# OHR BiH Media Round-up, 7/1/2004

RADIO HERCEG-	BH TV 1 (19,00	FED TV (19,30	<b>RT RS</b> (19,30)
BOSNA (18,00	hrs)	hrs)	
hrs)			
New Weapons	PIC discusses	BiH Court on	Action Plan of
Scandal	complaints	trafficking	RS Gov't
OSCE official	Sentence for	Mafia threatens	Vital national
tried suicide	trafficking	prosecutor	interests
Ashdown's	Minister of	Covic denied	Minister of
warning	Defence	allegations	Defence
Ashdown's	Explosion in	Travel to SCG	Nemanjic Award
Interview	Afghanistan	with ID	

Oslobodjenje	Ten questions for Sulejman Tihic; BNTNovi Travnik and
	Vitezit breached embargo?
Dnevni Avaz	OHR strike Tihic back with ten questions; Mladen Ivanic:
	Statements by Serbian Radicals are obsolete
Dnevni List	Young attempts suicide; OHR sends ten questions to Sulejman
	Tihic
Vecernji	BiH Army and HVO with "missing" canons; Director of OSCE
List	Mostar attempted suicide
Slobodna	Jelavic, Covic and Coric violated UN embargo?; Head of OSCE
Dalmacija	slashed veins because of love sufferings
Nezavisne	OHR poses ten questions to Sulejman Tihic: BiH cannot enter
Novine	Europe without professional judiciary; Rasim Delic: I am
	not afraid of ICTY indictment; BiH Court: Sentenced to 58
	months imprisonment over smuggling of Curds; Mostar: Head
	of OSCE Regional Office cut his veins

	Judiciary issues
OHR asks	RHB, BHTV 1, RTRS, Dnevni Avaz cover splash, pg 2 'OHR
Tihic 10	strike Tihic back with 10 questions', Oslobodjenje cover
questions	splash, pg 5 'Ten questions for Tihic', Vecernji List
regarding	front, pg 4 'Ashdown: Bosniaks make half of judiciary and
judiciary	Police', Dnevni List front, pg 4 'OHR sends ten questions
	to Sulejman Tihic', Nezavisne Novine cover, pg 5 'BiH
	cannot enter Europe without professional judiciary'-
	After the SDA leader Sulejman Tihic recently asked the
	OHR and others to answer ten questions about the
	constitutionality of the process of re-appointing judges
	and prosecutors, OHR issued a statement reading Tihic's
	"questions suggest a possible lack of understanding both
	of the principles of an independent European judiciary
	and of the process itself." In turn, statement further
	lists 10 questions which ask whether Tihic knows that
	"BiH cannot get into the European Union without a
	professional and independent judiciary?;making the
	judicial appointment process a political issue in the
	media has the effect of politicizing this process?; the
	whole IC is increasingly concerned about his campaign on
	this issue?; the continuation of this campaign is
	already making it harder to justify the handover of this
	process to fully domestic institutions, and is
	threatening this country's path to Europe?;the reason
	Bosnjaks are not being appointed in larger numbers in the RS is because they are not applying?his campaign is
	probably discouraging Bosniaks from applying and
	therefore making the situation worse?;all the previous
	attempts to address the under-representation of Bosniaks
	in the RS judiciary since the war have failed to make a
	significant difference?;the HJPC process therefore
	offers the best chance of ensuring that more Bosniaks are
	appointed judges and prosecutors in the RS, and that if
	he really wanted to help he would work with his coalition
	partners, particularly the SDS, to give this process
	their full support?;his claims about constitutional
	representation would be much stronger if he had accepted
	the constitutional changes that protect multi-ethnicity
	in this country?;that 49.5% of all policemen in BiH are
	Bosnjaks; and that while the HJPC is less than halfway
	through the process, 49% of all the prosecutors so far
	appointed are Bosnjaks; and that 49% of all the judges so
	far appointed are Bosnjaks?"

