

# OHR BiH Media Round-up, 3/12/2004

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on 3 December 2004

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| <b>RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA</b> (12,00 hrs) | <b>BH Radio 1</b> (12,00 hrs) |
| Release of Cerkez                     | Del Ponte in Sarajevo         |
| Pre-trial release of Markac, Cermak   | HNC school strike             |
| BiH HoP, HoR session                  | Iraq update                   |

TV news broadcast on 2 December 2004-12-03

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| <b>RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA</b> (18,00 hrs) | <b>BH TV 1</b> (19,00 hrs) | <b>FED TV</b> (19,30 hrs) | <b>RT RS</b> (19,30)      |
| Mario Cerkez released                 | SFOR/EUFOR handover        | SFOR/EUFOR handover       | Mario Cerkez released     |
| Markac & Cernak's release             | RS pol. search for robbers | Del Ponte in visit to BiH | SFOR/EUFOR handover       |
| SFOR/EUFOR handover                   | Del Ponte in BiH Court     | Statement of Matijasevic  | Del Ponte in BIH          |
| Del Ponte in Sarajevo                 | Mario Cerkez released      | Mario Cerkez released     | Failed MoI arrest attempt |

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| <b>Oslobodjenje</b>  | The biggest military operation of European forces; Ashdown sets two-week deadline for RS |
| <b>Dnevni Avaz</b>   | Europe takes over responsibility in BiH  |
| <b>Dnevni List</b>   | EUFOR instead of SFOR  |
| <b>Vecernji List</b> | The Hague Tribunal releases Marijo Cerkez  |

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| <b>Slobodna<br/>Dalmacija</b>  | EUFOR takes over mission to BiH  |
| <b>Glas Srpske</b>             | Paddy waves with a stick   |
| <b>Nezavisne<br/>Novine</b>    | EUFOR instead of SFOR; Deadline by December 9 to RS authority for arrests; Investigation on murders of Sarajlic, Seimenovic and Malagic families was renewed   |
| <b>Blic</b>                    | Deadline for arrests is December 9; European forces took over the peace mandate in BiH; Smuggling of Albanians through BiH to Germany was prevented  |
| <b>Vecernje<br/>Novosti</b>    | Features Serbian related titles  |
| <b>Belgrade's<br/>Nacional</b> | Features Serbian related titles  |
| <b>Slobodna<br/>Bosna</b>      | Where are our war criminals?   |
| <b>Dani</b>                    | Shocking testimony of a HIV-positive Bosnian; Tuzla : Truth about 15 May 1992; Economy: 95% of BiH citizens will be poor; Espionage: Hasan Cengic under CIA protection   |
| <b>Ljiljan</b>                 | Neurosis before the SDP congress: Lagumdzija's battle until the last breath; How Bakir Izetbegovic is to save Oslobodjenje using state money; Izet Zigic: I still receive threats because of privatization audit |

## LATEST NEWS OF TODAY

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| <p><b>Del Ponte in Sarajevo</b></p> | <p><b>BH Radio 1</b> – Chief ICTY Prosecutor, <b>Carla Del Ponte</b>, told journalist at the press conference today in Sarajevo that <b>Dragomir Milosevic</b>, ICTY suspect indicted for bombing Sarajevo, today will be transferred to ICTY from Serbia. She also stressed that ICTY will not cease its operations until <b>Radovan Karadzic</b> and <b>Ratko Mladic</b> are captured and brought there. Del Ponte announced that the Office of Prosecutor will raise 5-6 new indictments for war crimes by the end of this year.</p>   |
| <p><b>BiH HoR, HoP session</b></p>  | <p><b>BH Radio 1, Herceg Bosna Radio</b> – Joint session of the BiH House of Peoples and House of Representatives has started in Sarajevo with an aim to discuss the implementation of the BiH Mid-term Development Strategy. It was concluded that only 56% of measures planned for this year were implemented. However, the Chair of the Council of Ministers, <b>Adnan Terzic</b>, stressed that the biggest successes were drafting addenda documents for the Strategy and infrastructure for its implementation. The biggest problem was identified to be the increase of grey economy, expected to be decreased following the introduction of the single rated VAT.</p> |

