OHR BiH Media Round-up, 6/12/2004

Latest radio news broadcast at 12.00 on6 December 2004

RADIO HERCEG-	BH Radio 1 (12,00 hrs)	RTRS (12,00 hrs)
BOSNA (12,00 hrs)		
US consulate attacked in Saudi A.	Tadic in BiH	Tadic in BiH
Tadic supports DPA	OSCE meeting in Sofia	RS Government in session
OSCE meeting in Sofia	Conference in Zenica	Milosevic trial

TV news broadcast on 5 December 2004

RADIO HERCEG-	BH TV 1 (19,00	FED TV (19,30	RT RS (19,30)
BOSNA (18,00	hrs)	hrs)	
hrs)			
Tadic in BIH	Feature on	HVO disabled	Cavic to talk
	education	veterans	with Dodik
Mladic pension	Njegus appointed	Tuzla , fighting	Tadic to visit
in SCG	to CoM	corruption	BiH
HSS supports BIH	Trnovo murder	FBiH	CoM on Pardons
farmers	probe	Constitution	Law
		breached	
20 dead in	Explosion in	Democratization	Trial to Bojic
Baghdad	Prijedor	textbooks	and Purisic

Oslobodjenje	I cannot guarantee deadline to extradite ICTY suspects; I
	wish Mladic has no protection of SCG Army

Dnevni Avaz	Terzic: I don't allow anybody to interfere with my work;
	Biber: I will warn the world on the threats over
	privatization
Dnevni List	Bankruptcy — Cantons remain without incomes
Vecernji List	Ashdown's salary amounts to 330 pensions
Slobodna	Features Croatia related headlines
Dalmacija	
Nezavisne	Boris Tadic: Dayton revision is dangerous for the
Novine	region; Following SNSD demand for meeting with RS
	President: Dodik: RS Parliament should replace
	Government; Sarajevo Canton Employment Bureau: BAM 14
	million lost over irregularities
Glas Srpske	Tragedy at the settlement of Sitnisi near Srbac: He
	killed his godfather in the hunt
EuroBlic	Additional; investigation into war crimes in Brcko and
	Bijeljina: Two persons suspected
Vecernje	Features Serbian related topics
novosti	
Nacional	Features Serbian related topics

LATEST NEWS OF TODAY

Tadic meets BiH Presidency

BH Radio 1 at 12.00 — Serbian President Boris Tadic arrived in a three-day official visit to BiH. Immediately upon arrival, Tadic met with the BiH Presidency members to discuss issues of cooperation with The Hague Tribunal, search for missing persons and process of reconciliation amongst the peoples. Tadic said that still there were unresolved issues between Serbia and BiH so that both states have to work on establishment of mutual trust in order to ease resolution of these issues. He stressed that crimes should be individualized. War crimes were committed on all sides, according to Tadic, so that the apology should been given by all the peoples. RTRS at 12.00 -Borislav Paravac stated that: "Following last week's meeting we had with Carla del Ponte, ICTY Chief Prosecutor, we today exchanged views. I am glad we were informed that the cooperation between RS and Serbia is at satisfactory level."

Conference on infrastructure in Zenica

BH Radio 1 at 12.00 — A conference to discuss improvement of infrastructure in BiH with the special attention to be paid at further development of road, railway and river communications is taking place at BH Steel in Zenica. The conference has been prepared by OHR and BiH Ministry for Transport and Communications.

RS Government in session

RTRS at 12.00 — RS Government to hold session in Banja Luka today. Main topics on the agenda are: information on realisation of measures from the Action Plan on Economic Recovery, flow of privatisation and realisation of the social programme.

Ivanic to address OSCE Foreign Ministers today

FENA — BiH Foreign Affairs Minister Mladen

Ivanic today will address the participants
of the 12th meeting of OSCE Foreign
Affairs Ministers in Sofia . Foreign
Affairs Ministers will discuss the fight
against terrorism, security and
cooperation in Europe, as well as reform
of the OSCE.