C	
Comment by	Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Tihic did not receive the letter' -
Tihic's	Fena news agency reported that Sulejman Tihic's Cabinet
cabinet	stated he did not receive any letter with questions from
following OHR	
letter	not received any answers to its questions, which were
	previously sent to OHR. "It is very well known who and in
	what manner communicates with BiH Presidency and the
	Presidency's member", was told in Tihic's cabinet.
PIC	BHTV 1, FTV – The Ambassadors of the Peace Implementation
Ambassadors	Council Steering Board met on Tuesday afternoon in
discuss	Sarajevo, in order to discuss the recent political party
judiciary	criticisms of the judicial reappointment process and the
	effect that this may have on BiH's future and plans for
	closer EU integration. In addition, they also discussed
	priorities for 2004.
State	Oslobodjenje pg 6 'New BiH Human Rights Ombudsmen',
Ombudsmen	Dnevni List pg 2 'Lawyers from BiH take over job of
take over	foreign experts', Slobodna Dalmacija pg 7 'New ombudsmen
position	for human rights in BiH' - Office of the Human Rights
p	Ombudsmen for BiH announced that Snezana Savic, Safet
	Pasic and Mariofil Ljubic took over the duties which were
	performed until now by the transitional Ombudsmen Frank
	Orton.
BiH Court	BHTV 1, FTV, RTRS, Nezavisne Novine cover, pg 2
passes	'Sentenced to 58 months imprisonment over smuggling of
verdict for	Curds' – BiH Court yesterday sentenced Dzenana Karacic,
trafficking	former First Secretary of BiH Embassy in Turkey, to30
in people	months imprisonment for the smuggling in Curds to BiH.
	Her son, Mirza Ustovic Karacic, was sentenced on the same
	counts to 28 months imprisonment. They were charged for
	having organised a false New Year's celebration for 13
	Turkish citizens at Bjelasnica mountain in 2002 through
	Turkish tourist agency "Sun Tours", owned by Mirza. State
	Border Service of BiH returned this group to Turkey,
	after they failed to prove the reason for their arrival
	to BiH.
	1

#### Political issues

Ashdown on	RHB, Oslobodjenje pg 9'Structure in accordance to the BiH
Mostar issue	system', FENA —The High Representative, Paddy Ashdown will
	visit Mostar on Friday, and at that occasion he is expected
	to give his answer to the solution of draft Mostar Statute
	proposed by Chairman of the Mostar Commission Norbert
	Winterstain. In an interview to Radio Herceg Bosna [carried
	further by FENA news agency], Ashdown stressed that the
	issue of Mostar has to be solved very soon: "Yes, I believe
	that Winterstain's report offers the best help for breaking
	this deadlock that has kept us as hostage for far too long.
	This is absolutely vital for our chances for joining Europe
	if we fail in Mostar; we destroy our chances for joining
	Europe. So there are 2 principals for this solution: the one
	is to end parallelism by creating unique city Administration
	and the second is to recognize the special position of
	Mostar in Dayton by ensuring that there is a system of
	election and government that guarantees power sharing
	between the people." The High Representative said that on
	Friday he would also repeat the stand on division of the
	city: "Unfortunately we can not have in place in Mostar
	system based on trust So we can not have the system where
	we would allow municipalities to exist below the single city
	administration because there can be no trust that these will
	not be developed into parallel institutions and simply
	divide the city. At the same time we can not relay on the
	trust for proper running of the city, we have to have
	guarantees of effective power sharing." Asked to comment on
	possibility of Croats becoming a minority at the authorities
	level in Mostar, Ashdown answered: "No one can become
	minority. The point is we have to construct the system in
	Mostar similar to the system we have in BiH [where]
	majority cannot overrule the minority. The Bosniaks might
	be the biggest population in BiH but the cannot overrule
	Croat interests. If that is suitable for BiH it has to be
	suitable for Mostar. It would be simply illogical for Croats
	that the system in BiH as a whole, which was beneficial for
	them, was not the system that they could tolerate in the
	Mostar when it was not beneficial for them."
	FTV, Dnevni List pg 5 'Winterstein's report – hope for end
	of halt' – OHR Spokesperson Kevin Sullivan stated at the
	press conference held on Tuesday in Srajevo: "The Peace
	Implementation Council, the EU and, most importantly, the
	citizens of Mostar want a single administration with
	guaranteed power-sharing."

