

Chronologische ontwikkelingen

Joegoslavië

Map 8 D

van holst en steijnen

From: Duska Bekker Isakovic <isakovicd@zonnet.nl>
 To: Nico Stijnen <n.h.van.holst@freeler.nl>
 Sent: dinsdag 3 april 2001 12:05
 Subject: Fw: SA3:Fw: SB34:Petition

Subject: Fw: SA3:Fw: SB34:Petition

> Halo vrienden,
 >
 >> Willen jullie ook meewerken aan de ondertekening van petitie voor
 behoud
 >> van de Servische kloosters in Kosovo. De zogenaamde Albanese bevrijdings
 >> leger KLA dreigt behalve het verjagen van niet Albanese minderheids
 >> bevolking ook de oudste Christen cultuur, de Servisch Orthodoxe
 kloosters
 > te
 >> vernietigen op voorbeeld van Taliban in Afganistan en de vernietiging
 van
 >> Budha
 >> beelden aldaar. Vraag zo mogelijk ook je andere vrienden verder mee te
 > doen.
 >>
 >> Wij verzoeken u een e-mail naar onderstaand adres (Mirko Stevanovic) te
 >> sturen met uw naam, woonplaats en het land. Zie de tekst van de Petitie
 >> ondcraan.
 >>
 >> mirko@nortelnetworks.com (Mirko Stevanovic)
 >>
 >>
 >> Stuur de volgende tekst aan Mirko Stevanovic, uiterlijk voor 10 april:
 >>
 >
 >>

>>

>> Molim vas da sledeca lica dodate kao potpisnike Peticije u prilogu:
 >>
 >> Voornaam Achetnaam Woonplaats en het Land
 >> (Voorbeeld: Jans Janssens, Amsterdam, Nederland)
 >>
 >> [Tekst petitie"- zie onder]
 >>
 >> Danku/vr.gr.
 >> Duska

>> Subject: Petition
 >>
 >>
 >>
 >> PETITION FOR THE SAFEGUARD OF SERBIAN CULTURAL HERITAGE
 >>
 >> We, the undersigned, plead for an immediate end to the Albanian Kosovo
 >> "Liberation" Army's annihilation of Serbian cultural heritage in the
 form
 >> of
 >> destruction of medieval monasteries and churches. We further urge the
 NATO
 >> and Albanian leaders Mr. Robertson and Mr. Rugova to explore
 possibilities
 >> to safeguard this irreplaceable cultural heritage from further,
 senseless
 >> destruction .
 >>
 >> Please sign and forward this petition to friends, family, news groups,
 >> mailing lists etc.
 >>
 >>

DO NOT SIGN TWICE. DO NOT LET IT DEAD END. IF YOU ARE UNABLE
 > OR UNWILLING TO SIGN, EITHER FORWARD IT TO OTHERS OR RETURN TO
 > unesco.press@unesco.org
 >> <<<mailto:unesco.press@unesco.org>><mailto:unesco.press@unesco.org>>

>> -To avoid adding "" onto the chain, please preferably
 >> cut & paste the entire petition and list of names into a
 >> new message prior to re-sending.

>> -THE 100th, 200th, 300th NAME/PERSON to sign is requested to
 >> also forward the updated list of signatures back to the
 >> United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural
 >> Organization at e-mail: unesco.press@unesco.org
 >> <<<mailto:unesco.press@unesco.org>><mailto:unesco.press@unesco.org>>

>> Negovan Rajic: From Kabul to Kosovo

>> The barbaric destruction of the gigantic Buddhas in Afganistan has
 >> provoked a justified hue of worldwide protests. Believers and
 >> nonbelievers alike, all civilized people are recoiling in pain at
 >> this intolerable assault on culture. It is not only an attack on the
 >> artistic heritage of mankind, but also on human history and our
 >> collective memory.

>> Sadly, as I write these lines, the Taliban has already reduced to a
 >> pile of rubble the sandstone cliffs where pious Buddhist monks
 >> infused a soul so long ago. None of the great powers has dared to
 >> send troops into the Afghan's hornet's nest to save those priceless
 >> treasures. Even if, to some extent, this failure can be justified
 >> by the wish to save human lives, one cannot understand how, in
 >> Kosovo, in the heart of Europe, in the presence of U.N. troops, the
 >> West is unflinchingly witnessing the destruction of the monuments of
 >> a civilization which, in the final analysis, is one of its own. Who
 >> can believe commanders of the United Nations' Kosovo Protection
 >> Force (KFOR) - an army of 40,000 soldiers and 2,000 policemen
 >> deployed in an area no larger than a single department of France-
 >> who say they do not have sufficient means to protect the Serb
 >> communities from Albanian extremists nor to stop the destruction of
 >> almost a hundred * churches and monasteries, some of which were
 >> adorned with magnificent frescoes dating back to the Middle Ages?
 >> How is it that the same western leaders and intellectuals who only
 >> yesterday were demonizing the Serbs with allegations of all crimes
 >> imaginable, are so cowardly silent today?

>> For how long will the Western leaders be able to close their eyes to
 >> a reality that will surely boomerang as did the wartime misdeeds of
 >> the Nazis. No, tomorrow, our leaders will not have the right to say,
 >> "We did not know". Orthodox churches are being dynamited, Serb
 >> houses set aflame, and old cemeteries desecrated, all in the
 >> presence of the troops of that same "international community" that
 >> is trying to impose itself as the supreme judge of good and evil.

>> Whether it is the peak of cynicism or insensitivity, we are now being
 >> told that the commander of the allied troops in Kosovo, an
 >> accomplice of the terrorists, is thinking of entrusting the
 >> protection of those Orthodox shrines still standing to the former
 >> soldiers of the Albanian Kosovo Liberation Army! Even Hitler himself
 >> didn't dare to push perfidy so far as to entrust the protection of
 >> synagogues to the units of his SS! If this news is confirmed, we
 >> might as well put a cross on the last vestige of the jewels of
 >> medieval art which, despite being formally under Unesco's
 >> protection, have become, as the giant Buddhas, mute witnesses of a
 >> civilization put to death.

>> But let's not fool ourselves, their disappearance will also be our
 >> moral defeat and the world's power-brokers will not have an easy
 >> conscience when trying to persuade us that this destruction is what
 >> the Serbs deserved for their crimes. And who, after the the big
 >> petroleum companies have elaborated their plans to run pipelines
 >> across the Balkan peninsula, can still believe that the war against
 >> Yugoslavia was a "humanitarian" war?

van holst en steijnen

From: <ssicc@planet.nl>
To: <n.h.van.holst@freeler.nl>; <Joveljic.Nebojsa.N@bhp.com>; <STOP-NSP@topica.com>;
 <briefs@siem.recnik.com>
Sent: dinsdag 3 april 2001 05:56
Subject: Drzavna tajna

Miloseviceva zalba

Ovo je opasna stvar sto se ovaj tekst pojavio u javnosti jer se u tekstu kaze da je pomagana RSK i RS sto ce moci da se iskoristi za dokaz umesanosti SR Jugoslavije - Srbije u rat u Bosni i Hercegovini i Hrvatskoj. Milosevic kaze da je to drzavna tajna. E sada vise nije.

Cudi me kako je ovo objavljeno i da li nije neko namerno ovo pustio u stampu kako bi postigao neki pokvaren cilj.

Ali u svakom zlu ima i dobra:

Onaj ko je ovaj tekst pustio u opticaj - odao je drzavnu tajnu.

Jovan Grbic

Pitam se kako je Glas Javnosti dosao do teksta zalbe.

U svakom slucaju Milosevic se dobro brani ali pitanje je da li ce mu to mnogo vredeti sa kriminalcima u sadasnjoj vlasti.

Ja licno potpuno verujem u ovo sto je napisao.

Dejan

Izdaje NIP "GLAS" a.d.
 "GLAS JAVNOSTI" d.d.
 Vlajkoviæeva br. 8, Beograd, Jugoslavija
 Internet izdanje

Ponedeljak, 02. april 2001.

02. Apr 2001 20:00 (GMT+01:00)

Slobodan Miloseviæ napisao ÷albu istrañnom sudiji Okruñnog suda i trañio ukidanje pritvora ÷iveo sam od plate Bivsi predsednik SRJ u ÷albi trañi da se brani sa slobode, a tekst je, kako "Glas" saznaje, sam napisao. Pomagalo se svima kojima je najteñe. Sainoviæ, Kertes i Matkoviæ su skupljali pare za SPS, ne verujem da su krali Resenjem istrañnog sudije Okruñnog suda u Beogradu Ki br. 318/01 od 01. 04. 2001. godine odreñen je pritvor protiv mene na trideset dana a sa razloga iz ÷lana 191 stav 2 taëka 1 i 2 ZKP.

U resenju o sprovoñenju istrage pise da sam najvise funkcionere Savezne vlade za privredu, potpredsednike Nikolu Sainoviæa, kao i finansije, Jovana Zebiæa, i direktora SUC-a, podstrekivao da rade nezakonito da "pribave drugima korist" i to "od 1994. pa do 05. 10. 2000."

Ti "drugi" u ÷iju se korist radilo sve ovo vreme su iskljuèivo nasa drñava i narod, odbrana i bezbednost nase zemlje i nasa privreda. Na saslusanju kod istrañnog sudije u prisustvu OJT i svog branioca, verujem da sam objasnio (bez obzira koliko je to dovoljno izrañeno u

edbe) da su se razgovori kod mene u
javnim funkcionerima koji pokrivaju
je odnosili na potrebu podrške,

ne početka sprovođenja antiinflacionog programa
 akva "nagovaranja" i zloupotrebu službenog
 ni razgovori kod mene, u svojstvu predsednika
 je sa potpredsednicima Savezne vlade i drugim visokim
 funkcionerima, nisu nikakvo nagovaranje već ozbiljno i
 razmatranje najvažnijih pitanja za opstanak zemlje u
 a totalnog embarga i rata preko Drine u kome smo pomagali svoj
 svim sredstvima koja su nam stajala na raspolaganju.

verujem da smo sve to vreme i ja i moji saradnici koji se pominju,
 kao

i oni drugi koji se ne pominju, činili sve da sto bolje obavimo svoju
 dužnost. Tu se nikada nije radilo niti razgovaralo o davanju novca
 ili

materijalnih sredstava nikakvim pojedincima ili grupama, već
 isključivo o državnim poslovima. Novac koji je preko Beogradske banke
 plasiran u privredu, u najugroženija socijalno-ekonomska područja, u
 uslovima krize, niko nije ni ukrao niti otuđio, niti je to bila tajna
 za bilo koga. Pomagalo se kome je najteže i to je bila moja čvrsta
 orijentacija i direktiva. Uvek sam se zalagao da niko ne bude
 privilegovan.

Sto se tiče sredstava trošenih za oružje, municiju i ostale potrebe
 Vojske Republike Srpske i Republike Srpske Krajine, ti se izdaci nisu
 mogli iz razloga državnih interesa, kao državna tajna prikazivati u
 Zakonu o budžetu koji je javni dokument. Isto se odnosi i na izdatke
 za opremanje snaga bezbednosti i posebno specijalnih
 antiterorističkih

snaga "od igle do lokomotive" - od lakog naoružanja i opreme do
 helikoptera i ostalih sredstava koja i danas stoje tu gde su, a sto
 se

u javnosti nije objavljivalo iz razloga državne tajne, kao sto se
 nije

objavljivalo ni sve sto je islo za Vojsku Republike Srpske. Smatram
 da

te stvari i danas treba da predstavljaju državnu tajnu, ali sudski
 organi ih svakako mogu proveravati. I danas te antiterorističke snage
 nose veliki teret bezbednosnih zadataka na jugu Srbije.

