

OHR BiH Media Round-up, 31/8/2005

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on August 31

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (12,00 hrs)	BH Radio 1 (12,00 hrs)	RTRS (12,00 hrs)
BiH HoR in session	635 killed in Baghdad stampede	600 casualties in Iraq
Police meeting announcement	BiH HoR in session	Sokolac robbery
Mandic appeal rejected	Hundreds killed by Katrina	RS NA on defence reform

TV news broadcast on August 30

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	TV PINK (18,00 hrs)	BHT 1 (19,00 hrs)
ICTY indictee arrested in Russia	RS NA discusses defence reform	RSNA on defence reform
RS NA discusses defence reform	BiH HoR discusses VAT	BiH Missing Persons Institute formed
BiH HoR in session	Missing Persons Day marked	Protests in Belgrade
OHR on new drugs law	Missing Persons Institute takes over	Zelenovic's apprehension confirmed

NTV Hayat (19,00 hrs)	FTV (19,30 hrs)	RTRS (19,30 hrs)
Missing Persons Day marked	RSNA on defence reform	ICTY indictee arrested in Russia
Missing Persons Institute takes over	BiH HoR on VAT consequences	RS NA discusses defence reform

RS NA discusses defence reform	Passive voters' registration system	OHR on police reform
Another police reform meeting	BiH Missing Persons Institute formed	OHR on new drugs law

Oslobodjenje	Abolishment of entity armies accepted
Dnevni Avaz	24 Bosniak military officers sue Pension Fund
Dnevni List	Money from Croatia for 578 projects in BiH
Vecernji List	Croatian intelligence agent under German investigation
Slobodna Dalmacija	Europe-press Holding took over Slobodan Dalmacija
Glas Srpske	Paddy is satisfied and all caps are still there
Nezavisne Novine	RS MP's voted for defence reform
Blic	Brandy under control (about new Law in Brcko)
Vecernje Novosti	Features Serbia related titles
Srpski Nacional	Features Serbia related titles

LATEST NEWS OF TODAY

<p>BiH HoR in session</p>	<p>BH Radio 1 <u>Sanija Saljihi</u> – BiH House of Representatives is in session today. They have rejected the request by the Council of Ministers to discuss the draft Law on Customs' Offences in the urgent procedure. Representatives returned the law into the regular parliamentary procedure. They are also expected to discuss the draft traffic safety law, proposal on establishing the commission for text for BiH hymn and the proposal by the CoM to remove the constitutional provision which bans reduction of the parliamentarians' salaries. So far, the RS delegates have objected this proposal stating they oppose the constitutional changes as a consensus on the issue has not yet been reached.</p> <p>RHB also covered the issue.</p>
<p>RHB announces police talks on Bjelasnica</p>	<p>BH Radio 1 – RHB announces the continuation of police reform talk that will take place at 'Hotel Marsal' at Bjelasnica tomorrow (Thursday). Apart from participants that took part in previous talks, this time representatives of Herzegovina-Neretva and Zenica-Doboj cantons MoIs will take part in the talks too. Advisor to BiH CoM Chairman, Bojan Zec Filipovic, noted that the police reform talks are complex, therefore it is not impossible that the Bjelasnica meeting is not the final talks about the issue.</p>

<p>Sokolac robbery</p>	<p>RS Radio – The unidentified persons on Tuesday stole BAM 2 million from the vehicle owned by “Pavlovic Internacional Banka” on the road Han Pijesak-Sokolac, the Spokesperson of the PSC East Sarajevo, Miroslav Popara, stated today. Report carries detailed statement of Popara regarding the robbery. Police investigation is ongoing. According to him, robbers were carrying police uniforms.</p>
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<p>Political Developments/Reforms</p>