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| <p>SFOR-EUFOR<br/>handover<br/>ceremony</p> | <p><b>Herceg Bosna Radio, BHT, FTV, RTRS, Oslobođenje</b> cover page, pgs 4-5 'The biggest military operation of European forces', <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> cover page 'Europe takes over responsibility in BiH', pg 3 'SFOR mission completed, EUFOR continues further', <b>Dnevni List</b>, front pg splash 'EUFOR instead of SFOR', and pgs 4-5 'Seven thousand soldiers are guarantee to stability and peace in BiH', by <u>Danka Polovina-Mandic</u>, <b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>, front pg splash and pg 8 'EUFOR takes over mission to BiH', by <u>D. Pasic</u>, <b>Vecernji List</b>, pg 4 'New step towards integration of BiH into united Europe', by <u>Dejan Jazvic</u>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, cover 'EUFOR instead of SFOR' and pgs. 2-3 'European Union took over the military mission in BiH' by <u>A. Sisic</u>, <b>EuroBlic</b>, cover 'European forces took over the peace mandate in BiH' and pg. RS1 'SFOR + EUFOR = SAME' by <u>Dusanka Stanisic</u>, <b>Glas Srpske</b>, pg. 3 'A new page was turned' by <u>Srna</u>, <b>Vecernje Novosti</b>, pg. 8 'EUFOR replaced SFOR' – A ceremony to inaugurate a European military force and a new HQ for NATO was held in Sarajevo on Thursday. EUFOR [European Force] has taken over the military mission from NATO-led Stabilization Force (SFOR) and thus NATO's nine-year military engagement in our country has ended. The UN Security Council has given the green light to EUFOR's 12-month mission in which 12,000 soldiers will take part and whose mandate will not be basically different from the mandate of the Stabilization Force. The security of BiH and support for the authorities in the arrest of war crimes suspects will remain the priorities of the international military mission in our country. The ceremony started with a special military programme which marked the transfer of mandate from NATO to the European military force.</p> <p>Foreign and local officials agreed in general that the Stabilization Force has ended its mission in BiH successfully. NATO will remain present in BiH, said NATO Secretary General <b>Jaap de Hoop Scheffer</b>, emphasizing that he had reasons for optimism with regard to the establishment of state institutions, especially in the domain of defence. <i>"However, quite a lot more needs to be done and NATO is determined in its intention to help and that is why we have set up a NATO headquarters in Sarajevo. The main task of the HQ will be to offer advice with regard to defence reform,"</i> he said. EU security and foreign policy chief <b>Javier Solana</b> confirmed that the EU was ready to take over responsibilities in BiH. <i>"The future of BiH is in Europe and its values, in progress, in stability, in prosperity. After the successful military operation by NATO, the deployment of the European Force today demonstrates once again their commitment to these goals,"</i> Solana said.</p> |
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| <p><b>Solana, Scheffer's press conference</b></p> | <p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 5 'Message to Karadzic and Mladic', <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 3 'BiH achievement in apprehension of war crime indictees is zero', <b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b> pg 10 'Scheffer and Solana convinced in success of EUFOR's mission in BiH' by H, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, cover 'EUFOR instead of SFOR' and pgs. 2-3 'European Union took over the military mission in BiH' by A. <u>Sisic</u>, insets 'Scheffer: SFOR has done everything to arrest Karadzic and Mladic' and 'Solana urged BiH authorities to enter reforms more strongly', <b>Glas Srpske</b>, pg. 3 'They must go to the Hague' by <u>Srna</u>, <b>EuroBlic</b>, pg. RS1 'Message of Solana to Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic' – Following the inaugural ceremony, a press conference was held in Sarajevo's Camp Butmir. Journalists mainly asked about the arrest of war crimes suspects. NATO Secretary General <b>Jaap de Hoop Scheffer</b> reminded that, during its mandate, SFOR arrested 28 suspects. <i>"The government of BiH is primarily responsible for the arrest of suspects,"</i> Scheffer said, adding that the NATO HQ and EUFOR will continue to offer support to BiH authorities when cooperation with the Hague tribunal is concerned. European envoy <b>Javier Solana</b> had a direct message for the top wanted suspects from the so-called Hague list: <i>"I have a very clear message for these two men [Karadzic and Mladic] and that is that they should be where the two people indicted for war crimes should be and that is in The Hague, where they will receive a just and fair trial."</i></p> |
