

OHR BiH Media Round-up, 3/9/2004

RADIO HERCEG-BOSNA (18,00 hrs)	BH TV 1 (19,00 hrs)	FED TV (19,30 hrs)	RT RS (19,30)
Pec Mlini hydropower plant	Sacirbegovic onBiH Court	Search for missing persons	Search for missing persons
FBIH Gov in session	Hostage crisis in Russia	Update to Milosevic trial	Bank director robbed
Charges against Ninkovic	Update to Milosevic trial	Trial on crimes in Vukovar	New appointments in MoI
Eronet allegations denied	Investigation on Delalic	BiH delegation in Libya	RS MoI "Forgery" action

Oslobodjenje	[Gordon Bacon] Mass grave in Kazani existed; People of Prijedor asking what is the genocide?; Unsolved credit issue
Dnevni Avaz	Zutic will be removed?; Croatia will also not withdraw lawsuit against SCG
Dnevni List	Pec-Mlini hydro power plant starts working
Vecernji List	Pec-Mlini hydro power plant starts working
Slobodna Dalmacija	Mostar: Transportation of passengers faces collapse unless tickets become more expensive: To school – on foot

Nezavisne Novine	Hundreds of false passports have been issued; BiH Parliament cannot remove Hasan Cengic; BiH firms will have a special status in Libya ; Spomenka Vujasinovic is the new Head of the Administration for Property Issues of the Ministry of Interior
Glas Srpske	Choral singing of deaf; There is no increase in prices
EuroBlic	100,000 KM for returnees' pensions were stolen
Slobodna Bosna	Why is it so hard for the Hague judges to admit that the genocide took place in BiH (a shameful ruling in case of Radoslav Brdjanin)
Dani	Blaz Sliskovic, BiH national football team coach, starts a series of historic preliminary matches

	Economic and social issues
Pec-Mlini hydro-electric power plan put into operation	RHB, BHT 1, FTV, RTRS, Dnevni List front pg 'Hydro-electric power plant put into operation' and pg 5 'Trial run of hydro-electric power plant Pec Mlini put into operation' by Z. Skoko , Vecernji List front pg 'Hydro-electric power plant Pec-Mlini put into operation' and pgs 2 and 3 'Pec Mlin on trial run' by M. Relota , Slobodna Dalmacija pg 5 'Herzegovinian electricity will also make situation easier for Dalmatia' by E. Karamatic – On Thursday, a member of the BiH Presidency, Dragan Covic , and Elektroprivreda Herceg-Bosna General Director, Vlado Maric , have put into operation the first postwar hydro-electric power plan Pec Mlini in Municipality Grude. On this occasion Covic stated that putting into operation of the power plant Pec Mlini is a prerequisite for construction of hydro-electric power plant Mostarsko Blato. Covic added that since the power plant Pec Mlini was done together with Croatian companies he called on them to try to work together on the construction of Mostarsko Blato as well. At the ceremony, it was also stated that apart from producing electric energy, the great significance of Pec Mlini is in function

<p>Tezic on perspectives of BiH-Libyan economic cooperation</p>	<p>BHT 1, Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'We ensured BiH economy with the privileged status' by <u>S.N.</u>, Dnevni List pg 9 'BiH companies got special status in Lybia' by <u>V. Vujovic</u>, Nezavisne Novine, cover 'BiH firms will have a special status in Libya' and pg. 2 'BiH firms will have a special status in Libya and Africa' by <u>M. Cubro</u> – BiH Council of Ministers Chair, Adnan Terzic, stated upon the return of BiH delegation from Libya that BiH and Libyan chambers of commerce signed a trade agreement during the visit of BiH delegation to Libya indicating establishment of business cooperation. He stressed that the visit was very successful as Libyan President Muammer Gaddafi promised BiH to be special privileged status. He added that the arrangements have also been made for harmonizing a framework agreement that will define relations between the two countries, as well as the agreements that will enable protection of investments of both countries, evading double taxation, as well as several agreements on scientific and technical cooperation.</p> <p>FTV – BIH delegation assured that BIH businessmen are able to make a business with Libya worth 500 million US dollars per annum in Libya . Terzic emphasized great possibilities in field of construction, usage of hydro-energetic resources, telecommunications and agriculture in both countries.</p> <p>Oslobodjenje pg 6 'Unsolved credit issue', mentioned on cover, by <u>V. Zivak</u> – Terzic also said that this visit has not solved the issue of a credit which burdens relations between two countries for a long time, adding that authorized Ministers will meet soon in Sarajevo to discuss this issue.</p>
--	---