DA int with Ivanic: Future of BiH is not questionable	Dnevni Avaz cover 'Statements by Radicals from Serbia are obsolete' by Fadil Mandal – In an interview to DA, BiH Foreign Minister Mladen Ivanic stated that he was no worried over the victory of radicals in the recent elections in Serbia and believes such development will not impact the situation in BiH. Asked whether his Ministry reacted to the statement by Vojislav Seselj's Deputy Tomislav Nikolic who said that RS should be part of Serbia as BiH cannot survive as the country, Ivanic answered: "I personally believe that destiny of BiH was solved with the Dayton Peace Agreement… Future of BiH is not questionable. Nikolic's statements remind of some old times, which can bring nothing. It is an obsolete time, thinking concept overcame."
DL editorial on OHR role in SAA	Dnevni List pg 6 'Price of self-delusion can be too high' by <u>Marko Tadic</u> – Commenting on a statement by an expert associate to the BiH Direction for European Integration, Valida Repovac, who told "Oslobodjenje" that the Stabilization and Association Agreement would not be signed before mid 2005 and that the institution of OHR is "burdening" BiH in its efforts to join the EU, Tadic disagrees with Repovac that the OHR is a burden saying "as if, if there were no High Representative and his office, BiH would taking bigger strides towards the EU", pointing out to disharmony among the political players in BiH. However, Tadic adds: "It is much likely that my generation would witness the day BiH becomes a member of EU if there were a full instead of a half-protectorate in BiH, the energetic instead of insufficiently energetic High Representative, and the High Representative loyal to democratic and not nationalistic politicians".
NN editorial on constituency of peoples	Nezavisne Novine pg 7 'Ninth circle' editorial by <u>Slavo</u> <u>Kukic</u> — The author speaks about the violation of vital national interests of Bosniaks in BiH, saying that he should agree with this, noting that not only the vital interests of Bosniaks, but also of Serbs, Croats, Gypsies, Yews, men and women have been jeopardised in BiH. However, he notes that those vital interests have not been put in jeopardy by the opposing ethnic group, but by the people on authority, who make decisions and pass judgements concerning lives of the entire people in the manner that "a normal person could hardly acknowledge". He concludes the article by saying that the trends observed presently (meaning with nationalistic symbol) irresistibly resemble trends from beginning of 90'ies, but also the 9 <sup>th</sup> circle of Dante's circle of inferno. He wonders whether it is possible to stop these trends, noting that only international officials, especially HiRep, could put an end to these trends.

DL editorial on	Dnevni List pg 9 'Violation of FBiH Constitution is common phenomenon' <u>by M. Relota</u> – DL carries that an important
constituency of peoples	discussion during the continuation of the 9 <sup>th</sup> session of the House of Representatives of the Federation of BiH Parliament
	was the discussion on 'marginalisation of Bosniaks due to violation of the decision on constituency of peoples'.
	Commenting on this decision, HNZ representative in the HoR of the FBiH Parliament Milenko Brkic stated that it was
	agreed to demand from competent bodies of the FBiH to hand over an analysis on representation of constituent peoples in
	the authority bodies. Brkic added: "By this resolution the FBiH Parliament will send a message to the High
	Representative, state authorities, Prime Minister and the
	FBiH Government, to itself and Cantonal and Municipal authority levels. On the ground of this resolution we should
	go later on to clearer definition of term constituency that is being interpreted in a different way."

