivreda have become most profitable companies in BiH’ by <u>E. Medunjanin</u> – VL says that according to the information published by Internet portal Biznis.co.ba, public companies, first of all 3 BiH telecommunications companies and 3 Elektroprivredas, are among the most profitable companies in BiH. According to VL entity Governments benefit a lot from the incomes of the aforementioned companies and for this reason the entity Governments are in no hurry when privatisation of these companies is in question and they mainly ignore calls for creation of open and competitive markets in BiH.</p>
<p>Increase of oil price in BiH</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 2 ‘Fuel price increases today’ mentioned on cover ‘Fuel price in F BiH increases as of today’ by <u>M.R.</u> – The traders in oil have announced that as of today, the oil price will go up at the pump stations in the Federation of BiH for approximately 5 pfenings. The reason for price increase, according to traders, is increase in price of refinery oil.</p> <p>Dnevni Avaz pg 8 ‘Increase of prices for 4-5 pfenings in RS as well’ by <u>E. Plecic</u> – DA carries that 4-5 pfenings price increase has also been announced in RS.</p>

<p>Hays meets Bosnian Franciscans</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 4 'Fra Mijo Dzolan asked for help to return convent school' by <u>FIA</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 5 'Hays with Bosnian Franciscans', Dnevni List pg 2 'Franciscan priests opened first schools in Bosnia' by <u>De. L.,m,</u> Slobodna Dalmacija pg 14 'Ambassador Hays visited Franciscan priests' by <u>FIA</u> – Principal Deputy High Representative Donald Hays visited Franciscan priests in Visoko who informed him about the history of the Franciscan priests in BiH and about the problems that they are faced with currently. Provincial Father Mijo Dzolan told Hays that one of these problems is repossession of a convent school in Visoko that was taken from Franciscan priests in 1945 by Communist authorities. Hays promised them that he will help them in resolving of this issue within the legal framework.</p>
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Security and legal issues

DA int with
FBiH MoI
Halilovic

Dnevni Avaz cover page 'Police Administration protects itself with lies', pg 5 'Individuals from Police Administration are trying to discredit me using lies' by Mirela Kukan – In an interview with DA, FBiH Interior Minister, **Mevludin Halilovic**, says that after the recent series of explosives in Sarajevo security situation in the country has been damaged adding that this is a result of insufficient measures and coordination of police structures. *"This is why reform of BiH police is necessary... police structures are not connected enough... the problem is that there is no single database, communication centre for information exchange. That is the space that criminals use,"* says Halilovic. Asked about the relations with the FBiH Police Director **Zlatko Miletic**, Halilovic comments that the relationship with Police Administration must be more flexible, adding that the independency is too broadly understood and that the relationship should be more flexible. He adds that *"individuals from Police Administration, under the strike of the law and legal authorities of the minister,... are now trying to discredit me through lies. I can only say that I have never met those people, and they cannot connect me with anybody."* Commenting the audit report of FBiH MoI which says that some budget means were spent in illegal manner, Halilovic responds that he did not have authority over the budget last year.

**Tihic,
Terzic on
Powell visit**

Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Tihic: All dilemmas on US being uninterested in BiH vanished', mentioned on cover 'I asked Powell to help us in strengthening SIPA' by Aj. Delic – Commenting the one-day visit of the US State Secretary **Colin Powell** to BiH, the Chairman of the BiH Presidency **Sulejman Tihic** said that he was very satisfied especially since it is certain now that US is interested in this region. In addition, Tihic said he asked Powell *"for assistance when it comes to strengthening SIPA, because with services as such, we can be capable to strongly move in the fight against organized crime, arrest of the war criminals, and the fight against terrorism. I also stressed necessity to support the work of BiH Court, especially its Department for processing war crimes."* Chairman of the Council of Ministers **Adnan Terzic** commented: *"Meeting obligations towards the Hague Tribunal widely opens doors of PfP for us. We are in constant contact with Carla Del Ponte and I expect to visit the Hague at the end of August, together with Security Minister, Directors of SIPA, OSA [BiH Intelligence Agency] and SBS [State Border Service], in order to discuss aspects of our cooperation once more. I believe that RS authorities should do the same in order to establish the full cooperation of its institutions with ICTY."*