FBiH Gov in session: on production of electricity, retiring of soldiers, financial situation in FBiH MoD

RHB, Dnevni List, pg 4 'Production of electricity bigger than planned', by NINA – The Federation of BiH Government at its Thursday's session in Mostar, amongst other issues, took a Decision on changes and amendments to Decision of favourable conditions for going into age retirement of the FBiH military personnel. The Decision should allow people, who are affected in the process of downsizing of the FBiH Army, to go into age retirement.

FTV, Oslobodjenje pg 5 'About 515.000 KM for help devices' by Fena, **Dnevni Avaz** pg 15 'Soon sale of a part of JNA property' by Ad.H. – Government also decided to invest approx. 500,000 KM from a budget of FBiH Veterans Ministry into the medical treatment of soldiers and disabled soldiers. As for the early retirement, enabled following redundancies in the process of reforming armed forces, FTV says that it has been estimated that about 700 soldiers will apply for it. Most of them have a salary of 700 KM, which means about 3,5 million KM are needed for their pensions. **Radovan Vignjevic**, FBiH Minister for Labour and Social Policy: *"That is about 0,5% of total income of Pension-Disability Insurance Fund. At the session, I emphasized commitments of the government... that the money for privileged pension must be ensured from the budget."*

Slobodna Dalmacija, back pg 'Military real estate too much a burden', by Zoran Zekic – The FBiH MoD, led by Minister **Miroslav Nikolic**, is of opinion that all the military real estate, such as barracks, ranges, warehouses etc, are becoming too much of a burden because of financial difficulties the FBiH Army is in. According to the Programme of rectifying financial situation in the FBiH MoD, the right (to the real estate) should be transferred onto third parties.

<p>FBiH Government and HT Zagreb in talks on transfer of Eronet shares onto HT Mostar</p>	<p>Dnevni List, pg 3 'Mudrinic and Hadzipasic optimists regarding transfer of share in Eronet', mentioned on front, by <u>Jurislav Petrovic</u> – A delegation of the HT Zagreb, led by the President of its management, Ivica Mudrinic, visited Mostar on Thursday and also held a meeting with the President of Management of HT Mostar, Stipe Prlic, FBiH Prime Minister, Ahmet Hadzipasic, FBiH Finance Minister, Dragan Vrankic, and FBiH Communications Minister, Nedžad Brankovic.</p> <p>According to DL's information, the meeting was dedicated to the issue of transfer of HT Zagreb's shares in Eronet onto HT Mostar. According to a senior, anonymous official of the FBiH Government, certain guidelines that would help find an acceptable solution to the transfer of the shares were adopted and a decision was taken that an expert team comes up with a memorandum within two weeks time, which would satisfy both parties.</p> <p>Vecernji List, pg 4 'Mudrinic and Hadzipasic in new round of talks on HT Mostar', by <u>Zoran Kresic</u>–VL notes that HT Zagreb and representatives of the FBiH Government made a joint Memorandum of Understanding, which foresees the transfer of the share. Apparently, the Memorandum will be discussed at the next session of the FBiH Government. According to Prlic, the parties are close to reaching an agreement.</p>
<p>RAK denies Eronet's allegations</p>	<p>RHB, Dnevni List, pg 3 'RAK denies allegations by Eronet', <u>not signed</u>, Slobodna Dalmacija, pg 17 'Eronet does not have working permit', by <u>M. Landeka</u>–The Communications Regulatory Agency (RAK) denies allegations by 'Eronet' that the RAK is preventing the development of the company and in fact wants to destroy it by not allowing 'Eronet' to use a slot of numbers that begin with 8xx xxx. RAK General Director Kemal Huseinovic reminds that 'Eronet', as an operator that does not have the licence to offer communications services, is not competent to raise issues pertaining to allocations of GSM numbers.</p>