Political issues

to BiH

Boris Tadic in RTRS by Aida Halilovic, Nezavisne Novine cover 'Dayton revision official visit is dangerous for the region' and pgs 4-5 'Dayton revision would be dangerous for the regional stability' by Mirjana Kusmuk -The Serbian President, Boris Tadic, in the eve of this departure to visit BiH said that cooperation with ICTY is a essential issue for existence of RS, that RS should remain and that RS is a guaranty of the stability of both BiH and entire region. Tadic added that cooperation with ICTY demands cooperation by the all police structures in the region, as well as the establishment of the Intelligence Service of SCG, BiH and Croatia. In an interview to "Nezavisne Novine", Tadic said that he assumes what will happen with RS after the NATO summit on 9 December, but he added that RS efforts to cooperate with ICTY are the most serious. On Ratko Mladic, Tadic said that he is aware of the fact that Mladic is a pension beneficiary adding that this is his legal right which doesn't cease following the arrest or issuance of the indictment for war crimes. Tadic added that he assumes that someone else, probably his son, receives pension on Mladic's behalf. "I always have on mind that we all have to face crimes that were committed on our behalf," said Tadic adding that cooperation with ICTY is a base of coexistence and peace in the region.

> BHT 1 - BHT 1 carries that Tadic stated for Belgrade 's magazine Politika that war crimes suspects must be extradited to the ICTY, underlying that is in the best interest of Serbian people.

> Oslobodjenje cover splash, pgs 4-5 'I cannot guarantee deadline to extradite ICTY suspects' by Nagorka Idrizovic — In an interview to daily, Tadic also warned that if the Dayton Peace Agreement is to be changed without the census of all three peoples it could be dangerous. On war crimes, he said: "As the president of Serbia, I cannot guarantee any deadlines as I do not have direct authority over police and courts. However, I am sure that citizens of Serbia do not want to have issue of cooperating with ICTY to be a permanent obstacle on the way to EU and improvement of their living standards."

> RHB, Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Tadic in Sarajevo, Mostar and Banja Luka', **Dnevni List** pg 2 'Signing of agreement on border is being postponed needlessly' by A. Beus, Vecernji List pg 3 'Serbian President Tadic in BiH today' by F, Glas Srpske pg3 'Sarajevo as the first station' by N.Z.; EuroBlic pg 3 'Tadic in BiH'by A.D.— - During his three days official visit, Tadic will meet top state and entitie's officials while in Sarajevo, Mostar and Banja Luka, including the BIH Presidency members, BIH MoD Nikola Radovanovic, FBIH PM Ahmet Hadzipasic, HR Paddy Ashdown, RS President Dragan Cavic, RS PM Dragan Mikerevic, RSNA Speaker Dusan Stojicic and FBiH President Niko Lozancic.

Cavic to meet
Dodik to
discuss
current crisis
in RS

RTRS by <u>Biljana Knezevic</u> - RS President Dragan Cavic is prepared to talk to SNSD leader Milorad Dodik about the current political situation in RS, and the talks will take place at the beginning of the week. Dodik said that entire Republika Srpska is in the fear of the NATO Summit on 9 December, and stressed that the RS Government headed by the Prime Minister Dragan Mikerevic could prevent this however failed to do anything about it. Dodik said that RS is in a state of uncertainty which could leave serious consequences for RS and its citizens since the sanctions are being loudly spoken of. SNSD has sent an urgent demand to meet the President Cavic and SNSD has prepared some suggestions to exit the current crises. "I think that I was very clear [in my suggestions]... The Government should be replaced and responsibility regarding failure to fulfil ICTY obligations should be determined, and new Government composed," said Dodik. On the other hand, Cavic said that RS now needs a political consensus and not the Government's reshuffle. "It is logical that oppositional parties want to see the reshuffle of the Government," said Cavic adding: "I would invite Mr. Dodik to take...I will let him to take over the Government, but I can tell you that his remarks do not stand...this Government is of much better quality and capability than Mr. Dodik thinks," said Mikerevic. Opposition believes that their talks are not about the power but about protection of RS, and SNSD is certain that after 9 December many things could be different. Cavic agrees with this: "New wave of sanctions would cause even deeper political crises and certainly in this moment I can't speculate what would be a political response from RS, it will depends on what will happen. I think that sanctions will be counterproductive," said Cavic. "I think that something should be done instead of just standing passively and waiting for someone to undertake some measures," said Dodik. Nezavisne Novine cover and pg 2 'RS Parliament should replace Government' by <u>D. Risojevic</u>; **Glas Srpske** pg 5 'Urgently to meet Cavic!' by $\underline{\text{D.Z.}}$ — announcement of the meeting.