Umesto, dakle, gore navedenog, Resenje o pokretanju istrage odaje
 utisak da se neko, i to u ovom slučaju šef države, bavio nagovaranjem
 najvisih funkcionera da nesto ukradu, pronevere, utaje ili potrose za
 lične stvari. Čak stoji i formulacija da je direktor carine predavao
 po nalogu Slobodana Milosevića novac drugim licima. I da je čak
 oduzetu robu, po nalogu Slobodana Milosevića delio naokolo.

Sto se tiče novca za SPS, elim da skrenem pažnju na notornu
 činjenicu

da su i Nikola Sainović i Dusan Matković i Mihalj Kertes i drugi kao
 visoki funkcioneri partije, prikupljali novac za partiju i da mi nije
 poznato da su ti ljudi bilo šta ukrali ili proneverili. Naprotiv,
 verujem da nisu. A prikupljanje sredstava za partiju spadalo je u
 njihove redovne dužnosti.

Naglasio sam na saslušanju kod istražnog sudije da se ja lično nisam
 bavio pitanjima partijskih finansija za svih deset godina za nama. Ne
 bi bilo ni logično da neko od mene to zahteva s obzirom na ogromne
 državne obaveze, a moji partijski drugovi to od mene nisu ni tražili.
 Istovremeno naglasavam da nikad nisam ni koristio ni jedan dinar niti
 jedno materijalno sredstvo Partije, niti bilo koje vozilo Partije.

Naglasio sam na pomenutom saslušanju kod istražnog sudije i elim da
 ponovim da nikada, ni direktno ni preko nekog drugog lica nisam
 primio

nikakav novac za moje lične potrebe. Osim plate, sve vreme na
 funkciji

predsednika Republike Srbije i predsednika SRJ, drugih primanja nisam
 imao.

Zahtevam naglasavam zato što u navodima Resenja za sprovođenje
 izdvojenim iz zahteva OJT, maltene proizilazi, da su ogromni društveni
 problemi - i ekonomski i bezbednosni, na kojima se danonočno radilo,
 zasnovani nekim zloupotrebama i nemoralima.

U žalbu podnosim isključivo u interesu istine. Ne smeta mi nikakva
 istraga o bilo čemu što sam u životu radio, ali mi smeta da budem
 tretiran kao kriminalac za ono što sam za svoju državu uradio
 najbolje
 što se moglo.

Smatram da je sudski postupak protiv mene politički montiran, po
 nalogu nove vlasti, da bi se ukaljao i omalovažio moj dugogodišnji
 rad
 i posebno što sam se u interesu države i naroda suprotstavio svetskim
 moćnicima. Poseban način nastojanja da se omalovažim je Resenje o
 određivanju pritvora "da ne bih pobjegao ili uticao na svedoke". A
 pogotovo nema logike da u obrazloženju OJT da budem u zatvoru stoji
 razlog što su Narodne straže, odn. građani koji mi pružaju podršku
 odbili da pred kapijom prime sudski nalog.

U vezi sa isticanjem razloga za pritvor, da se u ovom slučaju radi o
 izuzetno velikom iznosu pribavljene imovinske koristi, postavlja se
 pitanje za koga? Za Vojsku Republike Srpske, za organe bezbednosti,
 za
 Vojsku Republike Srpske Krajine, za pomoć narodu preko Drine, za
 tekstilce, metalce i druge, finansirane preko Beogradske banke u
 najtežim socijalnim uslovima i u uslovima totalne spoljne blokade.

I konačno, razlog da mogu da utičem na svedoke takođe ne stoji, jer i
 drugi okrivljeni mogu da utiču na svedoke pa nisu u pritvoru - što im
 i ne smeta. Uhapsen sam, dakle, samo ja i to u tačno preciziranom
 roku

31. mart, koji je diktiran iz prestonica sila koje su izvršile
 agresiju na našu zemlju - što ni za koga nije tajna, jer je mesecima
 taj datum bio fiksiran i u njihovim izjavama i u nasoj i u njihovoj
 štampi.

Moj uticaj na svedoke isključuje i činjenica da se moji telefoni
 detaljno prisluškuju - što vlasti i ne kriju, i da na kapiji stoji
 policija. A najveći razlog je što svedoci koji govore istinu ne mogu
 da me terete jer nemaju za šta, a na one koji ne govore istinu
 sigurno
 ne bih mogao da utičem čak i kada bih to htio da učinim.

Zato podnosim žalbu na Resenje o pritvoru u skladu sa pravnom poukom
 koja mi je u Resenju data od strane istražnog sudije sa pozivom na
 član 23 stav 6 ZKP-a, sa zahtevom da mi se pritvor ukine i omogućiti da
 se branim sa slobode. U svako doba sam spreman da izađem pred
 pravosudne organe svoje zemlje.

Napominjem da sam za ovih šest meseci u celokupnoj štampi aktuelnog
 rečima bio i optuživan i osuđivan za sva moguća krivična dela pa
 nisam
 pobjegao. Posle svega što sam radio i čime se ponosim ne verujem da
 iko
 stvarno misli da bih to učinio.

Slobodan Milosević

van holst en steijnen

From: <ssicc@planet.nl>
To: <yuambanl@bart.nl>; <Joveljic.Nebojsa.N@bhp.com>; <n.h.van.holst@freeler.nl>;
 <106057.1021@compuserve.com>; <michel.collon@skynet.be>; <redactie@targets.org>; vlajki emil
 <evlajki@sprint.ca>
Sent: dinsdag 3 april 2001 18:18
Subject: Gennady Zyuganov - STATEMENT

STATEMENT

Slobodan Milosevic, Chairman of the Serbian Socialist Party and former President of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, was arrested in Belgrade. All circumstances directly indicate that this action was ordered by the United States. The intensity of pressure on the Yugoslav government was unprecedented, and the decision to arrest Mr. Milosevic was made under the threat of vicious economic and political blackmail.

This represents the most deplorable interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state and a fresh violation of international legal norms, already shaken by the rogue bombings of Iraq, Libya, Sudan, and especially the NATO aggression against Yugoslavia in 1999.

By arresting a former head of a foreign country, the United States is introducing a dangerous element into international relations. The consequences of this precedent could be far-reaching for any head of state trying to run an independent foreign and domestic policy, including the leaders of Russia and Belarus.

With that in mind, the deafening silence of the Russian Federation's Foreign Ministry is simply shocking. Those forces in Yugoslavia that favor the preservation of the historical friendship between the Yugoslav people and Russia are being openly harassed. The continuance of the current faceless policy of the Russian Foreign Ministry is bound to lead to Russia's removal from the Balkans altogether.

The decision of the Yugoslav regime to arrest its former head of state for the sake of financial "aid" is contemptible - especially since it is obvious that the demand for Slobodan Milosevic's arrest came from the leaders of NATO, convicted by a Yugoslav court for crimes against the people of Yugoslavia and responsible for war damages in excess of tens of billions of dollars.

The People's Patriotic Union of Russia condemns the persecution of Slobodan Milosevic, as it will further increase tensions in Yugoslavia, contrary to our desires for peace and stability in that country.

Judging that the persecution of the Serbian Socialist Party leader represents an attempt to impose the American "New World Order," the People's Patriotic Union of Russia calls for an international campaign to cease political persecution of Slobodan Milosevic and support the patriotic forces in Yugoslavia, which continue to resist the expansion of NATO.

Moscow, April 2, 2001

Chairman of the People's Patriotic Union of Russia

Gennady Zyuganov

van holst en steijnen

From: global reflexion <office@globalreflexion.org>
To: <office@globalreflexion.org>
Sent: woensdag 4 oktober 2000 06:16
Subject: Yugoslav elections

The Global Reflexion Foundation contributes, according to her ability, to the distribution of information on international issues that in the media does not receive proper attention or is presented in a distorted way. We receive information from different sources, that does not necessary reflect our opinion. If you don't want to receive it, please send us an e-mail.

 Wednesday, October 4, 2000

1. Yugoslav president Milosevic addresses the nation
2. Minic answers Kostunica
3. Federal Electoral Commission: DOS electing staff misinforming people
4. Serbian radio television: DOS trying to get out of its lies
5. Djindjic, not Kostunica, plays leading role, says German press
6. Cancellation of Vienna conference is gross interference in Yugoslav affairs
7. Bulatovic: Yugoslavia again winning ticket at elections
8. Russian President Vladimir Putin's offer
9. Eperor's clothes interviews Belgrade 'independent' Radio B292

YUGOSLAV PRESIDENT MILOSEVIC ADDRESSES THE NATION

BELGRADE, October 2 (Tanjug).- Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic addressed on Monday the nation over the Serbian radio and television.

"Dear citizens,
 In the expectation of the second round of the election, I take the opportunity to explain to you my views on the electoral and political situation in our country, especially in Serbia. As you know, efforts have been underway for a whole decade to place the entire Balkan peninsula under the control of some western powers. A big part of that job was done by establishing puppet governments in some countries, by transforming them into countries with limited sovereignty or even deprived of any sovereignty at all.

Due to our resistance to such a fate for our country, we were subjected to all forms of pressure to which people in the contemporary world can be subjected. The number and intensity of the pressures multiplied as time went by. All experience the big powers gained in the second half of the 20th century in overthrowing governments, causing unrest, instigating civil wars, disparaging or liquidating national freedom fighters, bringing states and nations to the brink of poverty - all this was applied to our country and our people.

The developments organized for our elections are also a part of the organized persecution of our country and our people, because our country and our people constitute a barrier to the establishment of full domination in the Balkan peninsula.

A grouping has for a long time now been present in our midst which, under the guise of opposition political parties of democratic orientation, represents the interests of governments which are the protagonists of pressures against Yugoslavia, and especially against Serbia. That grouping appeared in these elections under the name Democratic Opposition of Serbia. Its true head is not its presidential candidate. Its head for many years has been the president of the Democratic Party and collaborator of the military alliance which waged a war against our country. He could not even conceal his collaboration with that alliance. In fact, our entire public knows of his appeal to NATO to bomb Serbia for as many weeks as necessary to break its resistance. The grouping organized in this manner for these elections therefore represents the armies and governments which recently waged war against Yugoslavia.

In representing their interests, the grouping launched messages to our public that with them at the head, Yugoslavia would be out of any danger of war or violence, that economic prosperity would come, the standard of living would improve visibly and rapidly, that Yugoslavia would allegedly reintegrate in international institutions, and so forth.

Distinguished citizens,

It is my duty to warn you publicly and in time that such promises are false and that the situation is quite different. It is precisely our policy which guarantees peace and theirs only lasting conflicts and violence, and I shall tell you why.