<p>OHR to help domestic authorities to sell Natron company</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 11 'To the best buyer of Natron, through OHR' by A.Dz. – FBiH Government and Zenica-Doboj Cantonal Government will try to find the best possible solution regarding the sale of Natron paper company from Maglaj, with an assistance from OHR. Upon OHR request, after several months of fights and mutual accusations, both bids for the purchase of the company will be examined – giving a chance to both Turkish businessmen from company Hayat Holding and Austrian consortium AHW.</p> <p>FTV – According to FTV, both bidders offer the same financial investment. However, Zenica Doboj Cantonal government is believed to prefer the bid of an Austrian investor, who also offers necessary technical solutions thus ensuring employment for 850 workers, while Turkish investor requests guarantees for amount and price of wood, as well as other privileges, which government can't guarantee. Government established a negotiation team which will continue to talk with both investors, with preference to Austrian investor, who already signed a preliminary contract with ZDC.</p>
---	---

**BHT 1 feature
on VAT**

BHT 1 by Tomislav Djuric – The International Monetary Fund has recommended to BiH the single VAT rate of 17% for all products, however BiH House of Representatives' Commission for Budget and Finances has passed amendments which directly oppose IMF recommendations. Draft VAT Law went through the changes, however their creators aren't changing their attitudes. This way, even though IMF recommendation foresees bread price to increase for pfl10, according to the amendments passed by the Commission that price will stay the same. **Enver Kazazic**, member of management of "Klas" company said that IMF proposal would cause the absurd situation in which bread price increases and prices of vehicles reduce. On the other hand, car salesmen see several advantages in a single tax rate – first the competition being 'healthier' and secondly, the cars sold as domestic product would have same taxes in both entities and in Brcko District. IMF representatives didn't want to comment on the amendments, saying that they need more time for analyses, however they stressed that the single VAT rate would be the best solution. They say that not only poor ones would benefit from the smaller tax rate on food, but also the rich ones would, and that poverty issue can be solved with adequate social programs. *"A large number of people in this country, poor people, aren't eating enough exactly due of the fact that food is burdened with taxes and even though we don't have social programs, we should at least help the basic food products to reach users and be sold as cheap as they can,"* said **Zlatko Lagumdzija**, member of BiH HoR Commission, who proposed lower tax rates for some categories. According to the amendments, zero VAT rate would be applied to the books, food and medicine. Final decision on the issue will be brought by the BiH Parliamentary Assembly, but the influence of International Financial Institutions will be important as well.

FTV – RS Association of Farmers protested against decision on 8% VAT for agricultural products, claiming that this will make their more expensive and non-competitive on the market. **Beriz Belkic**, member of Commission, disagrees with this saying that VAT will improve agriculture.

**Oil
distributors in
BiH on
disturbance at
the market**

BHT 1, Oslobođenje pg 4 'Disturbance at the BiH oil market' by M.K.S., **Dnevni Avaz** pg 12 'Hundreds of trucks cannot go to get oil in Hungary!' by E. Plecic – Distributors of oil and oil products have announced new increase of oil prices and a possible shortage of this resource to happen in next few days. The reason for this is the protocol on road-transport between BiH and Hungary, whose implementation started on Thursday and according to which the number of licences for daily road-transport through Hungary has been decreased to only 3 000 (1000 for RS and 2000 for FBiH). The distributors say that BiH needs at least 30 000 licences per year. President of FBiH Association of Oil Distributors, **Muhidin Alic** said that they will send their conclusions to Council of Ministers, BiH Ministry of Transport and Communications and to BiH Ministry of Foreign Affairs. At the end Reporter concluded that all this could have been avoided if BiH Governments were able to solve the issue of double taxation and started the production in Brod refinery.

Dnevni Avaz pg 3 'Is there going to be an oil shortage' op-ed by Enes Plecic – Editorial refers to the warning that protocol on road-transport will cause oil shortage in BiH, saying that such protocol should prevent dual registration of the companies in two countries thus fighting smuggling networks. However, author notes that responsibility on certain oil shortage to occur in BiH lies with the representative of the Council of Ministers, **Nikola Sego**, who signed a protocol which cut the number of trucks licenced for transport for ten times. *"Licences will become like a gold, especially for oil distributors, who purchase 12% from Hungarian company 'Mola.'.. It is clear – ten times less licences, ten times less oil. Shortages are inevitable unless the oil is to be purchased on other side – in Croatia, Serbia and Slovenia, who want BiH consumers 100%. But, at the price not regulated by the market, but monopoly,"* editorial concludes.