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| <p><b>BiH Defence<br/>Radovanovic<br/>meets<br/>British<br/>Defence<br/>Secretary<br/>Hoon</b></p> | <p><b>Herceg Bosna Radio, FTV, Oslobodjenje</b> pg 4 'Britain will play big role in EUFOR as well', <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2 'Hoon: We will remain key part of stabilization forces in BiH' by <u>L. Sinanovic</u>, <b>FENA</b> – Great Britain bilaterally, as well as within the international efforts, supports the reforms in BiH, particularly in the defence sector. Great Britain has played a major role within SFOR and will continue to do so within the EUFOR troops. The British State Secretary of Defence, <b>Geoffrey Hoon</b>, made this statement on Thursday after talks with BiH Defence Minister <b>Nikola Radovanovic</b> in Sarajevo. Hoon and Radovanovic exchanged opinions about the reformatory processes in the sector of defence, the situation in BiH and the region, and particularly about Thursday's transfer of SFOR's competencies to EUFOR, which Hoon regarded as a "<i>significant day for BiH, Great Britain and Europe</i>". Radovanovic stated that the United Kingdom 's contribution to the process of peace implementation and stabilization in the past nine years has been significant in military sense as well as in the sense of civil implementation. He thanked State Secretary Hoon on the fact that, as he said, the professional military personnel of Great Britain have contributed to the progress in BiH, and expressed hope that the EU military operation Althea would be a good framework for continuation of cooperation between BiH and Great Britain .</p> <p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2 'We decisively work on catching war crime indictees', <b>Dnevni List</b> pg 5 'Conflict on relation NATO – Prosecutor del Ponte!?' by <u>NINA</u>, <b>Vecernji List</b> pg 3 'NATO was willing to arrest fugitives' by <u>dja</u>, <b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b> pg 21 'Hoon: Carla del Ponte is not right' by <u>B.K.</u>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, pg. 4 'I cannot accept accusations of Del Ponte' by <u>M. Cubro</u>, <b>Glas Srpske</b>, pg. 3 'NATO will continue search' by <u>N. Z.</u>, <b>EuroBlic</b>, pg. RS2 '– Hoon disagrees with <b>Carla Del Ponte</b>'s statement that NATO had not had enough political will to arrest the most wanted war crime suspects.</p> |
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| <p><b>Dailies<br/>comments on<br/>change of<br/>forces in<br/>BiH</b></p> | <p><b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 2 'Historic event', by <u>Danka Polovina-Mandic</u> – Commenting on the SFOR (NATO) – EUFOR handover and the statement by the NATO Secretary General, <b>Jaap de Hoop Scheffer</b>, who labelled the takeover as <i>"historic event"</i>, the author writes: <i>"Although one must commend the post-war engagement of NATO in BiH, one must not forget that BiH, 'as a stable country that has made big steps forward', is not capable of looking after itself yet. Therefore, a real historic event would be if all representatives of the IC left BiH, and if we became truly capable of running our country on our own"</i>.</p> <p><b>Vecernji List</b> pg 4 'To EUFOR' by <u>R. Dodig</u> – Carries an editorial on EUFOR's arrival to BiH and the author wonders whether the arrival will change anything in this country. According to the Dodig, in the period from 1991 to 2004, various generals and peacekeeping forces were coming to BiH and apart from them, various policies were also following each other in BiH. The author concludes: <i>'There is no clear goal, no sustainable and functional state in this conglomerate of interests, policies, states, diplomats, lobbyists and advisors.'</i></p> |
| <p><b>Ljiljan on<br/>EUFOR</b></p>  | <p><b>Ljiljan</b> pg 18 'Why will Carla Del Ponte continue to be frustrated' by <u>Sejad Luckin</u> – Commenting to the EUFOR take over of the peacekeeping operations in BiH from NATO, journalist writes that certain significant changes, mostly political, will occur in the country. <i>"EU, concluding on hints of future EUFOR Commander, British General <b>David Leakey</b>, has no intention to be in the position of 'gendarme on duty'. This British officer stated several times, which is symptomatic, that mandate of his soldiers does include capturing <b>Radovan Karadzic</b> and <b>Ratko Mladic</b>, as well as other ICTY war crimes suspects, but he also stressed that this is primarily a duty of domestic authorities. ICTY Chief Prosecutor <b>Carla Del Ponte</b>... will obviously still have a reason for headache because arresting Karadzic and Mladic is the key measurer of determination of every military IC mission in already disarmed... BiH. SFOR has not completed that task. David Leaky hints EUFOR will not be more sufficient either. Thus there is enough reason for skepticism,"</i> concludes the article.</p>  |