Terzic on the work of CoM

Dnevni Avaz cover page 'I do not allow anyone to interfere in
my work', pg 2 'I do not want to talk to anyone including PIC
 about the number of sessions held' by A. Malagic — In a
 statement for the daily, BiH Council of Ministers Chairman
 Adnan Terzic says that if the international community is not
satisfied with the CoM's performance they can simply say so and
"we will leave". "However, it really makes me angry when they
are delivering us lectures on holding the sessions (number of
sessions held)," said Terzic. Terzic said he was confident that
 BiH would be invited to start talks on Stabilization and
 Association Agreement with EU early next year.

RTRS: CoM draft new Law on Pardons

RTRS by Zorica Ruli — After the High Representative Paddy Ashdown revoked thescandalous Law on Pardons, the Council of Ministers has started with the preparations to draft the law in accordance with the European standards. Working group has already been established and international experts from OHR will participate in the drafting process to avoid further misunderstandings. BiH Justice Minister, Slobodan Kovac, has no explanation how this law could have got into the parliamentary procedure and be adopted at the first place, even though the Law was drafted in his Ministry. "There is a question, weather the pardons can even be considered if a proceeding is in progress...Certain things must be regulated more precisely," said Kovac. The Law had set that Commission for Pardons and the Ministry should give recommendations for pardons, but it wasn't determined who will be members of the Commission, their number and it was even possible that friends of suspects are in the Commission. Reporter reminds that the BiH Parliament has brought that Law, decided that public and media shouldn't be informed about it and that it is not in the official gazette.

FTV on breaches of the constitution in FBiH HoP FTV — FTV broadcast short feature on the respect of the FBiH Constitution and the provisions on constituency of peoples. FTV presenter says that one of the examples of breaches of FBiH Constitution is the lack of full presentation of the Serb delegates in the FBiH House of Peoples. Two years following the parliamentary elections, there have been still only 11 representatives of the Serbs out of 17 needed in FBiH HoP. This could bring into the question legality and constitutionality of all decisions adopted by current FBiH Parliament. Proposal of amendments to the FBiH Constitution in order to solve this issue was sent to the FBiH House of Representatives five months ago, but it so far it has not managed to get included in the agenda.

Establishment
of majority in
Brcko District
Assembly still
uncertain

Oslobodjenje pg 3, mentioned on cover 'More wishes than seats in government' by <u>V. Jahic</u> — According to the daily, the establishment of the majority in the Brcko District Assembly is still uncertain. It was announced last week that the Party for BiH would also support SDP thereby allowing election of Mirsad Djapo as the Mayor and Sinisa Kisic as the Assembly Chairman. However, it seems that talks are being continued and that nothing has been resolved yet.

DL: BiH Croats to lose Croatian citizenship? Dnevni List, pg 4, mentioned on front 'Is Croatia giving up on
Croats in BiH?', by I. Rozic — DL investigates into possibility
that BiH Croats, who also have a Croatian citizenship, lose the
 Croatian citizenship should Croatia join the EU before BiH.
 Apparently, such possibility was mentioned recently during a
meeting between the Croatian President, Stipe Mesic, and Jerko
 Ivankovic Lijanovic. DL contacted the Croatian Embassy in
 Sarajevo , which noted that Croatian laws allow existence of
 dual citizenship between Croatia and other countries.
However, DL reckons should Croatia join the EU, it would mean
that Croatia would have to harmonize its legislation to the EU,
which leads the daily to say that Croatia would have to give up
 on the BiH Croats if it were requested by the EU.

Colak on HDZ,
SDA and PDP
becoming
observers with
European
People's Party

Dnevni List, pg 5, mentioned on front 'Malicious people must
admit that Europe recognizes us', by <u>D. Polovina-Mandic</u> — DL
carries the President of HDZ BiH, <u>Barisa Colak</u>, as saying that
the fact that the HDZ, SDA and PDP have been granted a status
of observers with the European People's Party shows that the
parties in question have accepted democratic principles and
 standards. According to Colak, the said parties have
 successfully gone through the first "filter" by becoming
observers in the biggest association of European parties, which
has around 90 votes in the European Parliament and which needs
 only a few votes to have an absolute majority in the
Parliament. According to Colak, this is of great importance to
 BiH and its efforts to join European integration, because
without getting closer to European parties, it is impossible to
 get closer to Euro-Atlantic integration.