### Defence and security issues

Update to new	Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Covic: This is just a bout', FTV — The chairman
illegal arms	of the BiH Presidency Dragan Covic denied all allegations from the
trade affair	recent report by FTV on his involvement in illegal arms trade. He
	considers such reports were new political pressure: "I have been
	done everything during 48 years of my life in a same way I am
	carrying out my current job. My political opponents use
	opportunities from time to time to again raise such accusation
	being only politically motivated."
	Slobodna Dalmacija front, pg 13 'HDZ: Nebulous and imputations' -
	SD carries HDZ statemet regarding the charges: "It seems that the
	new year started with a new hunt for Croats, which started after
	-
	the OHR did not appoint a single prosecutor and judge who execute
	orders coming from the SDA and who were yes-men of this party. Ir
	light of that, the recent stories of Bosniaks being endangered,
	and discussions about this issue is just the façade for future
	plans of SDA."
	Dnevni Avaz pg 2 'Jelavic: I was never in the 'deal' with Cengic'
	- DA says that Ante Jelavic stated the "he was not disturbed at
	all with the publicized news: 'I am being put in connection with
	the sale of arms and military equipment for the period in which I
	performed the duty with the State Presidency. Therefore, the
	constitutional position did not enable me to deal with that kind
	of work. In addition, I am being put in connection with Hasan
	Cengic and I was never in the 'deal' with him when I was the in
	the FBiH Defence Ministry'".
	RHB, Vecernji List front 'BiH Army and HVO with 'missing' canons'
	pg 2 'BiH Army and HVO still have 'missing' howitzers' – Regarding
	the same reports, the FBiH Ministry of Defence said that there wa
	nothing disputable with production of howitzers at "Bratstvo"
	Company at Novi Travnik. The FBiH MoD also confirmed that apart
	from "Bratstvo", several other companies, namely "Soko" of Mostar
	was involved in production of howitzers, "Unis" of Konjic was
	producing ammunition, "TRZ" of Hadzici was producing helmets and
	"Zrak" of Sarajevo the helmets. The MoD could not guarantee
	whether the companies violated the embargo on their own or not.
	Oslobodjenje cover, pg 7 'BNT Novi Travnik and Vitezit breached
	embargo?' — Daily reads that it still did not have a knowledge of
	the countries with which companies Vitezit and BNT Novi Travnik,
	accused of illegal arms trade, were allegedly providing with arms
	It further says that the most serious charges were referring to
	the Ante Jelavic's content with production of arms by SokoVit, wh
	produced land mines buying fillings from Vitezit. At the time,
	SokoVit was managed by Miroslav Coric, current Prime Minister of
	Herzegovina Neretva Canton.
	BHTV 1 – BiH Prosecutor's Office reported that its special
	department for organized crime would consider and process recent
	allegations made in FTV news bulletin. The report said that
	Prosecutor will investigate allegations against Ante Jelavic,
	Hasan Cengic, Dragan Covic and others.