**War crimes/cooperation with ICTY**

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| <p>Ashdown, Del Ponte visit BiH Court , Prosecution</p> | <p><b>Herceg Bosna Radio, BHT, FTV, RTRS, Oslobođenje</b> cover page, pg 2 'Ashdown sets two-week deadline for RS', <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2 'Seven cases already prepared for BiH Court', mentioned on cover 'Del Ponte: I am pleased with Ashdown's decisiveness', <b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 7, mentioned on front 'Army and MoI protect war criminals', by <u>Erna Mackic</u>, <b>Vecernji List</b>, pg 3 'Seven cases in January', by <u>D. Ja</u>, <b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>, back pg 'Seven cases from The Hague soon at Court of BiH', by <u>Zlatko Tulic</u>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, cover and pgs. 2-3 'Deadline by December 9 to RS authority for arrests' by <u>M. Cubro</u>, <b>Glas srpske</b>, cover page story 'Paddy waves with a stick' by <u>N. Z.</u>, <b>EuroBlic</b>, cover and pg. RS2 'Deadline for arrests is December 9' <u>not signed</u>, <b>FENA</b> – ICTY has already transferred seven war crimes cases to the BiH court and hopes that trials before this court will start as early as January, ICTY Chief Prosecutor <b>Carla Del Ponte</b> said Thursday after visiting the BiH Prosecutor's Office building together with High Representative <b>Paddy Ashdown</b>. <i>"It is important to stress that this is a state court, which at the beginning did have international support, but we hope that in several years this court will be able to work on numerous cases only with national judges and prosecutors. When the first trial starts before this court that will be an important moment because it will truly represent the first element of reconciliation"</i>, Del Ponte said. Del Ponte especially praised the determination of OHR and Ashdown to insist on arresting top fugitives from justice and she announced that she would ask the High Representative what his office can do, what concrete steps it can make to help the arrest of top indictees and fugitives from international justice. <i>"For a number of years the RS has been obstructing our activities and I am glad to see the determination of OHR to help us in the Hague receive all our fugitives"</i>, Del Ponte said. Ashdown said that efforts on creating a state court are the complete opposite to the inactivity of certain authorities, especially in the RS, on arresting any of the indicted war criminals. <i>"These nine years of obstruction, nine years of failure on fulfilling international commitments, nine years of violating one of the basic principles of the Dayton Agreement have to end"</i>, Ashdown said. The High Representative underlined that this is not a failure of an individual, but what Del Ponte described in her recent report to the Security Council as a systematic failure of the security structures – the RS Army and Ministry of Interior – to carry out their duties. Ashdown said that events that followed showed that Del Ponte was right. <i>"We now know that the RS Army, which has pretended for seven years to be hunting for <b>Ratko Mladic</b>, has in fact kept him on its payroll. We now know that indicted war criminal <b>Gojko Jankovic</b>, who was supposed to be arrested in an RS Ministry of Interior raid was in fact warned by that same Ministry that a raid was being prepared. We now know that these two organisations that are responsible for hunting war criminals are full of people protecting them. This has to be changed and only two weeks are left for making that change"</i>, Ashdown said. The High Representative also praised efforts on establishing the BiH Court and expressed optimism that the set deadlines would be met and that trials of war crimes and corruption would start by late January.</p> |
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| <p><b>Deputy Commander of the Foca police helped Gojko Jankovic</b></p> | <p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 11 'Deputy Commander of the Foca police helped Gojko Jankovic' by <b>E. Sarac</b> – DA's source has confirmed that the statement by HR <b>Paddy Ashdown</b> on RS MoI's failed attempt of the arrest of <b>Gojko Jankovic</b>, ICTY indictee from Foca, because he was warned in advance by someone from police. <i>"On Wednesday night, 9 November, deputy commander of the police in Foca prepared two police patrols and send them to Trnovace [village where Jankovic lives] in front of Jankovic's house. Their task was to give ICTY fugitive a clear signal his arrest is being prepared. Afterwards, two persons were engaged [personal information known to DA] with two vehicles,... in charge of transporting Jankovic from his house to hotel in Foca next to 'Usce' bar,"</i> says the source adding that Jankovic has freely walked in Foca and currently hides in nearby village of Susjesno. Inset 'Matijasevic denied HR' carries statement by RS Interior Minister <b>Darko Matijasevic</b> denying Ashdown's in this case. Matijasevic told journalists he has no information on whether any RS MoI staff member helps or enables hiding of persons indicted for war crimes.</p> <p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, pg. 3 'Jankovic is protected by his brother-in-law' by <b>S. K.</b> – A source close to the international community in BiH claims there are persons working at the RS MoI who are helping Hague indictees. The same source claims Deputy Chief of Foca Police <b>Zoran Ostojic</b> is a brother-in-law of <b>Gojko Jankovic</b>, a Hague indictee.</p> <p>HR <b>Paddy Ashdown</b> has stated that someone from RS MoI has informed Jankovic of the arrest action SFOR had conducted in the area of Foca. RS Police Minister <b>Darko Matijasevic</b> has stated he had not information on any of RS MoI employees helping war crimes indictees. <i>'Should I get such information, I will react in accordance with laws and those persons will be sanctioned'</i>, Matijasevic has stated.</p> <p><b>Glas Srpske</b>, cover page story 'Paddy waves with a stick' by <b>N. Z.</b> also carries the statement of HR <b>Paddy Ashdown</b> on <b>Gojko Jankovic</b>.</p> |
| <p><b>Statement of Day: US Ambassador McElhaney</b></p>                 | <p><b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 2 carries in its 'Statement of Day', the US Ambassador to BiH, <b>Douglas McElhaney</b>, as saying: <i>"Lack of cooperation of the RS with The Hague is a result of systematic policy"</i>.</p>  |
| <p><b>RS police fail to nab war crimes suspect</b></p>                  | <p><b>Herceg Bosna Radio, FTV, RTRS, Oslobođenje</b> pg 2 'Search for Borovcanin', <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 4 'Failed search for Ljubomir Borovcanin', <b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 6 'Srdjan Borovcanin's house searched', by <b>De. L.</b>, <b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>, pg 9 'Search after Ljubomir Borovcanin without success', by <b>A. Macanovic</b>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, pg. 3 'RS Police were searching for Borovcanin' by <b>D. M. and V. P.</b>, <b>Glas Srpske</b>, pg. 3 'They have not found Borovcanin' by <b>N. Zelenovic and D. Zec</b>, <b>EuroBlic</b>, pg. RS2 'Borovcanin was not arrested' by <b>D. S.</b>, <b>ONASA, AFP, SRNA</b> – RS police failed to arrest a war crimes suspect during an overnight operation on Wednesday, Interior Minister <b>Darko Matijasevic</b> said on Thursday. <i>"During the night and day police conducted an operation to check locations in search of Ljubomir Borovcanin ... but failed to find him,"</i> Matijasevic told journalists without elaborating. The operation came hours before a 7,000-strong European Union force (EUFOR) took over peacekeeping duties in Bosnia from an outgoing NATO-led force.</p> <p>Borovcanin was indicted in 2002 by the UN war crimes court at The Hague over the slaughter of up to 8,000 Bosniaks at Srebrenica in 1995 when he was a commander of the Bosnian Serb police. Police searched a house in the village of Mokro, near the Serb wartime stronghold of Pale, Srna news agency reported.</p>   |