<p>RSNA adopts with two-third majority transfer of entity defense powers to the state level</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje cover page, pg 5 ‘Abolishment of entity armies accepted’, Dnevni Avaz pg 9 ‘Abolishment of RS Army, Defense Ministry supported’, SRNA – The RS National Assembly on Tuesday held a special session in Banja Luka following the adoption of the decision on the transfer of powers in the area of defence from the RS to BiH, at which it adopted conclusions assessing that the proposed solutions for the structure, organization and work of the BiH Armed Forces satisfy NATO criteria and represent the final stage in the creation of armed forces compatible with NATO standards. With the adopted conclusions, proposed by the floor groups of the Serb Democratic Party, the Party of Democratic Progress and the Democratic Patriotic Party, the RSNA urges the BiH Presidency to call on official structures of the NATO alliance to accept the reform of the BiH Armed Forces as the final stage of structural reform which will enable the integration of the BiH Armed Forces into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The conclusions point out that the RS is committed to the setting up of a defence system within the framework of BiH which is to defend BiH and its citizens through collective security arrangements, especially through membership in Partnership for Peace and the NATO alliance. The RSNA has tasked RS representatives in BiH institutions to find solutions for regimental organization, branches and services, anthems, flags and insignia for units, commands and the entire structure of the armed forces, in order to safeguard the identity of individuals and peoples in the future structure of the Armed Forces of BiH. The RSNA conclusions says that the concept of recruitment for the units and institutions of the defence system on the basis of nationality must secure the protection of the national identity of members of the constituent nations of BiH.</p> <p>In the course of the session, RS President Dragan Cavic called on RS National Assembly representatives to bring decision on transfer of authorities regarding defence and legislative issues in order for BiH Parliamentary Assembly to adopt law on military service. While addressing the extraordinary RSNA session, Cavic emphasized that decision on military forces was not going to be adopted without consensus. NATO Commander to BiH Steven Schook, Co-Chair of the Defence Reform Commission Raffi Gregorian and BiH Minister of Defence Nikola Radovanovic advised the representatives to adopt defence reform and take the opportunity to enter Partnership for Peace. <i>“According to a BiH Constitution Article, it is possible to transfer authorities in areas on which entities agree and it is expected that FBiH Parliament will bring the same decision at its session scheduled for September 6”</i>, said Radovanovic. Defence reform foresees full transfer of authorities from entity to state level, establishment of single budget, professional army and abolishment of military conscription and reserve unit. SNSD and SDS representatives almost fully agreed with such concept at the session. PDP representatives did not oppose, but they are going to ask the Assembly to adopt certain conclusions. <i>“We do not prefer war and thus we believe that structure which would provide peace should be created”</i>, said SNSD leader Milorad Dodik. SRS and DNS oppose the concept, saying that it opposes to the Constitution.</p> <p>RHB, Pink, BHT, Hayat, FTV, RTRS, Dnevni List pg 3 ‘Dodik against change of RS Constitution’ by <u>I. Glibusic</u>, Vecernji List pg 2 ‘Support to concept of armed forces’ by <u>bs</u>, Nezavisne Novine cover pg splash, pg 3 ‘RS MP’s voted for defence reform’ by <u>R.Segrt</u>, Glas Srpske pg 2 ‘Army joint after all’ by <u>M.Dzepina</u>, EuroBlic RSpg 2 ‘BiH is closer to NATO with single army’ by <u>Nedeljka Breberina</u> also covered the session prominently. Glas Srpske carries separate mini-reports on statements/presentations of Cavic, Gregorian, Radovanovic and Schook under following headlines respectively: ‘Under NATO umbrella’, ‘Additional security’, ‘Less soldiers’ and ‘An important step’.</p>
<p>RS NGOs leader Dukic says RSNA conclusions on defense a betrayal of Serrb people</p>	<p>SRNA – Branislav Dukic, President of the RS Association of former detention camp inmates, Tuesday evening assessed that RS NA decision on transfer of defence authority from RS onto BiH represents <i>“a classical example of betrayal of the Serb people”</i>. After the RS NA session, Dukic told the press in Banja Luka that <i>“NGO’s call on the RS NA Speaker Dusan Stojicic to address the families of the killed soldiers (which make the total of 24 thousand people)”</i> on the issue.</p>