HR urges security reforms	RHB, BHTV 1, RTRS, Oslobodjenje pg 2 'Deadline for reforms gets shorter', Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Less than six months for implementing reforms', Dnevni List pg 5 'Winterstein's report – hope for end of halt'- The High Representative Paddy Ashdown warns that BiH has less than six months to implement an ambitious reform agenda if it wants to commence with negotiating a Stability and Association Agreement with the EU or gaining membership of Partnership for Peace. OHR Spokesperson Kevin Sullivan announced that Ashdown will hold press conference on Wednesday in order to speak about the Rule of Law and Security reforms.FTV - Sullivan underlined OHR priorities: "HR is concerned with security system in BiH. There should be single intelligence agency, bodies for implementation of the state-level law, single High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council for whole country." In addition, he stressed that short-term political interests and lack of administrative capacities should not impede the progress on these issues.
Update to SFOR's blockade of Vrhpolje village	RHB, FTV - Representatives of SFOR held a press conference in Bihac focusing on the 'Harvest operation', following yesterday's operation carried out by its troops at Vrhpolje near Sanski Most. According to the spokesperson of SFOR, Captain Bob Kennedy, about one hundred representatives of SFOR and members of Cantonal Interior Ministry searched 168 houses and 200 cars in the Sanski Most settlement of Vrhpolje. The greatest problem during the operation was the houses, whose owners are currently working abroad. SFOR troops were forced to break into the houses, because, as Kennedy claims, all houses in the settlement had to be searched and there was no other choice. The spokesperson of Cantonal MoI, Ale Siljdedic, said that a great quantity of explosive devices, weapons and ammunition had been collected during the past year, which had been stored in special SFOR bases, from which they will be transferred to the Zenica Steel Plant for melting. Oslobodjenje pg 7 'Searched three houses', Nezavisne Novine pg 4 'SFOR members were forcibly entering locked houses' – According to President of Vrhpolje Local Community, Ismet Salasevic, SFOR was forcibly entering some houses, which were locked. The reason why they were locked is because their owners are working and living abroad.
BHTV 1 on Defence Minister	BHTV 1 by Damir Simic — Following warning by the High Representative on six months to make progress toward SAA negotiations with EU and NATO, BHTV 1 reports in its feature that the international community suggested that full hierarchy of command structures of BiH Army should be completed by end of February if BiH wants to be prepared for NATO summit in Istanbul. Secretary of the Standing Committee for Military Matters Enes Becirbasic agrees with such time line and further suggests that the BiH Defence Minister is rather a professional then a politician. Reporter concludes that "political bargaining" for the position of Minister and others within the BiH Armed Force has already started and may cause unnecessary delays.

NN interview with Rasim Delic on BiH Defence Minister position	Nezavisne Novine cover, pg 4 'I am not afraid of ICTY indictment' — In an interview to NN, Rasim Delic, former commander of Army of Republic of BiH and currently military advisor to Sulejman Tihic, says that he would accept the position of defence minister only if he were convinced that he would contribute to further development of BiH in this manner. He further stresses that instead of ICTY indictment, he should be handed a reward for his contribution to protection of civilian population during the war. He expresses belief that it is high time General Atif Dudakovic left the position of the Commander of Joint Command of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, because "it has become a practise throughout the world that these duties are to be assumed for two or four years at most".
Paravac's Cabinet will not give up request Serb to be BiH Defence Minister	Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'RS will not give up on the request of Defence Minister to be a Serb' – Dragan Kapetina, Chief of the military cabinet of BiH Presidency member Borislav Paravac, declared that the defence system reform in BiH could head on an unwanted direction if the first defence minister at state-level is not a Serb. "It is not just a phrase that the RS top institutions will persevere on this mutual position", Kapetina told the Bijeljina BN television. He added that informal talks have already been conducted among the representatives of RS institutions, which, as he said, are relevant for proposing the candidates for the defence minister.
NN editorial on BiH Defence Minister position	Nezavisne Novine pg 7 'Nationality over professionalism' editorial by <u>Mirza Cubro</u> – The author writes about the ongoing speculation as to who could assume the position of the first BiH defence minister, stressing that apart from ethnic denomination, no political side has so far mentioned anything about the professionalism, qualifications, authority, negotiations ability, flexibility, readiness for compromises, because these are only few abilities and requirements which a proper candidate should meet.