With the establishment of an administration supported or installed by a community of countries gathered within NATO, Yugoslavia would inevitably become a country whose territory would quickly be dismembered. These are not only NATO's intentions. These are the pre-election promises of the Democratic Opposition of Serbia. We have heard from its representatives that Sandzak would get the autonomy that a member of its coalition and leader of a separatist Muslim organization Sulejman Ugljanin has been advocating for

ten years, and which would in fact mean a definite separation of Sandzak from Serbia. Their promises also include giving to Vojvodina an autonomy that would not only separate it from Serbia and Yugoslavia but would in fact make it an integral part of neighbouring Hungary. In a similar manner other areas would be separated from Serbia and some other border areas. Their annexation by neighbouring states has for a long time been a hot issue in those states, which keep inciting their minorities in Yugoslavia to make a contribution to an integration of parts of our country with neighbouring states.

Within this policy of dismembering Yugoslavia, Kosovo would be the first victim. Its present status would be proclaimed legal and final. It is the first part of its territory to which Serbia would have to bid farewell, without even voicing hope that this part of its land could once be returned to it.

The remaining territory that would bear the name Serbia would be occupied by international, US or some third military forces, which would treat this territory as their military training ground and as their property to be controlled in line with the interests of the power whose army is present there.

We have been looking at cases of such control and consequences thereof for decades, and especially in this decade in many countries around the world, unfortunately lately even in Europe, for instance in Kosovo, Republika Srpska and Macedonia, in our immediate neighbourhood. The people of Serbia would know the fate of the Kurds, with a prospect of being exterminated more speedily than the Kurds since they are less numerous, and since their movements would be limited to a much smaller area than the one in which Kurds have been present for decades.

As for Montenegro, its fate would be left in the hands of the mafia, whose rules of the game should be made well known to the citizens: any breach of discipline and especially any opposition to mafia interests is punishable by death without any right to appeal.

I have presented to you the fate of Yugoslavia in case of acceptance of the NATO option for our country, in order to warn you that, in addition to a loss of land and humiliation of the people, all would live under ceaseless violence.

The new owners of former Yugoslavia's state territory and occupiers of the remaining Serbian territory would, as is the nature of things, terrorize the population whose territory they will have occupied. The Serb people itself would at the same time fight continuously for the re-establishment of a Serb state in which it could reassemble. They do not want peace or prosperity in the Balkans. They want this to be a zone of permanent conflicts and wars which would provide them with an alibi for their lasting presence.

"A puppet government therefore guarantees violence, possibly many years of war, anything but peace. Only our own administration guarantees peace.

Moreover, all countries finding themselves with a status of limited sovereignty and with governments under the influence of foreign powers, have speedily become impoverished in a manner destroying all hope for more just and humane social relations. A great division into a poor majority and

rich minority - this has been the picture of eastern Europe for some years now that we can all see. That picture would also include us. We, too, would under the command and control of the owners of our country quickly have a tremendous majority of the very poor, whose prospects of coming out of their poverty would be very, very uncertain and far away. The rich minority would be constituted by the black marketeering elite, which would be allowed to be rich only on condition that it be fully loyal to the command which decides the fate of their country.

Public and social property would quickly be transformed into private property, but its owners, as demonstrated by the experience of our neighbours, would as a rule be foreigners.

Among few exceptions would be only those who would purchase their right to ownership by their loyalty and submission, which would lead to the elimination of elementary national and human dignity. The greatest national assets in such circumstances become the property of foreigners, and the people who used to manage them would continue to do so in these changed circumstances but as employees of foreign companies in their own country.

National humiliation, state fragmentation and social poverty would necessarily lead to many forms of social pathology, of which crime would be the first. This is not just an assumption, this is the experience of all countries which have taken the path that we are trying to avoid at any cost. The centres of European crime are no longer in the west, they were moved to eastern Europe a decade ago. Our people find it hard to bear already the present crime incidence, as we lived for a long time - from World War II to the 1990s - in a society which hardly knew any crime at all. Any large-scale crime, such as cannot be avoided in a society that we would become with the loss of sovereignty and a large part of territory, such large-scale crime would be as dangerous for our small and unused to crime people as war is dangerous for the society and its citizens.

One of the essential tasks of a puppet government in any country, including ours were we to have such a government, is loss of identity. Countries under foreign command relatively quickly part with their history, their past, their tradition, their national symbols, their way of living, often their own literary language. Invisible at first, but very efficient and merciless selection of national identity would reduce it to a few local dishes, a few songs and folk dances, the names of national heroes used as brand names for food products or cosmetics.

One of the really obvious consequences of the takeover of territories of countries by the big powers in the 20th century is the annihilation of the identity of the people of those countries. Experience of other countries shows that people can hardly come to terms with the speed with which they are starting to use a foreign language as their own, to identify with foreign historic figures forgetting their own, to be better acquainted with the literature of their occupiers than their own, to glorify the history of others while mocking their own, to resemble others instead of themselves.

The loss of a national identity is the greatest defeat a nation can know, which is inevitable in the contemporary form of colonization. Besides, that new form of colonization by its very nature rules out any possibility of free speech or free will, and especially rules out any creativity of any kind. Countries which are not free deny to the people who live in them the right to freely express their opinion, as that opinion would be in collision with the absence of freedom. This is why torture over thought is the most consistent and essential form of torture in a country that has lost its freedom. As for exercising free will, it is, naturally, out of the question.

Free will is allowed only as a farce. It is allowed only to the lackeys of foreign masters, whose simulated free will is used by the occupiers as a justification for establishing democracy in whose name they have taken possession of another people's country. I would like to stress particularly because of young people, intellectuals, scientists, that countries deprived of sovereignty are as a rule deprived of the right to creative work, and especially creative work in the field of science. Large centers and large powers finance scientific work, control its attainments and decide about the application of its results. Dependent states, if they have scientific laboratories and scientific institutes, are not independent ones but operate as branches controlled by one center. Their attainments must remain within bounds that will not introduce in occupied countries and occupied peoples the seed of rebellion and emancipation.

At this moment ahead of the run-off elections, because the Democratic Opposition of Serbia doubts it can achieve the result it needs, leaders of the Democratic Opposition of Serbia with money introduced into the country are bribing, blackmailing and harassing citizens and organizing strikes, unrest and violence in order to stop production, all work and every activity. All that, of course, with the aim of stopping life in Serbia and with the explanation that life can start again and go on successfully and well, when it is organized by those who represent here the intentions, plans and interests of occupiers. Our country is a sovereign state. It has its laws, its Constitution, its institutions. Serbia is duty bound, and it deserves to defend itself from invasion which has been prepared against it through different forms of subversion.

And the citizens should know, that by participating in subversion whose objective is foreign domination over their country or the occupation of their country, they bear the historical responsibility of denying to their country the right to exist and also the responsibility of losing control over their own lives.

By giving up their country to others, to foreign will they also surrender to foreign will their own life and the life of their children and of many other people.

I considered it my duty, to warn the citizens of our country about the consequences of the activities financed and supported by the governments of NATO countries. Citizens can trust me but they do not have to. My wish is only that they do not realize this when it is too late, that they do not realize this when it will be difficult to redress mistakes that citizens naively, superficially or erroneously made, as those mistakes will be difficult to rectify and some will never be rectified.

My motive to express my opinion in this way is not, at all, of personal nature. I was elected twice President of Serbia and once President of Yugoslavia. It should be clear to all, after these ten years, that they are not attacking Serbia because of Milosevic, but Milosevic because of Serbia. My conscience in that respect is absolutely clear. My conscience, however, would not at all be clear if I would not tell my people, after all these years at their head, what I think about their fate if that fate is imposed by someone else, even if it means to explain to the people that they have chosen that fate themselves.

The misjudgment that they are choosing what has been chosen by someone else, is the most dangerous misjudgment and the main reason of my decision to address publicly the citizens of Yugoslavia.

Thank you."

MINIC ANSWERS KOSTUNICA

BELGRADE, October 3 (Tanjug) - The Yugoslav Parliament's Chamber of Citizens President Milomir Minic on Tuesday sent a letter to Yugoslav presidential candidate of the Democratic Opposition of Serbia (DOS) Vojislav Kostunica in answer to Kostunica's letter sent to the presidents of the two chambers of Yugoslav parliament.

In his answer to Kostunica, Minic said that the federal parliament, as the country's top legislative organ, acting in keeping with the federal election laws, had appointed a Federal Electoral Commission from among the ranks of bearers of legislative functions and prominent legal experts, whose task it is to organize, carry out and determine the results of the elections.

Representatives of all proposers who nominated presidential candidates, including DOS representatives, took part in the work of the Federal Electoral Commission.

The entire election process was managed by over 10,000 electoral committees in whose work more than 180,000 citizens participated - representatives of all parties which took part in the elections. All participants in the elections on Sept 24, 2000, agreed that the elections had been fair and passed in a democratic atmosphere, and that they had been realized in keeping with the elections legislature. This was confirmed also by 220 observers from 54 countries the world over, Minic said.

In establishing the results of the vote, the Federal Electoral Commission was guided strictly by original records from polling stations. "In keeping with the law, every representative of proposers who nominated candidates for Yugoslav president had the right to review the election material at the Federal Electoral Commission, which a representative of

those who put forward your nomination also did," Minic said. In keeping with the election results, it was undeniably established that the Yugoslav president was not elected in the first round, so that the Federal Electoral Commission, in keeping with the law, decided that citizens will elect the Yugoslav president in a second round on Oct 8. "In line with your calling on the understanding of honour, democracy, and your claims that you are a legalist - I urge you to prevent manipulations and calls to unrest and violence launched by the DOS Election Headquarters, to accept the will of the people and to respect the decision of the Federal Electoral Commission. The citizens of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia will choose, of their own will, the Yugoslav president in the second round in keeping with the Yugoslav Constitution and the Law on the election of Republican president," said Minic in closing in his letter to DOS presidential candidate Kostunica.

FEDERAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION: DOS ELECTION STAFF MISINFORMING PUBLIC

BELGRADE, October 3 (Tanjug) - The Federal Electoral Commission on Monday released a statement in reaction to "misinformation and false data constantly released by the Election Headquarters of the Democratic Opposition of Serbia (DOS)."

"The Federal Electoral Commission points out that authorized persons from the Democratic Opposition of Serbia had had access to all election material which they had demanded, and that they had been enabled insight into these materials in keeping with the Law on the election of the president of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in the official premises and within the prescribed deadline."

The Commission said "the election campaign headquarters of Vojislav Kostunica announced in public in the past seven days first that their candidate won 2,783,870 votes on Tuesday, September 26, 2,649,003 on Wednesday, September 27, 2,424,187 votes on Saturday, September 30, and today, on Monday, October 2, 2,414,876 votes."

"They bombarded our public with figures that Vojislav Kostunica won 2,649,003 votes, that this is 52.54 percent of the 5,041,878 votes cast," the Commission statement said, adding: "Today, they say that Vojislav Kostunica won 2,414,876 votes and that 4,704,685 voters went to the polls."

"In order to maintain a majority in his favour, they reduced the number of citizens who had voted by close to 350,000 - erasing all citizens who voted in Kosovo and Metohija and displaced persons from Kosmet and all citizens who voted in Montenegro."

"The Federal Electoral Commission is not obliged by manipulations or mistakes in the DOS Election Headquarters. "It was possible for the DOS Election Headquarters, since they had representatives in all polling stations and all records, to be assured of the legitimacy of the data released by the Federal Electoral Commission. "The Federal Electoral Commission has asked the Supervising Committee to warn the DOS Election Headquarters that spreading lies, threats to members of the Electoral Commission, calls for lynching, and provocation of unrest present a form of impermissible pressure and intimidation of voters."