<p>Deputy BiH Security Minister on police reform</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 4 '5000 police personnel be sacked next year' mentioned on cover '5000 police personnel in RS and F BiH to lose jobs' by <u>M. C.</u> – Dragan Mektic, BiH Deputy Security Minister, yesterday confirmed that the next year should see dismissals of 3000 superfluous police and around 2000 administrative staff at police force in BiH. He noted: <i>"The functional review of police forces in BiH showed that this number currently represents a surplus. Police Restructuring Commission is expected to prepare laws, which would make police force more efficient and functional, by the end of this year."</i> He added it has not been determined as yet whose duty it would be to take care of the dismissed police staff.</p>
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<p>DL on financial audit into FBiH Ministry of Defence</p>	<p>Dnevni list, pg 7, 'Salaries even to those who stopped working', mentioned on cover, by <u>Indira Tabucic</u> – DL carries that financial auditors detected the highest extent of disrespect of legality of work in the FBiH Ministry of Defence and in the FBiH Army. The Law on Defence, and particularly its provisions pertaining to integration of armed forces through Joint Command, has not been consistently implemented. Two army components and chains of management provided for lots of room for considerable increase of expenditures. There is no unified system of calculation of salaries in the Ministry of Defence and system of internal control has not been fully developed. This Ministry exceeded its budget for by nearly 1.5 million KM last year. The auditors also noted that the mistakes that their reports had been pointing to before were also repeated in 2003.</p>
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War crimes

<p>Tihomir Blaskic arrives in Zagreb today</p>	<p>FTV, Oslobodjenje pg 2 'Blaskic arrives in Zagreb in afternoon' by <u>Onasa</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Blaskic arrives to Zagreb today', Slobodna Dalmacija front and pg 2 'Tihomir Blaskic wants to visit Ahmici' by <u>V. Djuricic</u>, Dnevni List pg 3 'General Blaskic in Croatia today, soon in BiH' by <u>J. Petrovic</u> – The dailies carry that Croat General Tihomir Blaskic is coming from The Hague today. SD also carries that according to Blaskic's lawyer Anto Nobile, Blaskic wants to visit Ahmici in order to pay tribute to victims from this village. Nobile could not say as to when this visit will take place since the visit should be organized in the field.</p>
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**PDP, RS
Socialists
on Starovlah
case**

Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'BiH is protecting its citizens' by SRNA; **Glas Srpske** pg 2 'Assailants against Starovlah's must be punished' by G.D. – PDP released a press statement, in which it welcomed decision of BiH House of Representatives to accept report on SFOR action dated 1st April and injuring of **Priest Jeremija Starovlah** and his son **Aleksandar**. PDP is of the view that this is an important indication signalling BiH is protecting all of its citizens.

Nezavisne Novine pg 5 'SFOR soldiers must be prosecuted' by A.S.; **Glas Srpske** pg 2 'SFOR soldiers to face with court' by R.S.
– The RS Socialist Party yesterday released a press statement in which it demands from the BiH institutions in charge to actively engage in process of filing suits against SFOR soldiers, who took part in Pale action of 1 April. The party stressed it is high time representatives of the peacekeeping mission in BiH were asked to fully respect European Convention on Human Rights and Freedoms.

<p>SiCG Human Rights Minister on Mladic</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'If Mladic is really in Serbia, than he must be extradited to the Tribunal' <u>by Tanjug</u>, Glas Srpske pg 3 'No contact with Mladic' – Rasim Ljajic, SiCG Minister for Human Rights and President of the SiCG Council for cooperation with ICTY, yesterday stated that the extensive search after Ratko Mladic is ongoing. In a TV BK programme "it is not Serb-like to keep silent", he confirmed the statement of Vojislav Kostunica, Serbian Premier, who said there had been no contact with Mladic.</p>
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