<p>RS oil distributors do not expect price raise</p>	<p>Glas Srpske, cover page story 'There will be no increase in prices' by <u>D. V. M.</u> – The President of RS Association of Petroleum Distributors, Vukasin Vojnovic, claims there will be no increase in prices of petroleum in RS despite to disturbances at the petroleum market in the Federation of BiH. He appealed to the entity Prime Ministers to find a solution for revival of production at Brod Oil Refinery in order to avoid disturbances in future.</p>
<p>RS Govt discusses Law on DPs and refugees</p>	<p>Glas Srpske pg 3 'No more refugees' by <u>G. Dakic</u>; Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'A million BAM for accommodation of workers' by <u>S.G.</u> – At the session in Banja Luka on Thursday, RS Government has set the proposed Law on displaced persons in RS and refugees in BiH and forwarded it for a parliamentary procedure and urgent adoption. Jasmin Samardzic, RS Minister of Refugees and DP's, said that the adoption of the Law would abolish the status of a refugee, but would keep the category of displaced persons and returnees.</p>
<p>DL feature on military apartments in FBiH</p>	<p>Dnevni List, pg 6 'Destiny of military apartments in BiH according to model from Croatia?!', by <u>Arijana Beus</u> – DL reminds of the recent announcement by the FBiH Ministry of Physical Planning that in case the BiH Constitutional Court declares the article 3a of Law on cessation of application of Law on abandoned apartments as anti-constitutional, the Ministry will be using the recent verdict of the European Human Rights Court AKA 'Blecic v Croatia' in making new provisions. The President of BiH Constitutional Court, Mate Tadic, told DL that the Constitutional Court would do its job according to the Constitution and independently, noting that whatever the FBiH Government and Parliament choose to decide, it is a matter for them. Tadic goes on to say that the Government and Parliament can change the law in question and the Constitutional Court has nothing to do with it until a moment someone decides to start a procedure with the Constitutional Court.</p>

<p>Dani: Bulldozer Committee 22 months following loudly announced action for salvation of Bosnian business</p>	<p>Dani pgs 24-26 'Braking for a half of million KM' by <u>Jasna Jelusic</u> – The magazine analyses achievements of the Bulldozer Committee, which was established in October 2002 with a main goal to remove obstacles to development of business in BiH. According to the author, from outside everything related to this project valued at a half on million KM looked very good. On the other side the implementation of reforms proposed by the Committee was too slow thanks to various and narrow political parties' interests. "In April this year, then newly-appointed Head of the Emergency Reform Unit Mirza Hajric told PDHR Donald Hays it was disappointing that the internationals were still heading the Bulldozer because if the local authorities do not accept the project as something of their own, the entire job will be brought into question," wrote Jelusic.</p>
---	---

	<p>War crimes</p>
--	--------------------------

<p>ICTY appoints defence lawyers to Milosevic</p>	<p>RHB, BHT 1, FTV, RTRS, Dnevni Avaz pg 22 'Lawyers imposed to Milosevic', Vecernji List pg 19 'Court appointed defense lawyers' by H, Slobodna Dalmacija pg 9 'Milosevic: I want to keep defending myself' by H, Glas Srpske pg 11 'Key and Higgins to defend Milosevic', Nezavisne Novine pg 6 'Defence attorneys assigned to Slobodan Milosevic' by BETA, EuroBlic pg 5 'Milosevic to have a stroke or heart attack' by Blic team, Vecernje Novosti pg 17 'Attorney underhandedly' by Miroslav Zaric– Two British lawyers, Steven Kay and Gillian Higgins, have been appointed to defend former Yugoslav leader Slobodan Milosevic before the ICTY. They are "friends of the court", named at the start of the case to ensure Milosevic would get a fair trial. The tribunal had said it would impose a lawyer after medical tests showed Milosevic was not fit to represent himself. Kay and his assistant will take over the case from next Tuesday, when Milosevic's first defence witnesses are due to be called. Milosevic has protested on this decision, and announced he would appeal.</p>
--	--

**Search for
Missing
Persons in
Brod area**

RTRS, Glas Srpske, pg. 3 'Clothes are first clue' by B. T.— RS Commission for Missing Persons will search several locations in area of Brod suspected to be sites of the mass graves with bodies of the Serb victims. A number of Serbs disappeared in the area at the time when Croatian Army controlled the city. **Slavko Krulj**, Doboj County Prosecutor, says that the RS Commission is searching for a number of individuals from Srpski Brod and it has to be verified whether those persons are buried in these locations. Krulj says that the search will be finished in a few days **FTV – Aleksandar Radeta**, Head of RS Office for Missing said that no bodies have been found on supposed locations so far. The Office will continue search for possible gravesites in next few days.