NN brings reactions to Kunic's call on RS officials to resign

Nezavisne Novine pg 2 'There must be changes in RS' by A. <u>Sekulic</u> - NN brings comments of some politicians from the RS following the announcement of the letter Petar Kunic, delegate at the BiH HoR, when on Friday he called on the RS most senior officials to file resignation and hence save the institutions of the RS. Dragan Mikerevic, RS Premier, said: "I am not running away from the responsibility of this Government and I do not debate it could not be better." Dragan Cavic, RS President, is of the view Kunic's call did not refer to him, stressing that he would never tender resignation, owing to numerous reasons. Milorad Dodik, SNSD President, said that Kunic has observed the way RS authority is functioning from the close range over the past four years, expressing his absolute support to Kunic's idea for changes. Milanko Mihajklica, President of RS Serb Radical Party, shares Kunic's view. Branko Dokic, PDP official, is of the view resignation would not be any solution.

Ivanic on defence of RS and its institutions Glas Srpske pg 5 'Appeal on opposition' by Srna — PDP on Sunday appealed on the opposition to defend RS bodies and institutions. PDP President Mladen Ivanic emphasised that the party must reply in a right manner to attempts of introducing non-constitutional changes to BiH Constitution. He pointed out the PDP supports constitutional changes that represent a prerequisite for European integrations, noting: "PDP opposes changes by which political goals of parties from Sarajevo are imposed on us'" Ivanic expressed his view that the international community must change its role in BiH as of next year, so that the local institutions finally takeover the responsibility for the future of BiH.

SDU says RS MoI should be abolished Oslobodjenje pg 7 'Necessary suspension of RS MoI' <u>by Fena</u>,

Dnevni Avaz pg 9 'RS MoI should be suspended', mentioned on
 cover, by <u>L. Sinanovic</u>, Nezavisne Novine pg 6 'SDU of BiH
 demands suspension of RS Interior Ministry' by <u>FENA</u> — Mirko

Milicevic, SDU of BiH Presidency member, stated Sunday that the
 SDU of BiH demands from the international institutions to
 suspend the RS Interior Ministry owing to its nine-years long
 inefficiency, deceit and constant obstructions for the arrest
 of war crime suspects. He said that the impression is widening
 that RS MoI is the protector of the Hague indictees.

Dnevni Avaz responds to Oslobodjenje criticism VL speculates
Croat reps
will not
endorse FBiH
budget for
2005 if
recovery of
waste dump
excluded

Vecernji List pg 7 '8 million KM envisaged for Vihovici' by M.

Relota — On the ground of rebalance of the Federation of BiH
budget for 2004 the item according to which 5,3 millions KM
were supposed to be allocated for recovery of illegal waste
dump Vihovici in Mostar was excluded. VL says that this
decision caused big dissatisfaction of Mostarians and Croat
representatives in the FBiH Parliament. VL also says that it is
very possible that Croat representatives will not give their
support to the FBiH budget for 2005 if they do not get concrete
promise that recovery of Vihovici will be priority for the next
year.

Economic, social, judicial issues

FTV on status of HV0 disabled veterans

FTV by Zeljka Mihaljevic- It has been expected that the inter-state agreement by which Croatia will continue to financially support HVO disabled veterans in BiH will be harmonized by the end of the year. Before signing of the agreement, it is necessary to determine how these funds were spent by now. FTV reports that the Police and Prosecutors' office should soon answer to the question how the Livno Canton Office for Veterans and Disabled Veterans was distributing those funds. After many complaints on work of the former director of this Office, the Cantonal Government and Livno Canton Ombudsmen office demanded audit of work of this Office. FTV also says that Livno and Tomislavgrad disabled veterans suffer consequences of this situation the most since due to suspicious work of the Office they never moved into promised apartments.