"The Federal Electoral Commission informs the public that all preparations for holding the run-off to the election of Yugoslav president, set for Oct 8, 2000, are proceeding in keeping with the law," the Commission statement said.

SERBIAN RADIO TELEVISION: DOS TRYING TO GET OUT OF ITS LIES

BELGRADE, October 1 (Tanjug) - It has been shown that the results and figures announced these days by the headquarters of the Democratic Opposition of Serbia (DOS) present a blatant lie, and now DOS leaders are trying to get out of these lies, said a commentary by Serbian Radio Television RTS on Saturday.

"One such attempt is to substitute theses, in fact to accuse the Federal Electoral Commission that votes have been stolen, and another to object to the results of the elections in Kosmet (Kosovo and Metohija province). However, it is immediately evident that DOS in their objection did not complain about or deny the result of Vojislav Kostunica which has been determined by the Federal Electoral Commission and according to which Kostunica won 2,474,392 votes. It is incredible, but true, DOS do not deny

the results and yet claim their votes have been stolen.

After insight into records of the Federal Electoral Commission, DOS did not deny a single vote it had counted in favour of Kostunica. But they lied to the public that they had not had access to the records. Who needs this lie and why?

The only thing they deny in their complaint is the number of votes which the presidential candidates won in Kosmet. However, this complaint is brimful of falsehoods.

DOS claim that the Electoral Commission of the Vranje electoral precinct has annulled elections at a certain number of polling stations for the election of federal deputies but not for the election of president. That is an absolute lie. According to a decision of September 27, the Federal Electoral Commission did this in Vranje. And DOS know this, and yet they delude the public.

DOS also complained about the results of elections at 15 polling stations in Prizren. However, none of these polling stations opened, not a single voter cast their votes there, and not a single candidate won a single vote there.

The situation is the same also at polling stations in the municipalities of Srbica, Podujevo, Decane, Klina, Istok, Suva Reka, Orahovac, and Djakovica. It is more than absurd that DOS complain of election results at polling stations where elections were not even held, or where, naturally, no candidate won any votes! Over 90 percent of the polling stations about which DOS complained were not even opened. Who needs this lie and why?

It is obvious that it is clear even to DOS that the election results determined by the Federal Electoral Commission are absolutely correct, and, since they cannot change them, DOS are trying to cast aspersions on the Federal Electoral Commission and discredit it in every way.

DOS want to show that there are no Serbs in Kosmet. Kouchner is doing the same thing. Djindjic wants to show that Serbs do not live in Gracanica, Ranilug, Strpce, Kosovsko Pomoravlje, Gorazdevac, and 150 other places. That displaced Serbs did not vote, that they, not only have not been expelled from Kosmet, but have even vanished from Serbia. For Djindjic and DOS, Serbs of Kosmet do not exist. That is DOS's revenge to Kosmet Serbs for the way they welcomed Kostunica in Kosovska Mitrovica.

Everything DOS leaders said and announced over the past days is bursting with lies and falsehoods. That clearly indicates that the elections are not an issue here. It is clear even to them that the results of the Federal Electoral Commission are correct and cannot be different by one single vote.

The issue here is Zoran Djindjic's plan to use manipulations and lies to bring citizens into the streets and try to topple the state and cause chaos. That is something Zoran Djindjic has been working on for the past 30 years," the RTS commentary said.

DJINDJIC, NOT KOSTUNICA, PLAYS LEADING ROLE, SAYS GERMAN PRESS

BERLIN, October 2 (Tanjug) - Zoran Djindjic, not Kostunica is the real leader of the Democratic Opposition of Serbia (DOS), as he plays a leading role at every rally, German press said on Monday.

Zoran Djindjic and Vojislav Kostunica can be seen together very often these days. Anyone who does not know them might think that Djindjic won the presidential election, not Kostunica. He is the one who gives statements to foreign press and reports on what is happening in Belgrade, said the Berliner Zeitung in its weekend issue.

The Berlin daily said that Serbs generally see Djindjic in a less favourable light. The reason is that Djindjic has demonstrated ruthlessness throughout his political career.

In 1994, Djindjic drove respected professor Dragoljub Micunovic away from the leading position of the Democratic Party, and had tricked Vuk Draskovic by breaking all agreements on boycotting elections, the Berliner Zeitung said.

Djindjic is the German press limelight these days, as both Munchen daily Sudeutsche Zeitung and Hamburg weekly Der Spiegel have published his interviews at the same time.

Speaking for the Sudeutsche Zeitung, Djindjic said that many in Serbia, not only Kostunica, keep away from the West. He himself, however, has requested financial support from the West, said Der Spiegel.

CANCELLATION OF VIENNA CONFERENCE IS GROSS INTERFERENCE IN YUGOSLAV AFFAIRS

VIENNA, October 3 (Tanjug) - The 2nd Conference on the Implementation of the Subregional Arms Control Accord (Florence Accord) which is one of the basic elements of Dayton-Paris accord, was due to be held on October 4 in Vienna.

All preparations for the Conference have been completed successfully and on time, organized by the Yugoslav delegation which had been appointed to chair the conference. The Conference, however, will not be held, because delegations from Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina Federation refused to participate, justifying their decision by the allegedly serious situation in Yugoslavia.

Yugoslav delegation chief, Deputy Foreign Minister Miroslav Milosevic said at the preparatory committee session convened just before the conference was due to be held, that this pointless politically motivated act is an attempt at gross interference in internal affairs of sovereign Yugoslavia. This is one of the most serious blows to the entire Dayton-Paris accord, Milosevic said.

BULATOVIC: YUGOSLAVIA AGAIN WINNING TICKET AT ELECTIONS

PODGORICA, October 2 (Tanjug) - Yugoslav Prime Minister and Socialist People's Party (SNP) of Montenegro President Momir Bulatovic said on Monday that Yugoslavia had made a significant step in its democratic development at the September 24 elections, and thus also in the protection of its most important state interests.

"None of the terrible predictions about a civil war, state of emergency or a new NATO intervention have come to pass," Bulatovic said in an interview to the Podgorica daily Dan.

"In spite of unprecedented pressure from outside and brutal torture from within by Djukanovic, Kouchner and Thaci, acting on instructions from the same boss, Yugoslav citizens went to the polls en masse, and expressed their political will peacefully and in a dignified manner," he said.

Yugoslavia has again triumphed at these elections, Bulatovic said. "This is especially good for Montenegro, where, in spite of the anticivilizational and hooligan behaviour of the Montenegrin authorities, an admirably great number of people had summoned up civil and every other courage to resist intimidation, threats and blackmail," he said.

In reaction to a comment that the results of these elections are "controversial, to say the least," Bulatovic said presidential candidate Vojislav Kostunica had won the great confidence of Serbian citizens to become Yugoslav president. Voters in Montenegro overwhelmingly voted for the SNP presidential candidate - Slobodan Milosevic. Both these facts are equally binding for the SNP, Bulatovic said.

"We will continue to support our presidential candidate without any dilemmas or calculations," Bulatovic said, adding that the SNP is also ready to accept and respect a majority decision "which need not be in agreement with our determination."

"The legal path and legal means to which DOS and candidate Kostunica have resorted should remove any possible dilemma. However, there is no other way or any other legally established pathway for determining the actual will of Yugoslav citizens. We trust the Federal Electoral Commission and other state institutions of Yugoslavia. That is why the SNP is getting ready to take part in the second round of the presidential elections," he said.

Commenting on the political situation in Yugoslavia after the first round of elections, Bulatovic said that, according to what is known so far, the Democratic Opposition of Serbia (DOS) have refused to accept the results of the Federal Electoral Commission and have opted for large-scale civil protests. The right to peaceful democratic rallies and manifestation of one's political stand is firmly embedded in our constitutional system and our state practice, he said.

"Personally, I am very sorry that this is happening in our country which is at the height of its economic activities and the process of renewing objects destroyed during the NATO aggression," Bulatovic said, and appealed for the preservation of peace, the victory of reason, and, regardless of the strength of individual beliefs, that "we should not work generally to our own detriment."

"The SNP was, is and will be devoted to full coalition cooperation with the SPS. The joint list SPS-JUL in Federal Parliament has enough deputies

to appoint, together with SNP deputies, presidents of municipal councils and to decide about the structure of the new government," Bulatovic said. Bulatovic said it was the proposal of the SNP, from the very beginning of this election cycle, that he be the federal prime minister-designate, Srdja Bozovic the president of the Chamber of Republics, and that this is why neither he, nor other prominent SNP members who held important positions in the Federal Government, were not on the lists of candidates for deputies. Colleagues from the coalition leftist bloc are fully in agreement with this proposal, he said.

"That is why it could be said with a great dose of certainty that this job has been done. That is why I am already at this time carrying out preliminary consultations about the program and composition of the future federal government," Bulatovic told Dan.

Russian President Vladimir Putin's offer

MOSCOW, Oct 3 (AFP) - Russian President Vladimir Putin's offer to mediate in Yugoslavia's presidential election feud has so far fallen on deaf ears, but after last year's Kosovo crisis, Moscow is in no rush bail out the West, say analysts.

The Russian leader has steadfastly refused to join the burgeoning "Milosevic Out" campaign championed by Western capitals in the wake of the disputed first round of September 24 presidential polls.

According to official results, incumbent Slobodan Milosevic polled just 38 percent of the vote against 48.96 percent for his challenger Vojislav Kostunica -- forcing the contest to a second round. But the opposition candidate claimed outright victory and his supporters have since staged mass street protests daily to force Milosevic to concede defeat, cancel the run-off ballot scheduled for Sunday and gracefully bow out.

Despite increasingly strident Western calls for Milosevic to read the writing on the wall, Russia has stuck to its line of preaching restraint and slamming any outside meddling in Yugoslavia's domestic affairs.

A reluctant peacenik, Putin has turned a diplomatic blind eye to attempts by German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder to "out" him as a closet sympathiser with the opposition's claim to have won a decisive first round victory.

Putin's special envoy to the Balkans, Vladimir Chizhov, on Monday urged both sides to accept a second round contest, on the proviso that everyone then recognised the results as legitimate.

Earlier that day, in an apparent sop to Western pressure to get involved in the crisis, Putin offered to act as honest broker between Kostunica and Milosevic, inviting both to Moscow in an effort to resolve the electoral spat the family way - between fellow Slavs.

Borislav Milosevic, Belgrade's ambassador to Moscow, indicated Tuesday that his younger brother could yet take up the offer, saying "anything is still possible."

Kostunica has so far kept his peace, although some of his Belgrade allies have welcomed the Putin initiative. However, many here see the move as diplomatic window dressing by a Russian leader with little time for the Balkans as he battles media moguls and regional barons at home while pursuing a hectic foreign policy agenda of his own.

"Putin was forced to react to the documents on the results sent to him by the opposition," said Yury Korgunyuk of the INDEM think-tank here. "Putin's proposal isn't serious, because Milosevic will never consent," he said.

Moscow's foreign policy establishment is deeply hostile to Russian involvement in Yugoslavia, accusing the West of seeking to force Russia to bail it out of yet another Balkans quagmire of its own making.