CoM Chair Terzic: Meeting on Bjelasnica will not be the last one	BHT, Hayat, Oslobođenje pg 2, mentioned on cover 'Terzic does not expect agreement to be reached on Bjelasnica' – BiH Council of Ministers (CoM) Chair Adnan Terzic said that it is hard to expect that the next meeting on the police reform, scheduled for Thursday on mount Bjelasnica, will be the last one. Terzic added that participants at this meeting would discuss the maps of police regions, as well as some other problematic issues.
Terzic confirms consultations on police reform ongoing	Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'Talks on police reform were intensified' by M. C. – Representatives of BiH CoM and Governments of entities held another round of consultations late Tuesday afternoon, as CoM Chairman Adnan Terzic confirmed. He added a number of consultations will be held by continuation of police reform talks on Thursday in order to try to bring stances closer to each other and agree on police reform by the set deadline.
OHR: Talks on police reform an issue for BiH authorities	RHB, RTRS, Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Agreement should be reached by local authorities' – Continuation of the negotiations on police reform, scheduled for Thursday, is essentially an issue for the BiH authorities, who are organizing the meeting, stated at the press conference in Sarajevo on Tuesday the OHR spokesman Kevin Sullivan. It is they who are charged with reaching an agreement, consistent with the requirements of the European Commission. The OHR's position and the international community's position has been the same throughout the process of negotiations, said Sullivan.
GS on police reform	Glas Srpske cover pg splash 'Paddy is satisfied and all caps are still there' by N. G. – The article claims the Police Reform Commission, with Wilfred Martens as its head, is fulfilling "a homework" it got from HR Paddy Ashdown by undermining the Dayton Agreement and constitutional organisation of RS, F BiH and BiH. Military-political analyst Ostoja Barasin thinks there is striving for centralisation of BiH through police reform, i.e. striving for re-establishment of BiH's pre-war internal structure. He says there are already three security services at BiH level and he thinks it is possible to both fulfill EC requirements and preserve constitutional organization.
SD: IC wants to form new coalition (SDP, SNSD, HSP) after 2006 elections	Slobodna Dalmacija , pg 13, mentioned on front 'HSP takes over power with Dodig and Lagumdžija?', by Zoran Zekic – SD notes that it is clear that the IC wants to have a new ruling coalition in BiH after the 2006 elections. Such coalition would include the SNSD on behalf of the Serb people, SDP on behalf of the Bosniaks and HSP (Djapic-Jurasic) on behalf of the Croats since the HDZ and Radomir Božić are out of running because of several criminal reports against the parties' presidents. SD goes on to say that the IC, led by the US Embassy, assess it is the HSP that will take over the leading role in Croat opposition after the HDZ breaks up and new HDZ gets formed by Božo Ljubić . Apparently, the project is already being prepared and it received support from the UK Ambassador to BiH, Matthew Rycroft , who allegedly told the NHI president, Kresimir Zubak , a few days ago that the NHI would be taking part in the new majority in order to "have a calming effect" on the HSP (NB: presumably because of HSP's rightist orientation and its attitude towards the IC that is sometimes stiff). The post of BiH prime minister in such new coalition would belong to a Croat and parties agreed that the man for the job is Nikola Grabovac .
Terzic on Dokic case	Nezavisne Novine pg 6 'There will be no removal of Dokic today' by Srna – CoM Chairman Adnan Terzic has assessed the claims that he would appoint Tihomir Gligoric instead of Branko Dokic to the position of BiH Minister of Traffic and Communications were 'pure speculations'. Nevertheless, he confirmed there are some ideas with regard to this matter and he added: 'However, presidents of parties of parliamentary majority should give their consent prior to any project with regard to appointments'. Glas Srpske pg 2 'Gligoric instead of Dokic' by D.M. – Also reports on Terzic's statement, noting that its sources claim Gligoric was trying to obtain support for his possible candidature from two more Serb delegates lately. D.M. also reminds of charges against Gligoric before BiH Prosecutor's Office.