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| <p><b>Del Ponte to address PIC Political Director today</b></p> | <p><b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 2 'Carla Del Ponte to address PIC members today', <b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b> pg 22 'Meeting of PIC political directors' by <u>D. Pasic</u> and <b>Dnevni List</b> pg 7 'On The Hague and RS again' by <u>NINA</u>, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, pg. 2 'The main topic is lack of cooperation with the Hague Tribunal' by <u>M. C.</u>, <b>ONASA</b> – The Political Directors of the Peace Implementation Council started their meeting in Sarajevo on Thursday. The meeting is to be continued today. The Political Directors last met in September, read a press release from the OHR. Chairman of the BiH Council of Ministers <b>Adnan Terzic</b> will brief them on the progress that BiH has made since then in implementing reforms that are necessary for Euro-integration. Chief ICTY Prosecutor <b>Carla del Ponte</b> will also brief the Political Directors. The Political Directors will be interested in hearing from Carla del Ponte her view of the level of cooperation that the BiH and Entity authorities are giving to the ICTY following her presentation to the UN Security Council in which she pointed to systemic weaknesses that exist in the RS. This cooperation is a key requirement placed upon the domestic authorities by the Dayton Peace Agreement.</p>   |
| <p><b>ICTY releases BiH Croat Mario Cerkez</b></p>              | <p><b>Herceg Bosna Radio, BHT, FTV, Vecernji List</b>, front pg splash and pg 3 'The Hague Tribunal releases Marijo Cerkez', by <u>Zvonimir Despot</u>, <b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 2, mentioned on front 'Mario Cerkez to be free', <u>Arijana Beus</u>, <b>Slobodna Dalmacija</b>, pg 10, mentioned on front 'The Hague Tribunal releases Marijo Cerkez', by <u>Zvonimir Cilic</u> – The Hague-based UN war crimes Tribunal's Appeals Chamber has ordered the "immediate release" of a BiH Croat, <b>Mario Cerkez</b>, whom the trial chamber sentenced to 15 years in prison in 2001 for war crimes committed during the Croat-Bosniak conflict in the Lasva Valley, central Bosnia. <i>"The appeals chamber considered that 'Mario Cerkez's sentence has to be revised',"</i> reads a press release issued by the Tribunal on Thursday [2 December].</p> <p>The full reasons for the release of Cerkez will be given <i>"in the judgment which will be rendered on 17 December 2004 in the case the Prosecutor v. Dario Kordic and Mario Cerkez"</i>, the statement reads. A lawyer for Cerkez, <b>Bozo Kovacic</b>, told HINA on the phone he did not know what kind of judgment would be delivered but, <i>"judging from (the Appeals Chamber's) ruling in the case of Tihomir Blaskic, I expect a conviction regarding counts on the detention of civilians"</i>. Cerkez has been at the Scheveningen detention centre since 6 October 1997 when he surrendered voluntarily.</p> |

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| <p><b>Secret plan to arrest Karadzic and Mladic</b></p> | <p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, pg. 4 'Special forces to arrest Karadzic' by N. N. – The article carries a report of "Politika" Belgrade daily, saying that a British Army unit is to attempt to arrest the Hague Tribunal's most wanted men, <b>Radovan Karadzic</b> and <b>Ratko Mladic</b>, with aviation support from NATO. The Belgrade daily claims that the secret plans to arrest the former Bosnian Serbs leaders are codenamed Waterloo and Waterloo M. The plans are developed in six phases and assume that the two fugitives are both somewhere in BiH. "Those who have planned the arrests believe that both will defend themselves to the death and in that case will be killed," writes Politika, adding that the whole operation will last no longer than four hours. Karadzic's and Mladic's arrest should be the most spectacular operation of commandos after World War II, says the article in Thursday's issue of Belgrade's magazine "Politika". This magazine claims the plan on the arrest was created by US CIA and British MI6.</p> <p><b>Vecernje Novosti</b>, pg. 8 'Brussels is preparing Waterloo', <b>Vecernji List</b> pg 2 'Biggest operation to arrest Karadzic and Mladic' by halso reported on the issue.</p> |
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## Political developments/reforms