**FTV says
search for
missing
persons being
manipulated**

FTV – FTV comments that the RS Office for Missing Persons used issues around the lack of full information from the Commemoration Centre in Tuzla to publish information on alleged victims of the war crimes, increasing the list of missing Serbs in the area from 22 to over 500. The Office RS has been digging for over two months in part of Trnovac – Tuzla cemetery looking for bodies. **Amor Masovic**, the President of FBiH Commission for Missing Persons says that first DNA analysis of the bodies exhumed show that they belong to Bosniaks, mostly soldiers of BiH Army whose bodies were exchanged during the war. Masovic believes that **Slobodan Skrba**, Member of RS Office for Missing Persons, provides with the false information. Masovic points to the pain of families of missing persons, adding that they don't need cases like this which first happened in Lav cemetery in Sarajevo, and later in Zenica and Tuzla. Amor Masovic: *"When they excavated from Trasnice cemetery 200-300 years old bones, who ended up there during the war from a museum or a similar institution, they published information on murder, torture, etc. All this repeated in Trnovac-Tuzla."* **Nebojsa Jovanovic**, Prosecutor from Bijeljina, said that only two bodies from the list of missing persons have been found both buried regularly.

**OHR:
Politicization
of Srebrenica
Commission's
work will not
be allowed**

Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Politicization of Srebrenica Commission's work will not be allowed' by Fena, **Oslobodjenje** pg 3 'Politicization of the Commission's work is not acceptable' by Fena, **Glas srpske**, pg. 2 'Doors are closed for politics' not signed – OHR issued a press release which reads that OHR will not allow impetus given by the RS Government's Commission for Srebrenica to be hijacked by the local elections for short term political gain. In the light of recent speculation about the quality of the Commission's findings regarding the mass graves sites, OHR welcomes and expects the continuation of the current cooperation and contacts between the Federation Commission for the Missing Persons and the RS Government's Commission for Srebrenica. The statement further reads: *"The public should be in no doubt: the OHR and the International Community will be rigorous in their evaluation of the work of the Srebrenica Commission. This evaluation will take place after the 15 October, the deadline set for completion of the Commission's work as a whole, and after assessment of the Commission's work by the BiH Constitutional Court's Commission for Human Rights. Any attempt at a piecemeal assessment before this date undermining the Commission, as a pre-election tactic, would be completely unacceptable, is stated in the announcement of OHR."*

**Oslobodjenje
int with
Gordon Bacon**

Oslobodjenje cover splash, pgs 4-5
'There was a mass grave in Kazani' by
Sanita Rozajac – In an interview to
Oslobodjenje, a member of the
Srebrenica Commission, **Gordon Bacon**,
says that there is an indication that
bodies were buried in Kazani, and that
the information Commission has
received was correct [*he commented on
the decision of the FBiH Commission
for Missing Persons to halt
exhumations in Kazani after no body
was found in several days of digging*].

Bacon also stresses that the
Srebrenica Commission has submitted
the information of 32 locations of
mass graves, and three of these were
worked by the FBiH Commission. At two
out of three locality, bodies were
found and Bacons says that "*it is
obvious that bodies from Kazani were
removed.*" He refused to reveal the
source of the information on the mass
grave. Just saying that it is from RS.
He also expresses the hope that the
commission will finish with its talks
meeting the deadline of 15 October.

<p>Reactions to Brdjanin verdict</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Aren't concentration camps sufficient evidence for genocide' by <u>E. Sarac</u> – Following the ICTY verdict in case of Radoslav Brdjanin who was sentenced to 32 years of prisons, but cleared of charge for genocide, daily brings some reactions. Bosniak officer for liaison with ICTY, Amir Ahmic, and an expert of the FBiH Commission for Missing Persons, Jasmin Odobasic, both objected the dropping the genocide charge. While Odobasic wondered aren't facts on the concentration camps in relevant region enough of the evidences for prove genocide, Ahmic says that such verdict brought ICTY credibility into the question. BiH Association of the PoWs welcomed the verdict of 32 years of imprisonment, but believes that ICTY attitude of those who carried out the genocide in BiH is to soft.</p> <p>Oslobodjenje pg 5 'People of Prijedor wondering what is genocide?', mentioned on cover, by <u>B. Kahrmoanovic</u> – Daily brings reactions of the formers PoWs from Omarska, who all objects to dropping genocide charge.</p>
---	--