It says the role of former Russian prime minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and the then Russian president Boris Yeltsin last year in ending the 78-day NATO air campaign against Yugoslavia largely on the West's terms was never fully recognised by the Atlantic Alliance.

"The Russians are disappointed that they have to help the West solve a problem which, in the minds of many Russian decision-makers, was partially created by Western governments," said Alexander Pikayev of the Carnegie Centre here.

"Putin has gone as far as he can," he said. "Moving further might cause

serious problems for Mr Putin here in Russia," said Pikayev. Yeltsin was sharply attacked by communist and ultra-nationalist forces throughout the 1999 Kosovo crisis, being accused of betraying fellow Orthodox Serbs by refusing to help them withstand the NATO raids. Putin, whose meteoric rise to power has been fuelled by a pledge to restore national pride and Russia's great power status, is unlikely to want to tarnish his own nationalist credentials at a time when he faces strong opposition to his own domestic reform agenda, say analysts.

The mediation offer, says Korgunyuk, is in reality a tad disingenuous, for if rejected it will allow Putin call time on Slavic solidarity and wash his hands of the affair.

"Our brother Slavs in the Balkans always appeal to us when they are being beaten, and then they forget us," noted Korgunyuk.

our opinion. If you con...

Wednesday, October 4, 2000

1. Yugoslav president Milosevic addresses the nation
2. Minic answers Kostunica
3. Federal Electoral Commission: DOS electing staff misinforming people
4. Serbian radio television: DOS trying to get out of its lies
5. Djindjic, not Kostunica, plays leading role, says German press
6. Cancellation of Vienna conference is gross interference in Yugoslav affairs
7. Bulatovic: Yugoslavia again winning ticket at elections
8. Russian President Vladimir Putin's offer
9. Eperor's clothes interviews Belgrade 'independent' Radio B292

YUGOSLAV PRESIDENT MILOSEVIC ADDRESSES THE NATION

BELGRADE, October 2 (Tanjug).- Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic addressed on Monday the nation over the Serbian radio and television.

"Dear citizens,

In the expectation of the second round of the election, I take the opportunity to explain to you my views on the electoral and political situation in our country, especially in Serbia. As you know, efforts have been underway for a whole decade to place the entire Balkan peninsula under the control of some western powers. A big part of that job was done by establishing puppet governments in some countries, by transforming them into countries with limited sovereignty or even deprived of any sovereignty at all.

Due to our resistance to such a fate for our country, we were subjected to all forms of pressure to which people in the contemporary world can be subjected. The number and intensity of the pressures multiplied as time went by. All experience the big powers gained in the second half of the 20th century in overthrowing governments, causing unrest, instigating civil wars, disparaging or liquidating national freedom fighters, bringing states and nations to the brink of poverty - all this was applied to our country and our people.

The developments organized for our elections are also a part of the organized persecution of our country and our people, because our country and our people constitute a barrier to the establishment of full domination in the Balkan peninsula.

A grouping has for a long time now been present in our midst which, under the guise of opposition political parties of democratic orientation, represents the interests of governments which are the protagonists of pressures against Yugoslavia, and especially against Serbia. That grouping appeared in these elections under the name Democratic Opposition of Serbia. Its true head is not its presidential candidate. Its head for many years has been the president of the Democratic Party and collaborator of the military alliance which waged a war against our country. He could not even conceal his collaboration with that alliance. In fact, our entire public knows of his appeal to NATO to bomb Serbia for as many weeks as necessary to break

its resistance. The grouping organized in this manner for these elections therefore represents the armies and governments which recently waged war against Yugoslavia.

van holst en steijnen

From: global reflexion <office@globalreflexion.org>
To: <office@globalreflexion.org>
Sent: vrijdag 29 september 2000 04:44
Subject: Yugoslav elections

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 Friday, September 29, 2000

1. Final results of presidential election
2. Jovanovic: Yugoslavia will pursue policy of equality and cooperation
3. Ivanov reiterates Russia's stance on Yugoslavia
4. Dini urges calm post-election situation in Yugoslavia
5. China: elections in Yugoslavia are not over yet
6. Chinese paper: West does not care for Serbian people
7. Le Monde urges diplomatic caution
8. Greek media: Yugoslavs spurn West's criticism of Sunday polls
9. US-Senate: Supporting democracy in Serbia
10. Chossudovsky: Washington Votes to Finance Yugoslav Runoff Election

FEDERAL ELECTORAL COMMISSION ANNOUNCES FINAL RESULTS OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

BELGRADE, September 28 (Tanjug) - The Federal Electoral Commission announced early on Thursday the final results of the Yugoslav presidential election, which show that none of the candidates has won over 50 percent of the votes and that a runoff election will therefore have to be held.

According to the Federal Parliament Press Service, the elections were democratic and fair and the Commission had received no complaints from any of the polling stations regarding the regularity of the presidential election.

At its session late on Wednesday, the Commission adopted a decision on determining the results of the federal presidential election. According to the results from 10,673 polling stations, the turnout was 69.7 percent, or 5,053,428 voters out of the total electorate of 7,249,831, and the percentage of invalid ballots was 2.68.

The presidential candidates won the following number of votes:

- Miodrag Vidojkovic 46,421 or 0.92 percent
- Vojislav Kostunica 2,474,392 or 48.96 percent
- Slobodan Milosevic 1,951,761 or 38.62 percent
- Vojislav Mihailovic 146,585 or 2.90 percent
- Tomislav Nikolic 292,759 or 5.79 percent

On the basis of these results, the Commission took note that none of the candidates won the necessary majority of votes in the first round and ruled that a runoff election will be held according to law. The two candidates with the highest number of votes - Vojislav Kostunica and Slobodan Milosevic - will run in the second round, that the Commission scheduled for Sunday, October 8, 2000.

YUGOSLAVIA WILL PURSUE POLICY OF EQUALITY AND COOPERATION

BELGRADE, September 28 (Tanjug) - Yugoslav Foreign Minister Zivadin Jovanovic said late on Wednesday that the victory of the leftists' coalition of the Socialist Party of Serbia (SPS), the Yugoslav Left (JUL) and the Socialist National Party of Montenegro (SNP) at the parliamentary elections

guarantees that the policy of defending freedom, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and of cooperation with all countries on the basis of equality will continue to be pursued.

Speaking for Radio-Television Serbia (RTS), Jovanovic said that media and political pressure against Yugoslavia by both foreign and domestic, so-called independent media, intensifies, all in order to present the situation as it suits them.

"It is well-known that the US policy in countries such as Yugoslavia is based on the people and organizations that materially depend on the United States," said Jovanovic.

Discussing the international policy, he stressed that Yugoslavia has intensive contacts and friendly relations with representatives of countries all around the world.

"The majority of countries gladly accept Yugoslavia as a friend and a partner in bilateral cooperation at the international scene," said Jovanovic.

Our policy - the policy of defending freedom, independence and respect of principles, of equal cooperation with all countries, above all our neighbours, is highly respected, stressed Jovanovic noting that " the process of normalization of Yugoslavia's status in many international organizations is moving forward."

IVANOV REITERATES RUSSIA'S STANCE ON YUGOSLAVIA

MOSCOW, Sep 28 (Tanjug).- Russian Foreign Minister reiterated Thursday Moscow's firm stance that the people of Yugoslavia must be free to take their own decisions without any foreign or internal pressures. Ivanov told Itar-tass that destabilization would benefit only those forces which do not want to preserve Yugoslavia's unity or to restore its position on international political stage.

Ivanov thus confirmed his Wednesday statement regarding the situation in Yugoslavia following last Sunday's presidential and federal parliamentary elections. Russian foreign ministry also said two days ago that any attempt at destabilizing Yugoslavia was unacceptable.

DINI URGES CALM POST-ELECTION SITUATION IN YUGOSLAVIA

ROME, Sept 28 (Tanjug) - Italian Foreign Minister Lamberto Dini said in Rome on Thursday it was extremely important that the situation concerning Yugoslavia's elections should continue to be calm, without excitement. Dini quoted the official results posted by the Yugoslav Central Electoral Commission, according to which opposition presidential candidate Kostunica secured 48.9 percent of the vote, and the incumbent, Milosevic, 38.6 percent. A run-off poll is a legal possibility and thus a democratic instrument, and one that should be taken, according to Dini.

CHINA: ELECTIONS IN YUGOSLAVIA ARE NOT OVER YET

PEKING, Sept 28 (Tanjug) - The elections in Yugoslavia have not been completed yet and it is not known at this time who the president will be, Chinese Foreign Ministry representative Sun Yuxi said on Thursday. Pointing out the results announced by the Yugoslav federal Electoral Commission, Sun told a regular press conference that these elections are exclusively an internal affair of Yugoslavia and underscored that China respects the choice of the Yugoslav people. He said he hoped Yugoslavia would preserve its political stability and achieve economic and social growth. Sun expressed hope that Chinese-Yugoslav relations would continue to grow and pointed out that China and Yugoslavia have maintained, and will continue to maintain, economic and trade cooperation on the grounds of equality and mutual benefits, cooperation which is in the interests and beneficial to the peoples of both countries. China has repeatedly announced over the past few days that foreign interference in the internal affairs of a country, or in the electoral and post-election process in Yugoslavia, is unacceptable.

WEST DOES NOT CARE FOR SERBIAN PEOPLE

BEIJING, Sept 28 (Tanjug) - Chinese media carried on Thursday a Yugoslav

Electoral Commission statement that incumbent President Slobodan Milosevic and the opposition candidate Vojislav Kostunica must undergo a second round of elections on Oct 8 as neither won a majority in the first.

Chinese Worker's Daily said in a commentary on the Yugoslav elections that the West does not care for free and fair elections in Yugoslavia or for the future of Serbian people, but only for its own interests, as demonstrated by its economic, political and even military pressures against Yugoslavia.

The daily warns that this is gross interference in the internal affairs of Yugoslavia, adding that the chief aim of the West is to use pressure to overthrow the current government in Belgrade.

Illustrating the media and other forms of pressure, the daily said that the western media announced immediately after polling stations closed Sunday evening that "President Slobodan Milosevic lost the elections".

Pointing to other means of gross interference of the West, the daily stressed "threats and promises" of the West as regards economy, quoting some western officials who said that the sanctions against Yugoslavia would be strengthened if the election results were not in conformity to their will. Media in Beijing stressed that Russia urged the West against destabilizing Yugoslavia, quoting Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov's statement that the Yugoslav people have full freedom to express their will without internal or external pressure.

LE MONDE URGES DIPLOMATIC CAUTION

PARIS, Sept 28 (Tanjug) - French media are still carefully following the Yugoslav elections for president and federal deputies which were held on Sunday, Sept 24.

French television reported in prime-time news on Thursday, through its Belgrade correspondent, that the Federal Electoral Commission had announced a presidential run-off for Oct 8. Most French dailies also carried this report. Le Monde said that western leaders, who are carefully following developments in Belgrade, were taken by surprise with this announcement.

In a special analysis, the Paris daily specified that this uncertain situation was a result of a situation where "self-proclaimed president Vojislav Kostunica claims he has won the necessary votes in the first round," while incumbent President Slobodan Milosevic is following the Constitutional procedure and "sticking to legality."