War Crimes

BiH Missing
Persons
Institute
established

RHB, Pink, BHT, Hayat, FTV, RTRS, Oslobođenje pgs 4-5, mentioned on cover 'To find missing persons and establish truth about the war in BiH', **Dnevni Avaz** pg 11 'BiH MPI established', **Dnevni List** pg 2 'State determined to speed up process of looking after missing persons' by M. Zorlak, **Vecernji List** pg 2 'BiH first state with Institute for Missing Persons' by eme, **Nezavisne Novine** pg 6 'BiH Institute for Missing Persons founded' by R.Cengic, **Glas Srpske** pg 3 'Bogdanic is the first Director' by N.Z. – On the occasion of the international Day of Missing Persons, the agreement on establishing the BiH Missing Persons Institute (MPI) has been signed in Sarajevo on Tuesday. By this agreement, all existing institutions – FBiH Commission on Missing Persons, RS Office for Searching for Missing and Captured Persons and the relevant department of Brcko District have been abolished and unified into this institute. It will be in charge of resolving the issues of missing persons in all parts of BiH, regardless their national or religious affiliation, said BiH Minister for Human Rights and Refugees **Mirsad Kebo**. International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) will support the BiH MPI, through various programs – such as DNA analysis and training program, said ICMP Chief of Staff **Kathryn Bomberger**

<p>Russia confirms apprehension of ICTY indictee Zelenovic</p>	<p>RHB, Pink, BHT, FTV, RTRS, Oslobodjenje pg 2 'Russian confirms apprehension of Zelenovic', Dnevni Avaz pg 13, Dnevni List pg 6 'Media: Confirmation on Zelenovic's arrest' <u>not signed</u>, Nezavisne Novine pg 5</p> <p>'Dragan Zelenovic was arrested nevertheless' by <u>S.Karic</u> – Russian Prosecutor's Office confirmed on Tuesday that ICTY indictee Dragan Zelenovic has been apprehended on August 25 in the city of Khanty-Mansiysk, in Western Siberia.</p> <p>Assistant Prosecutor in this region confirmed that the documents necessary for Zelenovic's extradition will be sent to the Russian State Prosecutor's Office on Wednesday. Zelenovic is indicted for violating the laws and customs of war and the crimes against humanity committed in Foca.</p>
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<p>Oslobodjenje: Dramatic session of Srebrenica Working Group on report on genocide perpetrators</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 3 'Dramatic session on participants in genocide', mentioned on cover, by <u>Dl. 0.</u> – Srebrenica Working Group held session on Monday in Banja Luka to discuss a report by the Investigative Sub-Group established by the High Representative and tasked to estimate methodology and results of the RS Interior and Defence Ministries' investigations on participants in Srebrenica genocide. The sub-group, lead by Smail Cekic, has allegedly prepared by the report on the perpetrators and submitted it to both the HR and Srebrenica Working Group. While the OHR has not responded yet, daily writes that Srebrenica WG held a <i>"long, nauseating and from time to time dramatic discussion."</i> Daily also carries that following the session of three WG members, one claimed for the other of <i>"making his life hell for the past year."</i> Radovan Pejic, one of the authors of the sub group's report, rejected to comment the report that caused such stir.</p> <p>Nezavisne Novine pg 6 'Documentation from the Hague and Serbia is being awaited for' by <u>N.N.</u> also reports on the session and carries Smail Cekic' statement</p>
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Economic/Social Issues/Audits

<p>BiH HoR discusses possible consequences of VAT introduction</p>	<p>Pink, BHT, Hayat, FTV, Oslobodjenje pg 6 'Only a third of VAT income for social programs', Dnevni List pg 5 '50 millionS KM for reducing consequences of VAT' by <u>N. Bise</u>, Vecernji List pg 2 '50,55 millions KM needed for protection of poor ones' by <u>eme</u>, Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'Bread and milk are not exempt from VAT' by <u>M.Cubro</u></p> <p>– BiH House of Representatives has discussed the measures to fight consequences of the VAT introduction in BiH. The House has adopted measures which BiH Council of Ministers is going to take, advising entity Governments to use the document as platform for creation of social programs. <i>"The material showed that there was no fear of great increase in prices, and entity Governments and BiH CoM will provide means so to protect socially the most endangered citizens"</i>, said adviser to the Chair of BiH Council of Ministers Zlatko Hurtic. The HoR has not adopted conclusion, proposed by BiH HoR representative Zlatko Lagumdzija, by which the CoM should be tasked for making amendments to Law on VAT and Law on Excise, by which no taxes will be imposed on certain goods and services. <i>"This program suggests fewer children, less food, less heating and all we have to do is wait for the ozone hole to warm up the whole Earth during winter time"</i>, said Lagumdzija.</p>
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<p>Manager of 'Pliva BiH' Balic on introduction of VAT</p>	<p>Dnevni List, pg 7, mentioned on front 'Pliva will protect its customers from VAT', by <u>Erna Mackic</u> – Carries the manager of "Pliva BiH" (pharmaceutical giant from Croatia), Selen Balic, as commenting on the introduction of VAT in BiH and its possible effects on the drugs market. Balic says it is hard to predict whether the VAT will bring good or bad things to BiH, however he notes that taxing medicines and basic provisions at 17% is in fact a blow against budgets of socially endangered people. When it comes to the drug market, Balic says the VAT will make small wholesalers even smaller or cause a demise of them, whilst the big ones will grow even more.</p>
<p>DA: 24 retired Bosniak officers sue FBiH PIO as their pensions are stopped</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz cover splash, pg 2 '[FBiH] PIO sued by 24 Bosniaks officers' by <u>A. Hadzic</u> – DA learns that 24 officers of former BiH Army, whose pensions has been stopped in May this year, filed a lawsuit against FBiH Pension and Disability Fund [PIO]. Bosniak officers were retired together with 80 members of the Croatian Defence Council [HVO], however they claim that while HVO members continued to be PIO beneficiaries, they did not. FBiH PIO Director, Nadir Kovacevic, explains that none in the group of 24 Bosniak officers, employed by the FBiH Defence Ministry, had a status of a soldier beneficiary because they did not sign the contract on professional military service.</p>