	<p>Police and security related issues</p>
--	--

**Audit report
notes a number
of
irregularities
in RS MoI; new
appointments**

BHT 1 – A number of irregularities were discovered in work of RS Interior Ministry, and they were presented in the report of RS Chief Auditor **Bosko Ceko**. Among other things, irregular money spending was discovered to have taken place during the last year's visit of Pope to Banja Luka. Final report will be published in the next two days, but even its preliminary findings indicted repeated breaches of the Law on Public Procurement. Ceko is still very careful about his statements, being that experts still haven't evaluated all remarks submitted by the MoI. Ceko confirmed that most irregularities are connected with breaking the Law on Public Procurement. Spokesperson of RS Prime Minister, **Goran Radivojac**, didn't either confirm or deny the relation between audit reports and the newest staff changes within the MoI. RS Prime Minister **Dragan Mikerevic**, also in the position of Acting Interior Minister, removed **Milovan Djuric**, from his position of Chief of Administration for procurement. *"When it comes to these replacements, President of RS Government... has seen some discrepancies in functioning of that system and based on that he has replaced these two persons,"* said Radivojac.

RTRS, Glas Srpske, pg. 2 'Audit writes dismissals' by V. Janjic, inset 'Appointments' – **Spomenka Vujasinovic** was appointed new Head of the Administration for Property Issues of RS MoI instead of Djuric.

Nezavisne Novine, cover 'Spomenka Vujasinovic is the new Head of the Administration for Property Issues of the Ministry of Interior' and pg. 3 'New Head of the Administration for Property was appointed' by P. Klintcov – According to a collocutor from RS Ministry of Interior, the appointment of Vujasinovic is 'a new *indicative decision*' because she was brought in connection with disputable deals between the Ministry of Interior and "new Sanatron" firm from Novi Grad.

Glas Srpske, pg. 2 'Audit writes dismissals' by V. Janjic – RS Police Director **Radomir Njegus** has confirmed that the dismissal of Milovan Djuric was in connection with omissions in the work of this body reported in the Audit Report. The Spokesperson of RS Prime Minister, Goran Radivojac, has confirmed that the results of the Audit Report have had an influence on the decision on dismissal, but he emphasised there were other reasons for the removal as well.

<p>Radivojac announces soon appointment of RS MoI</p>	<p>BHT 1, RTRS, Nezavisne Novine, pg. 4 'RS: New Police Minister to be appointed soon' <u>not signed</u> – The Spokesperson of the RS Prime Minister, Goran Radivojac, on Thursday confirmed that activities regarding the appointment of new RS Minister of Interior have enter the final phase. Radivojac also said that the appointment of the new Minister has not been discussed at the Government's session, nevertheless, he did not want to confirm whether a list of names of possible candidates for this position has been sent to OHR for a verification.</p>
<p>Police Restructuring Commission to hold mtg at the end of September</p>	<p>Slobodna Dalmacija pg 7 'Restructuring of police in BiH' by <u>A.M.</u>, Dnevni Avaz pg 15 'Discussing seven models for organization of police in BiH' – EUPM Spokesperson Alun Roberts stated at the press conference in Banja Luka that the third meeting of the Commission for Restructuring of BiH Police will be held in Mostar at the end of September this year. Roberts did not want to talk about details from the second meeting of the aforementioned Commission, which was held in Banja Luka two days ago.</p>
<p>SB: Dzuvo promoted intelligence officers involved in establishment of Pogorelica Camp</p>	<p>Slobodna Bosna pgs 23-25 'Dzuvo promoted intelligence officers involved in establishment of Pogorelica Camp' by <u>Suzana Mijatovic</u> – According to the author, three months following formal start of state Intelligence-Security Agency's (OSA) operations, its heads and first of all Director Almir Dzuvo have only succeeded to clear the agency from non-loyal employees replacing them with "reliable" intelligence officers loyal to their particular political parties. It is, according to the SB journalist, mainly about the people with unclear past and suspicious CVs. <i>"Although a transitional period expired on September 1, during which the heads of OSA should have agreed on systematization of jobs and their ethnic distribution as well as specified the number of employees including formal employment of new persons, not a single out of accepted obligations has not been fulfilled,"</i> wrote Mijatovic. <i>"While they have done nothing to unify the new state-level intelligence service, Dzuvo and Deputy Director Risto Zaric deserve tributes for its further disintegration through establishment of a parallel intelligence structures in OSA itself,"</i> concludes Mijatovic.</p>