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| <p>VL interview:<br/>HR Ashdown<br/>about<br/>constitutional<br/>organization of<br/>BiH, image of<br/>Croats, Dragan<br/>Covic</p> | <p><b>Vecernji List</b>, pgs 4-5 'Croat politicians in BiH are acting like minorities in former Yugoslavia', mentioned on front 'There will be no Dayton 2', by <u>Jozo Pavkovic</u> – Carries an interview with the High Representative for BiH, <b>Paddy Ashdown</b>, in which he talks about several issues. Asked to comment to the journalist's remark/announcement that talks on constitutional changes in BiH should start in spring of next year, HR Ashdown says he would not like that the issue be addressed until BiH has become a member of European institutions, because when it happens, BiH will have structures of Europe and NATO that will provide safe environment and structure in which these difficult issues can be addressed. Noting that the issue of constitutional changes is a matter for citizens of BiH, not the IC, HR Ashdown says there will be no "Dayton 2". However, HR Ashdown notes the issue cannot be delayed much. Responding to the journalist's observation that the image of the Croats in BiH with the IC is bad, HR Ashdown says that the Croats have far less bad an image with the IC than the Serbs, as far as they (Serbs) see it. In that context, HR Ashdown notes that, as far as he is concerned, the Croats do not have a bad image. HR Ashdown goes on to say that the Croats should use all instruments from constitutional amendments and work that the rights, which are stipulated in the amendments, be implemented in practice. Questioned to comment on claims of the Croat politicians that they are being weakened by judicial proceedings, HR Ashdown argues that facts show that processes are being conducted against people who are suspected of violating the law. Questioned to comment to <b>Dragan Covic's</b> case, in other words the charges against Covic, HR Ashdown says he cannot talk about it since it is a matter for the judiciary. <i>"Personally, I will be frank: As far as I am concerned, Dragan Covic is an honest, sincere, direct partner when it comes to reforms"</i>, said HR Ashdown.</p> |
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**EU's Solana  
says Dayton  
should not be  
changed**

**BHT** – *“In my opinion, Dayton should not be changed. If small changes are made by reaching an agreement between the three sides, perhaps. But generally speaking, I do not think it would be a good idea to open Dayton again at this moment. Of course, if there is an agreement between the three sides on some arrangements or solutions, I would not be against it. In the case of police, for instance, that is a situation where it would be good for all to go in the direction of introducing small changes in the letter of Dayton. But I do not recommend opening Dayton again,”* EU High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy, **Javier Solana**, said in an interview for BHT Posteno govoreci (Frankly Speaking) current affairs programme late on Thursday. Commenting on BHT Editor Duska Jurisic's remark that BiH practically could not function without the High Representative, Solana said that it was true, but that it was not the whole truth. *“A lot has been done already by the people and the country's government structures. Of course, the pressure by the international community, the impulse by the High Representative is still very important here. But I very much hope that as time goes by you will have the discipline and the energy to do this alone, without the need for pressure and impulse from the international community. You have to be convinced that all this is for your own good,”* said Solana.

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| <p><b>BiH Council of Ministers hold session</b></p> | <p><b>Herceg Bosna Radio, BHT, FTV, Oslobodjenje</b> pg 4 'Commission for distribution of state property to be established soon', <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 9 'Commission for state property to be established', <b>ONASA</b> – The BiH Council of Ministers determined on Thursday a proposal for the agreement on air transport between BiH and Bulgaria, which will be forwarded to the BiH Presidency. <i>"The agreement will enable the establishment of a regular international air transport between BiH and Bulgaria,"</i> BiH Minister of Transport and Communications <b>Branko Dokic</b> told reporters after the session. <i>"The Council also made a decision on the establishment of the commission for state property, determination and distribution of that property, determination of rights and obligations of BiH, BiH entities and the Brcko District in the state property management,"</i> Dokic said. The commission will function until the final adoption of provisions on the state property management. The commission is expected to offer drafts of appropriate legal acts by May 30 next year. It will submit a final report to Chairman of the BiH Council of Ministers <b>Adnan Terzic</b>. The commission will have 12 members, who will be appointed at the next session of the Council. The BiH Council of Ministers also discussed the information about the status of the law on public procurements and ordered the BiH Ministry of Finances and Treasury to announce a competition for appointment of four members of the Steering Board of the Agency for Public Procurements and to coordinate activities with Mayor of the Brcko District <b>Branko Damjanac</b> related to the nomination of an observer in the Board.</p> |
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| <p><b>Law on deployment of BiH armed forces abroad adopted</b></p> | <p><b>Herceg Bosna Radio, BHT, FTV, Oslobođenje</b> pg 5<br/> ‘Participation of armed forces in peacekeeping missions supported’, <b>ONASA</b> – With 28 votes for and 2 sustained, the BiH House of Representatives adopted the proposed law on participation of BiH armed forces, state officials and other employees in foreign peace operations and other activities. The law regulates the process of deployment of BiH forces in peace operations abroad, their withdrawal and means of financing. Peace operations, as defined in the law, include operations in conflict prevention, preservation and establishment of peace, participation in the activities of international security and defense organizations, which BiH joined by international agreements, humanitarian operations as independent operations in case of natural, technical and technological disasters, military training, and alleviation of consequences of terrorist attacks. Decisions under the law will be passed by the Presidency or competent ministries, depending on the type of operation. <b>Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 8, <b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, pg. 4 ‘Draft Law on peace missions was enacted’ by <u>Srna</u>, <b>Glas Srpske</b>, pg. 2 ‘Peace-keepers got green light’ by <u>Srna</u> also reported on the session.</p> |
| <p><b>BiH Presidency adopts report on budget execution</b></p>     | <p><b>BHT, FTV, Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 8 ‘Only three institutions exceeded the budget’, <b>Oslobođenje</b> pg ‘BiH Parliament overstepped the half-year budget’, <b>ONASA</b> – The BiH Presidency on Thursday adopted a report on budget execution of BiH institutions during the first six months of this year. Presidency member <b>Dragan Covic</b> said that the report <i>“is not really attractive, as it does not have a dimension it once had, since most budgetary beneficiaries have been integrated into the planned finances.”</i> The Presidency said it expects from the Finance Ministry to submit the final report for the present fiscal year on time, <i>“not five months over-due.”</i></p>   |