<p>Tender for Croatian Government's financial support to BiH Croats' projects closed</p>	<p>Dnevni List cover pg splash and pg 3 'Money from Croatia for 578 projects in BiH' by <u>I. Glibusic</u> – A tender of the Croatian Government for financial support to the educational, cultural, scientific and other projects of Croats in BiH and emigration was closed at the beginning of July this year and 578 bids were submitted during this tender. DL says that this year the Croatian Government secured 26,25 million Kunas for the support to the aforementioned projects of BiH Croats.</p>
<p>'Europapress Holding' buys control package in Slobodna Dalmacija</p>	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija, front pg splash 'EPH takes over 'Slobodna'' and pg 3 'Ninoslav Pavic manager, Mladen Plese editor-in-chief', by <u>S. Stapic</u> – Reports that the 'Europapress Holding' (EP) became a new majority owner of 'Slobodna Dalmacija' on Tuesday. The EP on Tuesday acquired 34,63% of SD's shares for 24,5 million Croatian Kunas (some 6,5 million KMs) and now has 70% of SD's shares.</p>

<p>Audit report on "Srpske Sume" for 2003 and 2004</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pgs 4-5, announced on cover 'Bad management lost BAM 16.7 million of income, the total loss of BAM 48 million' by <u>D.Risojevic</u>, Glas Srpske pg 4 'Whirlwinds took away marks' by <u>D.V.M.</u>, EuroBlic RSpG 1 'Loss of BAM 51 million– The audit report into business dealings of "Srpske Sume" in 2003 and 2004 reveals that the company lost over BAM 16.7 million and failed to make any profit as management of the company attempted to present it. Instead, the company records loss statement of BAM 48 million piled up over the past years. The audit, inter alia, disclosed exceeding lumbering of forests, overestimation of incomes, non-respect of tender procedures and bad effects of internal controls.</p>
<p>NN op-ed on "Srpske sume" audit</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine op-edpg 7 'Pure lumbering' by <u>Dragan Risojevic</u> – Writing about the latest audit report on "Srpske Sume" and illicit activities at this company, the author stresses that regardless of who makes the Report (Bosko Ceko or OHR) is does serve as confirmation that things do not change here so easily, since old failures (tenders, false presentation of lumbering, etc) have again surfaced.</p>