FTV on fight
against
corruption in
Tuzla Canton

FTV by <u>Halid Rufatbegovic</u> — The future of the Tuzla Cantonal Commission for fight against corruption and organized crime future is under a question.

Misunderstandings are a direct consequence of the interference of the political parties at the time when there is an official information on crime growth in this Canton, comments FTV. Certain members of the Commission, dissatisfied with the working conditions and situation, especially obstructions, have announced they will file resignations. "For entire 2 years, which is how long the Commission for fight against corruption works, we have not managed to completely solve even a single case. As it happens, we are always outvoted by SDA or SBiH," said member of the Commission, Faruk Balijagic, The Chair of the Commission, Fikret Jahic, claims that there is no outvoting and obstructions in the work of the Commission but only disagreements between its members on some issues. Jahic believes that Commission can overcome difficulties.

NN on
financial
irregularities
at Sarajevo
Canton
Employment
Bureau

Nezavisne Novine cover and pg 3 'BAM 14 million lost over irregularities' by R.

Cengic — The Steering Board of the Sarajevo Canton Employment Bureau announced that the amount of approximately BAM 14 million of surplus, collected over past years, have not been presented in the Business Plan of the Bureau for 2004. the Steering Board announced it would propose some concrete measures against "those responsible for this omission".

DL: Cantons to be deprived of certain incomes

Dnevni List front pg splash and pg 3 'Bankruptcy - Cantons remain without incomes' by I. Glibusic - On the ground of the conclusion coming from the Federation of BiH House of Peoples, the FBiH Government sent to the parliamentary procedure last week amendments to the Law on allocation of public incomes according to which Cantonal budgets will be deprived of 12 % of incomes. Commenting on this decision, FBiH Minister of Finances Dragan Vrankic stated: 'We chose this option since due to the Free Trade Agreements with neighboring countries customs incomes of the FBiH dropped drastically. Because of this reduction some sort of intervention had to be made in order protect functioning of the FBiH and in order to balance incomes.' DL concludes that being aware of the fact that Croat Ministers opposed further reducing of Cantonal funds, this move can be judged as a wish of majority in the FBiH Government since Vrankic himself expressed concern over financial problems in most of the Cantons. DL also says that is remains unclear as to how this demand came from the FBiH HoP since representatives of all Cantons participate in its work and where mechanism for protection of vital national interest exists.

of IC
officials in
BiH:
'Ashdown's
salary amounts
to 330
pensions'

Vecernji List, front pg splash 'Ashdown's
salary amounts to 330 pensions' and pg 5
'Ashdown's 50.000 KMs salary amounts to
 330 pensions', by Zoran Kresic — The
author notes that BiH has become a real
"heaven" for international politicians,
soldiers, judges and prosecutors since
they are allegedly paid as much as their
colleagues in Iraq, however they are not
faced with suicide bombers on daily basis.

VL notes that the current High Representative for BiH, Paddy Ashdown, is on top of the "pyramid" with monthly incomes in region of 50.000 KMs, which, according to VL, amounts to 330 average pensions or 100 salaries in BiH. Listing amounts of salaries of other international senior officials in BiH (PDHR Hays, SDHR Wnendt, Prosecutor McNair, Maj-Gen Leakey), the author notes that despite the EU and USA making an "exit strategy" for the next year, one can expect an opposition to the plan from the "international bureaucratic apparatus in BiH", which is generating crisis in BiH in order to prolong its stay in BiH. As an example, VL notes the Law on pardon that was annulled by HR Ashdown, despite being

prepared by HR Ashdown's "experts".

Biber: I will
warn the world
of threats
being
delivered over
privatization
reviews

'Biber: I will warn the world of threats
being delivered over review (of
privatization initiatives) — In a
statement for the daily before his
departure to Japan, where he is attending
the Congress of the International
Confederation of the Independent Trade
Unions opened on Sunday, BiH Trade Unions
Association leader Edhem Biber said he was
confident the initiatives for the review
of the privatization in BiH, revival of
the economy and poor social position of
robbed workers in the country would also
be on the Congress' agenda.