Oslobodjenje editorial on BiH Defence Minister debates	Oslobodjenje pg 2 'I don't care' editorial <u>by Antonio Prlenda</u> – 'I really don't care of which nationality will be the first state defence ministers of BiH!' reads at the beginning the editorial which says that recent debates between leading politicians regarding the position 'warns that this issue will also gain unnecessary personnel games and trade between ruling parties'. Author further describes in-length obligations of future Defence Minister, stressing the importance of that position, but than concluding once again that its nationality is not important, especially since the Minister will have two Deputies, with equally important tasks, and with whom Minister has to make decisions. Prlenda also underlines that their cooperation is much more important than the issue of Minister's nationality. "It is much more important for the Minister to be a person with outstanding organizational capabilities, who will see the dialogue as the important process in decision making process. And that is why I don't care about his nationality It much more important to get this system on its feet in timely, honest and comprehensive manner. The system that should guarantee the protection of army being used in any way against some of the peoples. The system in which it would not be important of which nationality is the Minister. " – reads the editorial.
DL: Al'Qaida present in BiH	Dnevni List pg 11 'Al-Qa'id present in BiH' – DL carries that Deputy Head of Center for Security and Investigation of Terrorism with the Belgrade Institute for Political Studies Darko Trifunovic stated that SFOR and international organizations in BiH are familiar with the map that the Republika Srpska Government has, which clearly shows connection between Islamic extremists and terrorists in BiH, Raska area and Kosovo. Trifunovic also said that for this reason High Representative Paddy Ashdown has recently invited famous expert for terrorism Rohan Gunaratna to judge whether Al-Qa'id was present in BiH or not. According to Trifunovic, Bosniaks threaten Gunaratna with death since his reply to Ashdown was that Al-Qa'id has been present in BiH since the beginning of the war up to now.

## Economic and social issues

BH authorities surprised with Sanader's statement on Split-Dubrovnik highway Oslobodjenje pg 7 'Sanader will have to turn into Neum' – BiH Transport and Communications Minister Branko Dokic said that he believed that Croatian Government will give up on their intention to avoid Neum [BiH territory] in building Split-Dubrovnik highway.

-New Croatian Prime Minister Ivo Sanader much such announcement last week, however Dokic said that this was just a remark by the government which did not have a full insight into the situation or possibilities for the project. He also reminds that the Croatian Government previously had similar plans, however gave up on them as they proved non cost effective. Dokic says that

it was unserious of Sanader to relate the dispute over Ploce Port between BiH and Croatia to free pass through Neum for the road Split-Dubrovnik.

Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Terzic surprised with announcement on building Komarna — Peljesac bridge' — The chairman of the Council of Ministers Adnan Terzic said that he was very much surprised with the statement about building the bridge which would

exclude Neum in the Split-Dubrovnik highway. He further explained that CoM was negotiation with the Croatian Government under leadership of former PM Ivica Racan, and that both sides at the time saw passing

through Neum as the step towards stabilisation of the relations at the Balkans. Terzic will meet Sanader in February, in order to discuss the Free Trade Agreements.

OHR asks FBiH	Oslobodjenje pg 9'Wait for Ombudsmen
Govt to	decision', Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'Wait for
respects	Ombudsmen decision on dismissals in
Ombudsmen	Banovici Mine', Dnevni List pg 6'FBiH
decision re	Government should wait with dismissals' —
Banovici Mine	OHR Spokesperson Kevin Sullivan invited the
	FBiH Government to wait for the decision by
	FBiH Ombudsmen regarding the recently
	passed decision removing three members of
	the Steering Board of the Banovici Coal
	Mine near Tuzla. An appeal against the
	latest government decision has been lodged
	with the Ombudsman's Office, on the grounds
	that the Board members have not been
	informed of their removal in writing, which
	is a legal requirement, and that there is
	no evidence of conflict of interest, the
	reason given by the government for the
	removals. "OHR calls on the Federation
	Government to wait for the Ombudsman's
	decision before proceeding with these
	removals", stressed Sullivan.
	with the Ombudsman's Office, on the ground that the Board members have not been informed of their removal in writing, whic is a legal requirement, and that there is no evidence of conflict of interest, the reason given by the government for the removals. "OHR calls on the Federation Government to wait for the Ombudsman's decision before proceeding with these