The analysis said that no-one in the west actually knows how to deal with such a situation. "It is no solution to engage oneself on Kostunica's side more than this is necessary with the usual diplomatic caution," said Le Monde.

Le Monde said there were differences on this issue among European Union countries, claiming, for instance, that Greece and Italy "maintain different stands."

GREEK MEDIA: YUGOSLAVS SPURN WEST'S CRITICISM OF SUNDAY POLLS

ATHENS, Sept 27 (Tanjug) - Greek media reports on Yugoslav polls focus on Wednesday on the Central Electoral Commission's statement that none of the presidential candidates won outright, and the claim of victory by the opposition for their candidate Vojislav Kostunica.

The newspapers To Vima, Exusia, Eleftherotypos and others quote the Commission's statement on Tuesday that, according to returns processed thus far, Kostunica had secured 48.22 percent of the votes, and incumbent Slobodan Milosevic, 40.23 percent.

The media say the Greek government refuses to comment on the Sunday presidential and parliamentary polls in Yugoslavia and local polls in the Yugoslav republic of Serbia pending the publication of final results. They go on to stress that Russia does not accept the West's allegations about election irregularity, and describes the elections as fair.

Athens press notes that Yugoslav people, as well as politicians of both blocs, refuse to accept criticism in the form of ultimatums, such as that voiced by British Foreign Minister Robin Cook alleging election irregularities. The Athens News, published in English, quotes a Belgrade opposition supporter as saying that NATO and the West should stay out of Yugoslavia's elections, because the people have not forgotten last year's 78-day NATO air campaign against Yugoslavia.

AP Worldstream

September 27, 2000; Wednesday 1:59 PM Eastern Time

Croatia's president said Wednesday that the West should maintain sanctions against Yugoslavia until Belgrade starts cooperating with the U.N. tribunal in The Hague and extradites suspected war criminals.

Following are comments by Sen. Joseph Biden (D-DE) on the Senate floor on 9/26/00 re the elections in Serbia. They fully illustrate why action on HR 1064, a bill purportedly aimed at supporting democracy in Serbia, would be counterproductive. Once again, this bill would help save the Clinton policy (and possibly save Milosevic too), not help get Milosevic out of power.

Senator Biden says that "We, the Congress, are saying to the people of Serbia that they are our friends, not our enemies. It is their Government, it is Slobodan Milosevic that is the problem, not the Serbian people." But a simple reading of the balance of his comments show that that is clearly not the case: under HR 1064 sanctions punishing Serbia – not Milosevic and his black-market gang – will be codified and kept in place (with some unspecified "flexibility" generously promised by Sec. Albright) until Kostunica complies with every demand from Washington, including sending all indicted war criminals to The Hague. Kostunica has stated that he will not do so, and as a patriot is he is no less willing to send any of his countrymen to The Hague than any real American would be to send any U.S. citizen, however criminal he might be, to be tried by a United Nations court.

The fact that this bill is a weapon aimed not at Milosevic but at Kostunica or any other democratic successor – and that Kostunica has been condemned in advance as an "ultra-nationalist" if he does not agree to become exactly the quisling Milosevic accuses him of being – is betrayed by the following comments near the end:

" To be blunt: respect for Dayton and cooperation with The Hague Tribunal must be litmus tests for any democratic government in Serbia. I fervently hope that Mr. Kostunica emerges victorious in the Yugoslav elections. If he does, the United States should immediately extend to him a sincere hand of friendship, with the assistance outlined in the pending legislation. . . .

If, on the other hand, Mr. Kostunica comes to power and thinks that his undeniable and praiseworthy democratic credentials will enable him to pursue an aggressive Serbian nationalist policy with a kinder face, then we must disabuse him of this notion. Should our West European allies choose to embrace a post-Milosevic, democratically elected, but ultra-nationalistic Serbia, then I would say to them 'good luck; we'll concentrate our policy in the former Yugoslavia on preparing democratic and prosperous Slovenia for the next round of NATO enlargement, on continuing to help reconstruct Bosnia and Kosovo, and on supporting the democratic governments in Macedonia, Croatia, and Montenegro."

SUPPORTING DEMOCRACY IN SERBIA (Senate - September 26, 2000)

[Page: S9251] GPO's PDF

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, on another matter which relates to another form of human rights, I wish to speak to the legislation we are going to bring up tomorrow, the Serbian Democratization Act of 2000. I am an original cosponsor of this legislation. I am told that tomorrow we are going to get a chance to deal with this issue.

As everyone knows, Slobodan Milosevic is on the ropes. Despite Milosevic's massive systematic effort to steal Sunday's Yugoslav Presidential election, his state election commission had to admit that the opposition candidate Vojislav Kostunica won at least the plurality of the votes already counted; 48.22 percent to be exact.

According to opposition poll watchers, Kostunica in all probability actually won about 55 percent of the vote, which would have obviated the need for a two-candidate second-round runoff with Milosevic, which now seems likely.

It is still unclear whether the democratic opposition will go along with this semi-rigged, desperation plan of Milosevic's to hang on by rigging the runoff. Even if Milosevic loses the runoff and is forced to recognize the results of the election, he may still attempt to hold on to the levers of power through his control of the federal parliament and of the Socialist Party with its network of political cronies and corrupt businessmen.

He may use the classic tactic of provoking a foreign crisis by trying to unseat the democratically elected, pro-Western government in Montenegro, a move I warned against on this floor several months ago.

We will have to wait and see for a few days before knowing exactly how the situation in Yugoslavia is going to develop, but there is no doubt whatsoever as to who the primary villain in this drama is. It was, it is, and it continues to be Slobodan Milosevic, one of the most despicable men I have personally met, and, as everyone in this Chamber knows, a man who has been indicted by The Hague Tribunal for war crimes and is the chief obstacle to peace and stability in the Balkans.

Therefore, it should be--and has been--a primary goal of U.S. foreign policy to isolate Milosevic and his cronies, and to assist the Serbian democratic opposition in toppling him.

Earlier this year, with this goal in mind, the Serbian Democratization Act of 2000 was drafted in a bipartisan effort. It is particularly timely that the Senate consider this legislation tomorrow, precisely at the moment when the Serbian people have courageously voted against Milosevic's tyranny that has so thoroughly ruined their country during the last decade.

I would like to review the main provisions of the legislation we will be voting on tomorrow and then propose alternative strategies for our relations with Serbia, depending upon the outcome of the elections.

The act supports the democratic opposition by authorizing \$50 million for fiscal year 2001 to promote democracy and civil society in Serbia and \$55 million to assist the Government of Montenegro in its ongoing political and economic reform efforts. It also authorizes increasing Voice of America and Radio Free Europe broadcasting to Yugoslavia in both the Serbo-Croatian and Albanian languages.

Second, the act prescribes assistance to the victims of Serbian oppression by authorizing the President of the United States to use authorities in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide humanitarian assistance to individuals living in Kosovo for relief, rehabilitation, and reconstruction, and to refugees and persons displaced by the conflict.

Third, the act we will vote on tomorrow codifies the so-called 'outer wall' of sanctions by multilateral organizations, including the international financial institutions.

I talked about this with Senator Voinovich of Ohio, and we agreed that we have to give the President more flexibility in this area.

Fourth, it authorizes other measures against Yugoslavia, including blocking Yugoslavia's assets in the United States; prohibits the issuance of visas and admission into the United States of any alien who holds a position in the senior leadership of the Government of Yugoslavia of Slobodan Milosevic or the Government of Serbia and to members of their families; and prohibits strategic exports to Yugoslavia, on private loans and investments and on military-to-military cooperation.

The act also grants exceptions on export restrictions for humanitarian assistance to Kosovo and on visa prohibitions to senior officials of the Government of Montenegro, unless that Government changes its current policy of respect for international norms.

The act contains a national interest waiver for the President. The President may also waive the act's provision if he certifies that significant progress has been made in Yugoslavia in establishing a government based upon democratic principles and the rule of law, and that

respects internationally recognized human rights.'

Clearly, if the democratic opposition triumphs in the current elections, the chances will increase dramatically that the President will exercise this waiver option.

We, the Congress, are saying to the people of Serbia that they are our friends, not our enemies. It is their Government, it is Slobodan Milosevic that is the problem, not the Serbian people.

Today in the Committee on Foreign Relations, we discussed at length with Madeleine Albright what we should be doing about Serbia. I have discussed it as well with Senator Voinovich.

I see the Senator from Iowa is on the floor. He may be here for other reasons, but I know his keen interest in Serbia, the Serbian people, and the need for us to render assistance if they, in fact, move in the direction of democracy.

The act calls for Serbia to cooperate with the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.

It also contains two important Sense of the Congress provisions. The first is that the President should condemn the harassment, threats, and intimidation against any ethnic group in Yugoslavia, but in particular against such persecution of the ethnic Hungarian minority in the Serbian province of Vojvodina.

The second voices support for a fair and equitable disposition of the ownership and use of the former Yugoslavia's diplomatic and consular properties in the United States.

Finally, in a move to facilitate the transition to democracy in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Congress authorizes the President to furnish assistance to Yugoslavia if he determines and certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that a post-Milosevic Government of Yugoslavia is committed to democratic principles and the rule of law, and that respects internationally recognized human rights.'

Mr. President, the Serbia Democratization Act offers the President ample flexibility in dealing with Serbia. If Milosevic should succeed in frustrating the will of the Serbian people by stealing this election, the act will give the President of the United States a complete kit of peaceful tools to continue to try to undermine his oppressive regime.

If, on the other hand, the democratic opposition led by Mr. Kostunica manages to make its electoral victory stick, then the final provision of the act becomes the operative one in which we open up the spigot of increased assistance to a democratic Serbia. Obviously, this would be the preferred option.

Unfortunately, however, foreign policy is rarely so black and white. The apparent winner of the election, Mr. Kostunica, is vastly preferable to Milosevic, but this may be a case of damning by faint praise. As many of my colleagues have heard me say on other occasions, I met Milosevic in Belgrade during the Bosnian war and called him a war criminal to his face. Not only is he a war criminal, but he is thoroughly corrupt and anti-democratic.

Mr. Kostunica, by all accounts, is honest and democratic, a dissident in Communist times and a man with a reputation for probity. He seems, however, to represent a democratic, honest variant of a rather extreme Serbian nationalism.

His language describing NATO's Operation Allied Force has been strident. Like Milosevic—and most other Serbian politicians—he calls for the return of Kosovo to Belgrade's rule. But I am prepared to have an open mind on what he said. I can understand why, in running for President, being labeled by Mr. Milosevic as the 'dupe of the West' and 'a puppet of the United States,' he would feel the need to openly condemn the United States.

I also do not have a problem with the fact that he may have used tough

language with regard to Kosovo. There is a difference between words and his actions. So I will have great problems with him if, in fact, he tries to again suppress the Kosovars, who, if he comes to power will probably increase their agitation for independence.

Moreover, Kostunica has repeatedly said that if he is elected he would refuse to hand over The Hague those Serbs indicted by the International War Crimes Tribunal.

To a large extent Kostunica's criticism of Milosevic's policies toward non-Serbs in the old Yugoslavia--Slovenes, Croats, Bosniaks, and Kosovars--is that those policies resulted in four failed wars. There is no indication, for example, that Kostunica would cut off Belgrade's support for the radical Bosnian Serbs who on a daily basis are trying to undermine the Dayton Agreement.