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| <p><b>FBiH Finance Minister Vrankic on financing of BiH institutions: RS representatives obstructing reforms</b></p> | <p><b>Dnevni List</b>, pg 8 ‘Representatives of RS obstruct negotiations on price of state of BiH’, by <u>J. Petrovic</u> – The FBiH Finance Minister, <b>Dragan Vrankic</b>, is carried as saying that negotiations that took place in Banja Luka (DL does not note when negotiations took place), which were supposed to determine how much the state of BiH would cost, failed. According to Minister Vrankic, the meeting, which gathered Prime Ministers and Finance Ministers, was not a success foremost because of obstructions coming from RS representatives. He concludes that as a result, representatives of the RS are putting in jeopardy all the reforms.</p>  |
| <p><b>Oslobodjenje: Njegos’s successor Andan indicted for war crime</b></p>  | <p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 7 ‘Successor Andan indicted for war crime’, mentioned on cover, by <u>S. Mesetovic</u> – Daily writes that <b>Darko Andan</b>, current head of the Public Security Centre in Eastern Sarajevo, is the top candidate for the position of the RS Police Director. According to Oslobodjenje, Andan has been indicted for war crimes committed against Bosniaks in Kasindol street [Sarajevo suburbs] in 1992. A pre-war police office had allegedly moved to be a member of the RS Army during the war, where he immediately received the rank of mayor. <i>“Anyways, CV of this police officer is not shiny at all, and it is disputable how he could... be RS Police Director,”</i> reads the article.</p> |



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| <p><b>Sarajevo<br/>magazines<br/>analysis of<br/>Njegus<br/>resignation</b></p> | <p><b>Slobodna Bosna</b> pgs 8-9 'Radomir Njegus stepped out, to be replaced at the position of RS Police Director by Dragan Andan, Mladic's "fellow fighter"' by <u>M.A.</u> – SB writes that resignation of <b>Radomir Njegus</b> from the position of RS Police Director was <i>"brilliantly well played performance directed by the RS political leadership. The aim of this show was to reassure IC that RS readily works to find and capture war crimes suspects."</i> SB concludes that Njegus is to be replaced by <b>Dragan Andan</b>, Chief of PSC Eastern Sarajevo, commenting that his recent statement on finding documents proving that around 5000 Serbs were killed in Sarajevo during the war further 'strengthened' his position. SB describes Andan as 'Mladic's fellow fighter', as he was close to Mladic during the war.</p> <p><b>Dani</b> pg 7 'Personality in the Focus' column by <u>E.S. –S.M.B.</u> – Dani conclude Njegus was pressured to resign due to his agreement to reform police and abolish RS Interior Ministry, however stress that he did this only <i>"trying to ensure support of the international community with the intention to stay 'clean' of a pile of trash he left behind in the police."</i> Noting Njegus was clearly corrupted his removal nonetheless means that rightist wing of SDS won. <i>"Njegus was neither good cop nor professional state official. He will be replaced by someone of <b>Darko Matijsevic</b>'s taste. Knowing him, we can expect only someone worse than Njegus,"</i> concludes the magazine.</p> |
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| <p><b>Colak, Kovac<br/>attend security<br/>meeting in<br/>Brussels</b></p> | <p><b>FTV, Dnevni Avaz</b> pg 8 'Without unified police, BiH will not win the battle with crime', <b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 6 'Organized crime is regional problem' – BiH Security Minister <b>Barisa Colak</b> told Fena on Thursday that BiH has made substantial progress in the past year by passing certain laws, but that authorities would be more satisfied if the implementation of the passed laws was on the expected level. Colak, together with BiH Justice Minister <b>Slobodan Kovac</b>, has attended a meeting of the EU and Western Balkans ministries of justice and interior affairs focused on combating organized crime. <i>"One should be objective – if we fail to create a unified police structure which will be able to on one side, effectively fight all sorts of organized crime activities, and on another to be in function of protecting all its citizens – that we cannot say that we will win the battle against organized crime,"</i> says Colak.</p> |
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| <p><b>NN op-ed on decision of HR Ashdown to repeal the Law on Pardon</b></p> | <p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, op-ed pg. 7 'Are we all the same?' by <u>Slavo Kukic</u> – the author refers to the decision of High Representative <b>Paddy Ashdown</b> to repeal the Law on Pardon and says he, in principle, supports and welcomes this decision. However, the author explains he was surprised with two statements of HR (<i>'the authority have adopted the Law in secrecy this summer'</i> and <i>'the Law was adopted without a single vote against, without a single statement or public comment'</i>) and says the Law was not adopted unanimously but with support of 31 out of in total 42 votes of delegates. He also claims it is impossible the Law was adopted in secrecy since an employee of OHR had attended sessions of the Parliament. He goes on to say it is possible HR was presented wrong information and concludes that, if this is the case, the HR is facing great problems. On the other hand, he says it is also possible the HR had brought this general accusation with an aim to avoid criticism of the international community on his account. <i>'Perhaps the man has noting to do with such a scenario. However, in case this or something similar was the case, the problem is much more serious and forces BiH citizens to seek for an additional protection'</i>, the author concludes.</p> |
| <p><b>SB says Djapo to be next Brcko Mayor</b></p>                           | <p><b>Slobodna Bosna</b>, pg. 10 "“Playful” SDA delegates have chosen SDP’s Djapo for the Mayor’ by <u>A. M.</u> – As according to the latest unofficial information from Brcko District, the new Mayor of Brcko will be <b>Mirsad Djapo</b> (SDP), who will be supported by two SDA delegates – <b>Hasim Kujundzic</b> and <b>Halil Ljuca</b>, as well as two delegates of HSS-NHI coalition. In this way, Djapo has managed to avoid bargaining with the Party for BiH, which was ready to support SDP’s candidate in Brcko in the exchange for SDP’s support to the Party for BiH’s candidate for the Mayor of Sarajevo.</p>  |