	<p>Economic crimes and forging documents</p>
--	---

**McNair takes
over
Sacirbegovic's
case**

BHT 1 by Boris Grubestic, **Oslobodjenje** pg 6 'Case against Sacirbegovic to be taken by Corruption department' by L.S. – Prosecutor **John McNair** has confirmed that the BiH Office of the Prosecutor has decided to take over the case of **Muhamed Sacirbegovic**, former BiH Ambassador to the UN suspected of embezzlement of about \$2,5 millions.

BiH Justice Ministry expects Sacirbegovic's extradition from USA to be carried out soon. *"My Department [for organized and economic crime] will review the material and carry out necessary translation and drafting requested by the BiH Court. After that, we will want to examine the status of a request for the extradition which will be considered by the US court,"* McNair explained.

The investigation of Sacirbegovic's case has lasted since 2001. BiH Justice Ministry is in contact with their colleagues in USA and they expect the extradition. BiH Minister of Justice, **Slobodan Kovac** said that the extradition will most probably happen and he pointed that the other side would have to have serious evidences to postpone it.

Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'I am not officials informed about the transfer of the case to BiH Prosecution' – Muhamed Sacirbegovic stated for BHT 1 on Thursday that he was not informed about the request for transfer of the case to the BiH judiciary. He repeated that all charges against him made in Sarajevo were politically motivated.

**NN says
hundreds of
false
passports
issues**

Nezavisne Novine, cover and pg. 3 'Hundreds of false passports have been issued' by A. Sisic – In the course of the investigation against suspects in case of issuing of false CIPS IDs and Drivers Licences, BiH Prosecution has found out that a well organised group has also issued several hundreds of false BiH passports, as according to a source close to the investigation. *'We can say with great certainty that we will find several thousands of forged documents among in total 100,000 files we have to check'*, **Ahmet Halebic**, State Prosecutor in charge of the investigation, stated yesterday. According to a NN source, it is suspected that individuals from several foreign Embassies in Sarajevo were also involved in this affair. Allegedly, the individuals had issued visas for many persons, although they had known their passports were false. **Marinko Jurcevic**, the Chief State Prosecutor, has stated: *'We have come to evidence that Banja Luka was not a solitary case in issuing of false CIPS documents. The investigation was extended because this is a classic case of organised crime from which individuals have earned lots of money and made the position of BiH in Europe more difficult'*. Spokesperson of CIPS Direction **Sanela Turkovic** yesterday reiterated that no employee of the Ministry of Civil Affairs or CIPS Direction was involved in this affair.

Dnevni Avaz cover splash 'Zutic will be replaced', pg 4 'Resad Zutic will be removed because of Feroelektro?' by A. Hadziarapovic – DA learns from 'credible source' that since F BiH Privatization Agency has not respected the attitude of the F BiH Government and Trade Ministry in case of Feroelektro company, the Trade Minister **Maid Ljubovic** has decided to completely annul this privatization. This would bring Feroelektro at the beginning of the selling process, while responsibility will be at the Director of the F BiH Privatization Agency, **Resad Zutic**. DA further says that this will not only mean the end of months long affair, but also possible Zutic's removal.

<p>NN update to sugar affair</p>	<p>Nezavisne Novine, pg. 3 ‘Indictments over “sugar affair” are possible’ by M. C. – The European Office for Fight against Corruption and BiH Prosecution will present results of the investigation on “sugar affair” in the following several days, as according to a collocutor from BiH Prosecution. Firms from BiH and Customs officers who had participated in illegal imports of sugar were revealed in the course of the investigation. The investigation will, most probably, result in bringing indictments. Kemal Causevic, the Head of ITA, has confirmed that investigations of the State Prosecution and European Office for fight against Corruption were merged.</p>
---	---