<p>ERS repeats remarks against Bosko Ceko</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 4, announced on cover ‘Ceko is talking about results of ERS inappropriately’ by <u>P.Klincov</u>, Glas Srpske pg 2 ‘Ceko vilified situation’ by <u>D.Vrhovac-Mihajlovic</u> – Arsen Tesic, Executive Director of ERS (RS Elektroprivreda) for financial and economic affairs, on Tuesday expressed “surprise and astonishment” on behalf of the ERS Management over the latest press conference Bosko Ceko, RS Chief Auditor, held at which he spoke about ERS dealings in an inappropriate manner. Repeating remarks against the audit carried out by Ceko, Tesic also expressed astonishment over the fact that Ceko presented the report prior to discussion of RS NA on the issue.</p>
<p>Bosko Ceko denies allegations against him</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 4, announced on cover ‘It is obvious we have upset somebody with audit’ – Bosko Ceko, RS Chief Auditor, rejected Tuesday’s claims of the ERS (see above) claiming that allegations in audit report have “<i>obviously upset someone</i>”, stressing that Chief Audit Office is almost always subject as target of discrediting every time it detects some irregularities in the work of companies.</p>
<p>RS auditors on decisions of five ERS companies</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine pg 4 ‘They illegally paid out BAM 1.4 million as housing loans’ by <u>P.Klincov</u> – The audit report into business dealings of ERS (RS Elektroprivreda) says, inter alia, that five companies within ERS have paid out the amount of BAM 1.4 million as housing loans, although this was banned by the Law.</p>

Organised Crime/Security/Judiciary/Legal Proceedings

OHR urges for adoption of drugs legislation

RHB, BHT, FTV, RTRS, Oslobođenje pg 9 'To adopt law on drugs as soon as possible', **Dnevni Avaz** pg 12, **Dnevni List** pg 6 'To pass law on prevention of narcotics urgently' by M. Zorlak – The OHR called on BiH Council of Ministers (CoM) to ensure that State-level legislation on banned substances is put into Parliamentary procedure in early September. Saturday's record drugs seizure by Herzegovina-Neretva Canton Police highlights the growing problem of narcotics smuggling and production in BiH, said at the press conference in Sarajevo on Tuesday the OHR spokesman Kevin Sullivan .

<p>Terzic will ask Ministry of Security and the President of the Commission for personnel to nominate new SBS Director/Update to Metaljka murder investigation</p>	<p>BHT <u>Marina Boskovic</u> – BiH Council of Ministers (CoM) Chair Adnan Terzic will ask Ministry of Security and the President of the Commission for personnel to nominate new State Border Service (SBS) Director. Meanwhile, SBS representatives claim that recent murder of SBS member Bojan Prodanovic on Metaljka border crossing near Visegrad have not disturbed inter-ethnic relations in this department. European Union Police Mission (EUPM) in BiH Commissioner Kevin Carty, who visited SBS office in Visegrad on Tuesday, said that the inspection of admission of SBS employees should be carried out as soon as possible. <i>"I am quite happy with (Deputy Minister of Security) Dragan Mektic's announcement that this inspection will be carried out; we will cooperate with the Ministry of security during this process"</i>, added Carty. One of the main problems SBS is facing right now is the lack of police officers: only Visegrad Field Office, which covers 400 kilometres of state border, is missing about 100 policemen. That problem, according to BHT reporter, is impossible to solve without the SBS director.</p> <p>Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'Anis Bandic is the sole culprit' by <u>D.Muminovic</u> – Daily reports on press release BiH SBS released Tuesday, saying that Anis Bandic, SBS member, is the sole culprit for the murder of his colleague Bojan Prodanovic at the border crossing Metaljka near Cajnice. Release notes this is a conclusion of the internal procedure within BiH SBS. Daily also notes that the BiH Security Ministry announced an overall audit regarding admission of SBS employees will be conducted, of which Nijaz Spahic, SBS Acting Director, denies any knowledge.</p>
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<p>US Embassy has not been evacuated, said embassy officials</p>	<p>FTV – Press office of the US Embassy at BiH announced that US Embassy building in Sarajevo has not been evacuated on Monday, and that it was not closed. Nevertheless, officials at the embassy did not confirm nor deny the information that the Cantonal police blocked US Embassy building on Monday afternoon. As FTV learned on Monday, police operation was prompted by serious information about threats to the US embassy.</p>
<p>Sarajevo/FBiH police confirms false bomb threat in US Embassy on Monday</p>	<p>Oslobodjenje pg 3 ‘False bomb alarm’ by <u>Az. K.</u> – Sarajevo Cantonal MoI special police and FBiH Interior Ministry on Monday confirmed that a threat on bomb planted near US Embassy in Sarajevo was a bogus. On Tuesday, a source close to police confirmed to DA threat was made through phone, and spokesperson for the Sarajevo Cantonal MoI, Magbul Skoro, said there were no new information in the case.</p>
<p>HJPC concerned about pardoning of Prce</p>	<p>BHT, FTV, Oslobodjenje pg 2 ‘They are concerned about pardoning Miroslav Prce’, Dnevni Avaz pg 3 ‘Act of pardoning must not discredit role of court’, Dnevni List pg 5 ‘Pardons must serve interest of justice’ by <u>I.G.</u>, Slobodna Dalmacija pg 7 ‘Concern over decision on Prce’s pardon’ by <u>D. Pasic</u>, Nezavisne Novine pg 8 ‘Pardoning of Prce and Jusufovic discredits Court’ by <u>N.M.</u> – BiH High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council (HJPC) is concerned because of the FBiH president Niko Lozancic’s decision to grant a pardon to Miroslav Prce, who was originally sentenced in 2004 to five years in prison for a misuse of public funds. HJPC believes that pardoning should not undermine the role of court in achieving “general prevention as the purpose of punishing”.</p>