## Miscellaneous

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| <p><b>Oslobodjenje<br/>on FDS<br/>director Lojo<br/>affair</b></p> | <p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 3 'Avaz and Ljiljan are lying because of our intention to participate in privatization of Oslobodjenje', mentioned on cover, by <u>Senka Kurtovic</u> – Following the claims of Dnevni Avaz and Ljiljan on Thursday that FBiH Government will seek removal of the Director of the Sarajevo Tobacco Factory [FDS], <b>Sefik Lojo</b> said that he is sure those reports were a direct result of the announcement and intention of FDS to participate in privatization of Oslobodjenje.</p> <p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 3 'It is not true that we demand Sefik Lojo's removal', mentioned on cover, by <u>A. Terzic</u> – FBiH Prime Minister, <b>Ahmet Hadzipasic</b>, also denied DA's allegations: <i>"FBiH Government until now has not discussed any possible measures to carry out in the FDS including taking a stance on alleged removal of Sefik Lojo. These were utterly ungrounded claims," says Hadzipasic.</i></p> <p><b>Oslobodjenje</b> pg 3 'No agreements nor negotiations', mentioned on cover, by <u>Se.K.</u> – SDA Vice President <b>Bakir Izetbegovic</b> denied claims by Ljiljan magazine according to which he used his influence to put a pressure on two FDS Supervising Board members to vote in favor of participating in Oslobodjenje's privatization.</p> |
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| <p><b>HT Mostar registered as owner of 51% of Eronet shares</b></p>                    | <p><b>Dnevni List</b> pg 3 'Ownership over Eronet confirmed to HT Mostar' by <u>J. Petrovic</u> – President of the Cantonal Court in Mostar, <b>Mladen Jurisic</b>, confirmed that HT Mostar has been registered in the court's registry as the owner of 51 % of shares in Eronet.</p>   |
| <p><b>Banja Luka Prosecutor's Office on illegalities at RS Ministry of Traffic</b></p> | <p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, pg. 6 'Investigation against Dokic and Pavic' by <u>S. Karic</u>, <b>EuroBlic</b>, pg. RS5 'MoI broke the agreement' by <u>N. B.</u> – Banja Luka Prosecutor's Office on Thursday confirmed it had recently launched an investigation on possible illegal activities at RS Ministry of Traffic. The P0 has stated two former Ministers and one employee were suspected of these activities, however the information should not have been published since it had put the investigation in jeopardy.</p> |
| <p><b>Pavic and Dokic deny their responsibility</b></p>                                | <p><b>Nezavisne Novine</b>, pg. 6 'I do not know what they are suspecting me of' by <u>D. Kovacevic</u>, <b>EuroBlic</b>, pg. RS5 'MoI broke the agreement' by <u>N. B.</u> inset 'Pavic: I have found out about this from media' by <u>G. S.</u> – <b>Marko Pavic</b> and <b>Branko Dokic</b> on Thursday denied accusations suspecting them of illegal activities at RS Ministry of Traffic. Both of them say they were not officially informed on the investigation.</p>  |

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| <p><b>SB says Covic main suspect in Lijanovici case</b></p> | <p><b>Slobodna Bosna</b> pgs 28-29 'Covic accused of heading criminal organization which also include justices Mato Tadic, Danika Sain, and four Lijanovic brothers?!' by <u>Suzana Mijatovic</u> – Following the interrogation of BiH Presidency member <b>Dragan Covic</b> by the BiH prosecutor <b>Mats Mattson</b> with the regard to his alleged responsibility in Lijanovici case, SB writes details of his alleged involvement in millions worth customs frauds at the time when Covic performed duty of FBiH Finance Minister. <i>“However, while in this case the chief suspects were co-owners of meat industry Lijanovisit, upon the order for investigation issued by the BiH Prosecutor’s special department, Dragan Covic was marked as the leader of ‘criminal industrial organization’.”</i> SB unofficially learns that in addition to Covic, suspects also include BiH Constitutional Court justice <b>Mato Tadic</b>, two justices from FBiH Supreme Court, <b>Danika Sain</b> and <b>Milan Blankic</b>, all suspected of receiving bribe from Lijanovici brothers.</p> |
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