DA int with RAK Director Husenovic

Dnevni Avaz pg 5 'Eronet management brought illegal decisions', mentioned on cover 'Telephony cheaper as of 1 January', by Sead Numanovic — In the interview to DA, the Director of the Communications Regulatory Agency [RAK], Kemal Huseinovic, has announced the prices' decrease of both mobile and fixed telephony as of 1 January 2005. In addition, he explains that the reason Eronet was not awarded the 3rd GSM licence because HT Mostar was better in seven categories. In addition, Eronet illegally occupied the frequency. "Eronet management brought illegal decisions," said Huseinovic.

RS Justice
Minister on
reduction of
judicial
salaries

Glas Srpske pg 5 'Unfortunate solution' by G. Dakic - RS Minister of Justice, Saud Filipovic, stated he is not satisfied that 'the High Representative to BiH, Paddy Ashdown, has brought the decision on reducing salaries of judges and prosecutors in BiH." He noted: "I feel sorry the High Representative has reached this decision. I would have been happier if salaries of judges and prosecutors had been harmonised at BiH level'. He believes this decision had derived from a poor economic situation in RS and the Federation of BiH. He also said the reduction of salaries should not reflect on the work of judges and prosecutors.

War crimes

DA: Mladic rests in Tito's villas in SCG Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Mladic resting in Tito's
villas in SCG' by S. Numanovic — According
to reliable information collected by the
daily, Ratko Mladic does not enjoy just
SCG pension but also a protection by SCG
Army. Wartime RS Army Commander and one of
the most wanted war crime indices is a
frequent guest in military facilities
including the Army Hotel in Meljine near
the Montenegrin costal town of Herceg Novi

Marovic: 'I
would be
pleased if
Mladic is
not
protected by
SCG Army'

Oslobodjenje pg 5, mentioned on cover 'I would be pleased if Mladic is not protected by SCG Army' - Serbia and Montenegro President Svetozar Marovic has told Sunday's edition of Blic that 10 million citizens of Serbia-Montenegro "are held hostage outside the gates of the European future" unable to move forward because "Brussels believes that we have not met our obligations towards The Hague". "For me this is a far greater danger than the possible destabilization of the country, which could happen as a result of the arrest of Hague indictees," Marovic said. Asked whether he trusts the authorities when they say that Hague indictee Ratko Mladic is not hiding in Serbia and that he is not being protected by the Serbia and Montenegro Army, Marovic said that he "truly hopes that this is the case". "It is difficult to explain to foreigners that although you send them documents and relive people from the obligation to keep state secrets that you really believe in the Hague tribunal and you cooperate with it, when you see people wanted by the Hague tribunal on your streets and on TV, and you, despite the judicial system, do not try to show publicly that you are doing something about it, " Marovic said.

Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Mladic resting in Tito's
 villas in SCG' by <u>S. Numanovic</u> — also
 includes Marovic's statement.

Update to Brcko District PO files on war crimes

EuroBlic cover and RSpg 8 'Two persons suspected' by L. Stefanovic — Zekerija Mujkanovic, Brcko District Public Prosecutor, confirmed to EuroBlic that following additional investigation, Brcko District Public Prosecutor's Office has forwarded to BiH State Prosecutor's Office evidence file for two persons suspected of having committed war crime in the area of pre-war municipality of Brcko. He did not want to reveal names of these two persons.

War crimes files at Tuzla Cantonal Court

Nezavisne Novine pg 3 'The Hague approved investigations against 58 persons' by R.

Cengic — Alma Dzaferovic, Head of the Tuzla Cantonal Prosecutor's Office Department for war crimes, confirmed that the Tuzla Cantonal PO has received A-label on files for processing 58 persons for war crimes. She noted additional investigations need to be conducted in all these cases.

Accusation against Sefer Halilovic

Glas Srpske pg 5 'Report against Sefer Halilovic' — The PSC in Istocno Sarajevo has filed with the District Prosecutor's Office an amendment to the report against Sefer Halilovic, the former Chief of the former BiH Militia Main HQ's Operations Centre, as well as against 24 members of the-then civilian and military authorities in the Federation's part of Sarajevo.

According to the PSC Spokesperson, Radovan Pejic, the report concerns the war crimes committed against Serbs in the Sarajevo settlement of Pofalici on June 16, 1992. The amended report includes the names of the suspects and the victims.