<p>VL interview: PDHR Butler on Prce pardon</p>	<p>Vecernji List, pg 4 ‘Documents on Prce pardon are suspicious’, by <u>Dejan Jazvic</u> – Carries an interview with Principal Deputy High Representative, Lawrence Butler, in which he talks about the FBiH President Niko Lozancic’s decision to grant pardon to Miroslav Prce. PDHR Butler announces that a new law, which will deal with the issue of pardon, is being prepared and should come in effect in October. As for the Prce case, the PDHR says: <i>“Pardoning Mr. Prce was based on very weak reasons, especially because it is about a case in which the sentence has already been decreased a lot already due to a deal between the prosecution and defence”</i>. PDHR Butler also noted that the OHR is reviewing all the documentation about the case, saying that the medical documentation (on Prce) is <i>“suspicious”</i>.</p>
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<p>HJPC proposes reduction of judges, prosecutors' salaries</p>	<p>Hayat – The High Judges and Prosecutors Council has proposed new laws in domain of judiciary. It has proposed reduce in salaries of judges and prosecutors, which would result in savings. The Chair of the Council Branko Peric said that the salaries should be reduced by 3-12 %, by which about 5 million KM would be saved per year and invested in equipping judiciary. In past month, 7 prosecutors and judges have filed resignations. Peric said that it happened due to enormous responsibility, frustrating working conditions, etc. None of them said that they were threatened, but most of them do not want to talk about it. <i>"I was seriously threatened while ago, but I have realized that it is a part of this job"</i>, said the Chair of BiH Court Meddzida Kreso. <i>"Threats occur in this job, and chairs of courts warned the Council on pressures they were faced with, but still these were no serious threats"</i>, said Peric.</p>
<p>Mandic remains in custody</p>	<p>BHT, FTV, Oslobođenje pg 6 'Mandic remains in custody by September 16', Dnevni Avaz pg 4, Dnevni List pg 7 'Momcilo Mandic in detention by September 16' by <u>M. Zorlak</u>, Nezavisne Novine pg 8 'Momcilo Mandic remains in custody until 16 September' by <u>Agencies</u> – Court of BiH rejected the complaint of Momcilo Mandic's defence attorneys, who wanted the decision about setting custody to be annulled. Therefore, Mandic – who is indicted for organized crime regarding the dealings of Privredna Banka Srpsko Sarajevo – will remain in custody until September 16, as previously decided.</p>

Beginning of
trial for
Covic/Lijanovici
case postponed

Vecernji List pg 3 '2 judges refused to take over trial against Covic' by Z. Kresic – The beginning of the trial for the case Covic-Lijanovici, which was supposed to start on September 1, has been postponed until further notice. VL says that this decision has been expected after the departure of judge in this case **Paul Garlic**. According to VL, Garlic explained that he wanted to leave since he did not want to be engaged in the processes related to the corruption and organized crime and he warned that the **OHR** was making moves, which were undermining his independence as a judge. VL also says that it has been estimated that the trial on this case cannot start before November this year. **Slobodna Dalmacija** pg 15, mentioned on cover 'Trial against Covic as late as in October' by Z. Tulic also reports on postponement of the trial and according to SD unofficial information the trial should start in October.