Of course, as I have indicated earlier, Kostunica's policies must be seen in the context of an electoral campaign. Nonetheless, they do reflect what the traffic will bear. In other words, they reflect his view of contemporary Serbian society.

During the Bosnian war and after it, I often stated publicly that in my opinion Croatian President Franjo Tudjman was cut from the same cloth as Milosevic --an aggressive, anti-democratic leader. The only reason I advocated helping to rebuild his army was because, unlike Serbia, Croatia did not represent a major threat to the region. In fact, in the summer of 1995 the reorganized Croatian Army provided the Bosnian Army and the Bosnian Croat militia the support necessary to rout the Bosnian Serbs and bring all parties to the negotiating table.

Since Tudjman's death, Croatia has proven that beneath the surface of Tudjman's authoritarianism a genuine, Western-style democratic body politic survived. The newly elected government of President Stipe Mesic and Prime Minister Ivica Racan has utilized this mandate not only to enact domestic democratic reforms, but also to cut off support for the radical Herzegovina Croats who have done everything in their power to undo Dayton. The government has also taken the much less popular step of handing over to The Hague Tribunal several high-ranking Croats who were indicted for alleged war crimes.

The United States has a great deal invested in a democratic, multiethnic Bosnia, and if Serbia and the rest of the world is lucky enough to be rid of Slobodan Milosevic, we should not give him an ex post facto victory by applying a looser standard of behavior on his successor than we have to Tudjman's successors in Croatia. To be blunt: respect for Dayton and cooperation with The Hague Tribunal must be litmus tests for any democratic government in Serbia.

I fervently hope that Mr. Kostunica emerges victorious in the Yugoslav elections. If he does, the United States should immediately extend to him a sincere hand of friendship, with the assistance outlined in the pending legislation.

We should make clear to him that if he chooses to cooperate with us, a 'win-win' situation would result, with tangible benefits for the long-suffering and isolated Serbian people who, we should never forget, were this country's allies in two world wars during the twentieth century.

If, on the other hand, Mr. Kostunica comes to power and thinks that his undeniable and praiseworthy democratic credentials will enable him to pursue an aggressive Serbian nationalist policy with a kinder face, then we must disabuse him of this notion.

Should our West European allies choose to embrace a post-Milosevic, democratically elected, but ultra-nationalistic Serbia, then I would say to them 'good luck; we'll concentrate our policy in the former Yugoslavia on preparing democratic and prosperous Slovenia for the next round of NATO enlargement, on continuing to help reconstruct Bosnia and Kosovo, and on supporting the democratic governments in Macedonia, Croatia, and Montenegro.'

Mr. President, the long-frozen, icy situation in Serbia appears finally to

be breaking up. I genuinely hope that Serbia is on the verge of democracy. I urge my colleagues to support the Serbia Democratization Act of 2000 in order to enable our government peacefully to deal with any eventuality in that country.

Washington Votes to Finance Yugoslav Runoff Election
by Professor Michel Chossudovsky (9-27-2000)

Washington is preparing for the run-off election in Yugoslavia. More money is scheduled to be wired to opposition groups to their bank accounts in Budapest with fresh and "clean" dollar bills to be transported in suitcases across the border. And this time it's big bucks: 500 million US dollars...

Perfect timing. On the day after the Presidential election, the US House of Representatives approved a bill:

"authorizing financial aid for opposition groups in Serbia. The bill authorizes \$500 million to help finance democratic forces in Serbia and Montenegro, including \$ 50 million to fund the activities of pro-democracy and dissident groups." (Los Angeles Times, September 26, 2000).

In an ironic twist, while the Democratic Opposition of Serbia (DOS) receives big bucks from the bombers, it has committed itself in its electoral platform to adopting "new laws" on the financing of political parties. These laws are to be:

"in accordance with the generally accepted standards of democratic societies. Republican parliaments will be advised to adjust their legislation according to these principles." (Election manifesto of "Democratic Opposition of Serbia", 5 September 2000).

With opposition political parties on the enemy's payroll, the Western media has casually accused the Yugoslav authorities of electoral fraud. In any other country, receiving cash from a foreign government would lead to the immediate indictment of the political parties concerned. Their bank accounts would be frozen. This has not happened yet in Yugoslavia. Yet the media accuses the Yugoslav government of mistreating the "democratic" opposition. In the US, taking money from an unfriendly foreign power, especially a hostile one, to finance campaign expenses would quite understandably be considered "un-American". But in Belgrade opposition forces say that they are patriotic. For them it is not "un-Yugoslav" to accept 500 million dollars from the bombers of their country...

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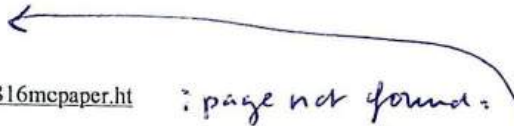
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From: global reflexion <office@globalreflexion.org>
To: <office@globalreflexion.org>
Sent: vrijdag 6 oktober 2000 02:39
Subject: Who is Vojislav Kostunica?

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 Friday, October 6, 2000

1. Who is Vojislav Kostunica?
2. The Yugoslavian elections and the West
3. The U.S. Moves to Impose a Puppet Regime in Yugoslavia

Date: Thu, 5 Oct 2000 22:58:36 EDT
 From: klasber@aol.com

Who is Vojislav Kostunica?

Kostunica is a political personality who not until the presidential election campaign was introduced by the Western media and who, according to the reports, previously had played only a subordinate role in Serbia and Yugoslavia. He is the chairman of a "Democratic Party of Serbia". For a short time now he has been the presidential candidate of the "Democratic Opposition of Serbia", a coalition of several parties in which apparently Zoran Djindic calls the shots, acting as Kostunica's campaign manager. This union actually already tells essentials about Kostunica, because among the "opposition" politicians who since long have been built up by the West, Djindic is the one who during the NATO terror bombings went so far as to demand to give up the independence of the country and to have it formally incorporated into the realm dominated by the aggressors. Since then, of course, he cannot dare any longer to run for a public office in Serbia, and it seems reasonable to suspect that Kostunica is serving as a fig leaf for Djindic's direction, for enabling it to anyway take part in the election campaign and for pushing the West's objectives nearer to their fulfillment in spite of all of this.

In fact all the signs are that Kostunica is acting as the still relatively guiltless and unsuspected one who helps Djindic come to power - a Trojan horse of the US- and NATO-dependent opposition.

Kostunica appears as someone who objects NATO, who condemns the aggression against his country and the separation of Kosovo, and who also drops critical remarks about the US' interference into Yugoslavia's domestic affairs.

It is worthwhile, however, to have a closer look at Kostunica's statements

What, for example, should one think about the following explanations in a speech by Kostunica of April 14, 2000:

(<http://www.bbnet.org.yu/bdnet/elections/eng/0414kostunica.htm>)

1. "There is one more thing Serbia desperately needs today - national reconciliation. First of all, the living Serbs are to bury the hatchet and allow the dead to make up and bring about that historic reconciliation. The first step to reconciliation is to abolish the existing division into patriots and traitors. After all, the present-day rulers of Serbia, who decreed themselves patriots, have demonstrated their patriotism to all but the Serbs. They have built other people's countries and demolished their own. They did many a good turn, but caused

their own people to grieve. Slobodan Milosevic has committed a mortal sin against his own people and his own state. Accordingly, he has to leave."

Here Kostunica accuses Milosevic who so far has been trying, within the bounds of his possibilities, to defend Serbia's and Yugoslavia's independence, of being a non-patriot, whereas he wants figures like Djindic who definitely represent nothing but serfdom towards the West, to be freed of the treason accusation.

In the same speech Kostunica continues:

2. "It is my duty to say one more thing. There is another sort of violence that befell our misfortunate people - external violence spearheaded by power-wielders in Washington and Brussels. The forms of the external violence are the long-standing sanctions, last year's bombs and support to Albanian terrorists in Kosovo. Whatever the source, violence is always violence, despite occasional attempts at presenting it as humane. It is hard to believe that people are killed, exhausted and starved by sanctions, and that their environment poisoned for their own benefit. First and foremost, we have to trample the domestic violence underfoot. In order to survive as a people, we have to normalise our relations with the world, but we must neither disregard nor forget the foreign violence conceived by the United States and NATO. More importantly, we must never elevate it in our esteem or present it as anything else but violence. Otherwise we will forget who and what we are."

These sentences deserve a more detailed commentary.

Here "the external violence" is criticized, and a critical attitude is at first taken towards NATO, towards the US and the EU. If however this is at the same time subordinated to a maxim like "whatever the source - violence is always violence", this criticism immediately evaporates into cheap talk. For it is by no means unimportant from which sources violence originates and which objectives it serves. Violence motivated by neocolonialism, as exerted by NATO's latest war, by the economic sanctions and the starvation strategy against the Serbian people, has to be objected and fought against exactly because of its political goals, whereas military violence for repelling this aggression is necessary and must be supported. More generally, the resistance against these objectives of the West cannot be denied the right to apply force if necessary.

Even more clearly Kostunica speaks in the following when he goes so far as to declare the "domestic violence" to be the main enemy. This means in other words: we regret to be the victims of violent acts by the NATO countries, but it is not our main task to do away with that but instead with the domestic violence. Having the situation in mind one has to understand by this "domestic violence" repressive acts by the Milosevic government, and in the first place such against the so-called opposition of the Djindic and Draskovic type. Kostunica here apparently chooses expressions by which the most miserable forces can be vindicated. He avoids the concrete articulation of just demands from the people against the bureaucratic apparatus, although he likes to allude vaguely to the struggle against corruption, but on the other hand he puts possible justified measures by the government against treason, or corresponding acts by the people, on the same level as the suppression of democracy.

Here Kostunica's adaptation to the West's strategy becomes already very clear.

Now a passage from an interview with the magazine
Vreme: (www.freespeech.org/ex-yupress/vreme/vreme79.html)

3. "I also believed that we have to distance ourselves from declarative, counterproductive support coming from the present, departing, American administration which has proved to be absolutely useless for the opposition and democratic forces in Serbia. And that support can cause a lot of harm in the

election campaign. It is common knowledge how they can help the population in Serbia. It seems that some European states are far more aware of that, and they have over some small but important projects, such as energy for democracy, established some cooperation and assistance and led to a quiet and gradual abolishment of sanctions."

To publicly play the distance from the US is absolutely necessary for somebody who wants to act as an opponent of the Milosevic government - this Kostunica is admitting here. If the connection with the US is all too clear, if somebody like Djindic appears in Ms. Albright's office for receiving her orders, if the US from their part are too openly sponsoring, financing and media-supporting this "opposition", this cannot be but "counterproductive", therefore its image has to be changed. The substance of NATO's policy however is what this Kostunica identifies himself with. The program "energy for democracy" is nothing but a part, an element of the war and its continuation by different means. After the bombs had destroyed power plants, refineries and transport routes and an import blockade had been erected, NATO offered delivery of oil and food to those regional rulers in Yugoslavia who would associate themselves with NATO against Milosevic. It is a prime example of the "democracy" of Western capitalism which even after decades will be able to claim a prominent place in the list of its self-exposures: 'you dance to our tune and acknowledge the government we selected for you, or else we look after your dying a wretched death.'