Undata an third	Drowni List nr 2 (Discussion on roturn of
Update on third	
GSM operator	Eronet to HT Mostar on January 23' <u>by J.</u>
	<u>Petrovic</u> – According to DL sources HT
	Mostar is closer to the third GSM license
	than Eronet. DL also carries General
	Manager of HT Mostar Stipe Prlic who says
	that without mobile telephony HT Mostar
	cannot compete with other two telecom
	operators. Talking about the return of the
	HT Mostar's ownership over Eronet, Prlic
	says that the main discussion will take
	place on January 23 and that another
	discussion should take place as well.
	According to him, there are no reasons
	because of which the court would not pass
	the decision on the return of 51% of
	ownership to HT Mostar.
	Slobodna Dalmacija front, pg 12 'Eronet and
	HT are only candidates' — President of the
	Eronet's Steering Board Bozo Knezevic says
	that Eronet is the most serious candidate
	for getting the third GSM license. He added
	that there are many reasons for it — they
	have a license, they deal with mobile
	telephony, they have developed
	infrastructure and their clients.
1	

DA: Division	Dnevni Avaz pg 4 'Ministers from SBiH mind
within FBiH	that PM Hadzipasic let go to HDZ's demands'
Govt over	by <u>A. Hadziarapovic</u> – Discussion at the
Aluminij	latest session of the FBiH Government
	regarding the price of electricity for
	Aluminij company from Mostar caused,
	according to the article, deep divisions in
	the executive authorities. Daily claims
	that Ministers from Party for BiH minded
	that FBIH Prime Minister Ahmet Hadzipasic
	let go to the demands by HDZ Ministers
	damaging Elektroprivreda BiH. However,
	Hadzipasic answers that his proposal, also
	refused by FBiH Transport and
	Communications Minister Nedzad Brankovic,
	was more suitable than the High
	Representative's temporary regulatory
	decision. Journalist concludes that the
	debate over this issue could be additional
	heated up by the upcoming discussion on the
	report dealing with the FBiH authorities'
	performance being prepared by the FBiH
	President Niko Lozancic and his deputies
	Desnica Radivojevic and Sahbaz
	Dzihanovic.

<b>FBiH Pensioners</b>	Dnevni Avaz pg 8 'We demand payment of one
demand pay out	and half of pensions', Dnevni List pg 4
of overdue	'Half of pension by end of month' — FBiH
pension	Pensioners Association requests the House
	of Peoples of FBiH Parliament to adopt the
	Decision on temporary funding of FBiH for
	the first three months of 2004, which
	should enable payment of one half of
	overdue pension. President of the said
	Association, Jozo Ljiljanic, responding to
	the FBiH Prime Minister's announcement that
	the other half of pension will be paid out
	in the second half of 2004, says: "We will
	request the FBiH Government and the
	competent ministry to foresee payment of at
	least additional one and a half pension in
	the Draft and Proposal of 2004 FBiH
	budget."

## War crimes issues

FBiH Govt to	Oslobodjenje cover, pg 6 'Out of budget, a
finance	million KM for Hague's suspects' by A.
families of	Omeragic – According to article, families
war crimes	of those indicted for war crimes by the
suspects	ICTY and local courts will receive a
	million KM of assistance in 2004, which
	will be directed form the FBiH budget.
	This also means that the Government
	adopted the proposal by the Chairman of
	the BiH Presidency Sulejman Tihic, who
	asked from the Government to finance both
	the families and the suspects who
	voluntarily surrender to the ICTY.
	Entity's Prime Minister Ahmet Hadzipasic
	stated for daily that the Government still
	did not define criteria for the
	assistance, however explaining that only
	of voluntarily surrendered suspects'
	families will be taken into the account
	adding that this refers to "only those who
	surrendered in the territory of FBiH, not
	in some other countries, meaning those
	that did not run before the Law. Those
	people stayed without jobs, without
	salaries, and their families have nothing
	to life of anymore." While Tihic requested
	the assistance for Bosniaks only,
	explaining that Croatia finances Croats
	and Serbi and Montenegro doest the same
	with Serb suspects, Hadzipasic said that
	the assistance will be available to all
	those fulfilling the criteria regardless
	to their nationality. The proposal for the
	assistance will be discussed by the FBiH
	Parliament in upcoming period.