	<p>Political issues</p>
--	--------------------------------

**GS reactions
to the
celebration
of the First
Serb
Uprising**

Glas Srpske cover page story 'The chorale of the deaf' by S.M. – The author starts the article by saying that *"when Bosniak and Croat politicians speak up about the Serb history, everybody gets the impression that they are listening to the chorale of there deaf"* referring to the most recent statements and reactions upon weekend ceremony held in Dobrun to mark the 200 anniversary of the First Serb Uprising. **Haris Silajdzic**, the founder of Party for BiH, said that the celebration of 200 years of Serb Uprising *"has nothing to do with BiH, but instead with Serbia. BiH citizens should look for a future in the united Europe, instead in myths."* Glas notes **Silajdzic** is wrong because Serb Upraising The First was not the myth but a historical fact. **Safet Halilovic**, Vice President of SBiH said that *"BiH is not a mono-national state and sometimes promotion of some historic events and persons belonging to one people could automatically negate the interest and identity of another people."* President of the Prijedor Association of the refugees and DP's, **Ranko Lale**, responded to this Halilovic's statement by responding *"has Halilovic thought of this"* when a mosque in Sanski most was named after a Turkish conqueror. Glas further notes that **Sulejman Tihic** has also joined this "chorale of the deaf".

**Issue of
street names
in Mostar**

Slobodna Dalmacija, pg 18 'Chetnik dukes and Bosniak Ustashes have their streets too', mentioned on front, by Zlatko Tulic – With regard to the issue of name of Mile Budaka Street in Mostar (senior Ustasha official during the WWII), which triggered reactions in the press and by associations who request the name of the street to be erased, SD argues that in the same time, nobody is interested in two monuments to the Chetnik leader during the WWII, **Draza Mihajlovic**, and names of streets in towns in the RS, which carry names of Chetnik leaders. SD also notes that a street in Tuzla still carries a name of a Bosniak Ustasha officer, major **Mehmedalija Hadziefendic**, and that several streets in Sarajevo have disputable names, such as Crnih Labudova Street (Black Swans, which allegedly committed crimes during the 1992-1995 war in BiH) and Mladih Muslimana Street (Young Muslims Street).

Dnevni Avaz pg 9 'Mile Budaka street will be renamed after the elections' by F. Vele – The chair of the Mostar Confidence Building Commission, **Zoran Pajic**, says that he is certain that the Commission will soon adopt recommendations for the city authorities to change the name of Mile Budaka street, as well as other disputable names of squares, streets and public institutions. *"Confidence among peoples cannot be build with the names of streets such as Mile Budak street,"* Pajic says adding that this issue will be address after the elections through institutions, rather than allowing its politicisation.

<p>DA int with Stipe Mesic</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 5 'I cannot speak on behalf of BiH, but Croatia will not withdraw lawsuit against SCG', mentioned on cover 'Croatia will not withdraw lawsuit against SCG' by <u>Fadil Mandal</u> – In an interview to DA, Croatian President Stipe Mesic says that current relations between BiH and Croatia are very good, but stressed that they have to be improved economy wise. He also mentioned possibility of joint presentation on the market of third country. As for the requests coming from Serbia and Montenegro for Croatia and BiH to withdraw lawsuits for aggression, Mesic said that Croatia will not do so. Asked doesn't he believe that Dayton Peace Accord must be changed, Mesic said that the most important thing is for BiH citizens to decide on that and that it is a key for all three constituent people to agree on the solution.</p>
<p>On sending BiH troops to Iraq</p>	<p>Vecernji List pg 3 'BiH should send peace-keeping mission to Iraq' by D. Jazvic and Slobodna Dalmacija pg 17 'Decision on Iraq has legitimacy' by <u>B. Kristo</u> – Centre for Security Studies believes that the BiH Presidency has full legitimacy to pass the decision on sending of a BiH de-mining unit to Iraq. According to them, this decision is in accordance with the guidelines of BiH foreign policy defined on March 26, 2003 . The Centre also reminds that in order to put forward successfully its candidacy for Partnership for Peace program BiH must prove in Law and practice that it is able to send its armed forces in peace-keeping operations out of BiH.</p>

<p>New US Ambassador to BiH arrives this month</p>	<p>Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Douglas McElhaney arrives this month' by <u>M.Dr.</u> – DA learns that new US Ambassador to BiH, Douglas McElhaney, is expected to arrive to BiH this month. McElhaney is a US diplomat previously serving in the Milano, US embassy in Paris and as Deputy permanent US representative to the NATO.</p>
---	---