One more clear example for Kostunica's bootlicking of this kind of "democracy" (from the same interview):

4. "VREME: In first news about your presidential campaign, foreign news agencies mostly described you as a 'moderate nationalist, inclined to democratic changes', and a fierce critic of the American administration'. Would you add anything to or take away from this news agency portrait of Vojislav Kostunica?"

KOSTUNICA: I would add a few things. Above all, there is a radical dedication to the struggle against corruption, regardless of its source. That has characterized my political struggle so far. As far as the fierce criticism of the current American administration is concerned, it does not at all imply an anti-western attitude. On the contrary. That criticism is in a way balanced with a different attitude with respect to Europe. That criticism is pro-western rather than anti-western. In as much as it advocates the return of the West to its original democratic and liberal values."

The European governments which represent this dog's muck of an "energy and food for democracy" program, are for Kostunica relatively close to the "original democratic and liberal values" of the West. Enjoy your meal! Apart from the toadying, Kostunica's analysis completely misses the heart of the matter. In fact, the EU countries made war against Yugoslavia shoulder to shoulder with the US, and exactly they in fact are the ones which continue to exert massive pressure against Serbia and Yugoslavia by their extortionist policy. Basically they are only subordinates of the US. Concerning this one more statement by Kostunica. In a "Statement by Democratic Opposition of Serbia (DOS) Presidential Candidate Vojislav Kostunica 18.9.2000" he says:

5. "In what they called a message to the Serbian people, EU foreign ministers unequivocally pledged to lift the sanctions against Yugoslavia if the September 24 election results led to a democratic change, thus furnishing compelling evidence that Europe's policy towards Yugoslavia has changed for the better. Of course, it would have been much more useful for Serbia if the democracy hadn't the ministers made the lifting of international sanctions conditional, but this gesture of goodwill will no doubt mean a lot to the Serbs, particularly given the fact that we have already fulfilled their sole condition - readiness for democracy. This is also yet another opportunity to pay full respect to France's diplomacy and Hubert Vedrine, a man at its helm."

The shameless extortion from the part of the EU which ties the abolition of the embargo to the installation of a government according to the wishes of the US and the EU, for him really is "a change for the better", "a gesture of goodwill".

We don't to withhold from the Serbian people what a special sort of friend Mr. Kostunica chose for it in the person of Hubert Vedrine, the French foreign minister. In an interview with the US paper "International Herald Tribune" of April 20, 1999, Vedrine came to the fore:

(Q.) "The air strikes seem to put the Serbian population strongly in tune with their leader, Slobodan Milosevic. Is a harsher Western military blow needed to bring home to people the consequences of what they've done, perhaps shock them to their senses after living in denial about the outside world for several years?"

(Answer Vedrine:)
"For 10 years, in fact, ever since Mr. Milosevic seized on the Kosovo issue to propagate the backward-looking nationalistic delusions that have done so much harm to the country he runs. Someday the people of Serbia will have a place in Europe, but right now they have developed a mood of paranoia - which existed before the air strikes but has worsened. After a decade in which Serbian leaders have misled their people so badly, Western governments can't operate in terms of collective guilt, we can't make war on a people. We did not intervene to change the regime in Serbia; we intervened because the Kosovo situation was intolerable. Now we have to work for solutions, not think about punishment. It's going to take the Serbs a long time to recover and we're somehow going to have to manage for them - until they are again ready to take responsibility for themselves."

* * *

wg / Editorial staff of Neue Einheit Oct.2, 2000
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neue einheit
Zeitschrift fuer Politik, Oekonomie und Kultur

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Message: 16
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THE YUGOSLAVIAN ELECTIONS AND THE WEST

The 1999 war against Yugoslavia, if you look at how the West behaved, how self-righteously an aggression and a terror bombing against a country were justified, and afterwards the making up the minds for somebody else and the threatening were sold as "democratic policy", is truly singular in history. Such a bold and unconcealed posture was second not even to the most arrogant gestures of a Hitler. The late Breshnew's theories about limited sovereignty are just peanuts as compared with how the West of today treats the whole world and presumes to determine election outcomes in several countries in advance. It has already become a standard formula if Ms. Albright, US secretary of state, declares towards the leader of a country that there "will be trouble" if the election doesn't produce the result that suits the US. Interference like that would have lead to outcries in the past; every other country would have been utterly condemned.

All of that is being outdone by what is presently done with Yugoslavia

The present government has without doubt its weaknesses and provides targets. But indubitably it has kept up the banner of Serbian independence since 1995 and attempts to assert itself also against the great powers. In a time when almost all statesmen, especially in Europe, excel by incredible toadyism and bootlicking in front of US imperialism, this must be regarded as something exceptional and valuable.

Already before the elections there were warnings that all results which would not lead to Kostunica's absolute majority would be regarded as falsifications. And when the counting still was on, the Western media and statesmen for their part without further ado declared Kostunica the winner, although besides their own projections no figures were available yet, and even Kostunica's followers had not yet given figures. There are no considerable figures yet but Gerhard Schroeder already announces that an election victory by the so-called opposition is crystallizing itself clearer and clearer. Where does the chancellor Schroeder know this from?

Still some weeks ago even the men behind this so-called opposition in the Foreign Office in Washington or in Josef Fischer's office or elsewhere were very sceptical about the fragmented movement and doubted if it really would be able to gain ground in the elections.

Several times already there were attempts from the West to build an opposition in Serbia, in 1997 and later on again, and always this was a failure. During the war in 1999 probably 95% of the Serbian people backed the government and condemned NATO's terror attacks.

The main figures of this so-called opposition like Zoran Djindjic are infamous and discredited in Serbia. Because of their despicable behavior and their direct partisanship for those who threw bombs on Yugoslavia they had lost almost any credibility. The discreditation is also valid for the highly dubious figure of Vuk Draskovic who on the one hand makes deals with the West, too, and on the other represents an extreme Serbian chauvinism, in particular also during the time when the Serbian name by the acts of Serbian chauvinists in Bosnia but also in some other areas of conflict was deeply connected to wrongdoing - what is to be the pretext in 1999 and 2000.

It is very significant in this context that one of the figures who bear a good deal of responsibility for certain Serbian forces' latest inglorious tradition, Scselj - a radical rightist and in the war until 1995 intermediary of the Bosnian Serbs - stabs Milosevic into the back in the present situation and is working into the hands of the so-called opposition. And this is actually cherished by the West. Also the infamous butcher Arkan who not long ago lost his life by an attack, had connections into the US. And didn't their and German government's most compliant tool in Serbia, their "model democrat" Djindjic, demonstratively travel to Pale still in 1995, when the official Serbia already had more and more distanced herself from Karadzic, and showed solidarity with Karadzic who is known to bear the responsibility for innumerable war crimes from the part of certain Bosnian Serbs? Which standards are employed here? And the same people claim the moral right for themselves to pass judgement over Serbia, to cover her with terror bombings, and in face of the present elections they even pretend to represent the interests of the Serbian people!

Kostunica's nomination as presidential candidate is the attempt to seemingly show a way out for Serbia with a new figure, in order to actually open the portal for those who want to get Serbia completely in their clutches; it is a trick in order to complete the dictate over Serbia by these forces from the US in coalition with other capitalists in Europe.

Who is that Vojislav Kostunica who bestowed to this so-called opposition at least a relative success in the elections?

From all what has become known Kostunica is a relatively unknown quantity, having so far kept himself more in the background. He is not stigmatized by open partisanship with NATO as it is the case with Djindjic. He appears as a patriot, recognizes Kosovo as part of Serbia and has condemned the bombings by the US and the NATO. There are however several recent interviews in which he un.masks himself as a fundamental admirer of the US and the EU,

criticizing the US only because of his all too open support for the so-called opposition which would discredit it completely in front of the Serbian people. He even goes so far to support the EU's extortionist policy to lift the embargo only for cities which are run by the so-called opposition, and to supply oil and food to them. [See also "Who is Vojislav Kostunica" at <http://www.neue-einheit.com/is/is2000-23e.htm>]

It cannot be called just interference what the West is doing regarding the elections in Yugoslavia. This would be a gross understatement. From the outset it is dominated by extortion. Already in July 1999, after the war was in the main over, Clinton declared that there would be economic aid for the country destroyed by NATO bombs only if Milosevic would disappear. (See note) It is impossible to conceive of a more direct interference. And the same people who talk like this are now posturing and declare their resolve to look after correctness in the elections.

If the elections were rigged we cannot decide from here. If the administration or parts of it should have committed something like this it certainly must be investigated in detail, evaluated and lead to the corresponding consequences. But also this has to be regarded in relation to the general situation. One thing however is for certain: to flatten the economic fundamentals of life with bombs, openly declaring that this is for creating need and hunger, in order to force the people to accept the government chosen by the West so that they can get oil and food, is the harshest variant of vote rigging which can be imagined.

Whatever the present government may be reproached of in detail: there is no right whatsoever for the West, for these terror bombers, these rogue politicians to raise such moral accusations. Their whole cause is extortion and interference from the beginning to the end. Serbia would even have the right to put every politician who sides with the West, and this is also in fact the case with Kostunica, on the ground of illegality in Serbia, because a country has the right to act against traitors.

Those who bombed and extorted Serbia now put forward the kind of logic that Belgrade has to acknowledge "the Serbian people's will" - and they have the nerve to define that will - in order to prevent "an escalation of violence".

We hope that the Serbian people will prick up their ears here, and that as much of this extortion as possible is also publicly clarified and denounced.

But even if now those should come to power who make deals with these criminals and blackmailers and are in cahoots with them, there will be no democracy at all in Serbia, notwithstanding the election mechanisms which might be installed. Then the unconcealed and brutal dictatorship of international capitalism in Yugoslavia will be the consequence, so that any movement of national independence and autonomy - and this is the precondition for democracy in Serbia and Yugoslavia - will be impossible from the start.

We still want to say some words about the hopes which, as it seems from here, are stirred by the so-called opposition's propaganda. The Yugoslavian people are promised opening and modernizing of the society, participation in the international progressive developments, probably also better and more interesting job opportunities etc. We see such wishes justified, actually much new has to happen in this respect, not only in Serbia and Yugoslavia. But to tie such hopes to a change of government towards the opposition built up by the West must be questioned. Russia also was promised the opening by the West, what became reality under the government of the forces supported and controlled by the West is such a disaster that many millions of Russians, up to 40 or 50 millions, have left the country.

In particular the integration into the EU as promised by people like Kostunica will be translated into reality only under the condition that Serbia makes the total inner kowtow in front of the Western political order of today, going as far as to self-denial. The European countries' inner development not only shows positive signals. A doubtful extinction of great parts of the production basis, the discarding of parts of the own population, and the extinction of own identity are leading to considerable

social problems which already begin to show and which will show with all of their consequences in the future.

As a negative example you can take Germany with a development of the own nation's population towards self-eradication, with its destruction of the will for independence and for future going to a dangerous limit, a development which took place in particular during the last 25 years. A lot is being just a façade here and actually the EU itself is in a deep state of crisis.

Because of all of these points named here we are not at all able to sympathize with the so-called opposition which actually is easily bought from top to bottom, or even hedge the slightest wish that it be victorious. Very certainly there are social conflicts and problems in Serbia which must be solved. These however the Serbian and Yugoslavian people have to settle within their own framework, without any foreign interference. Here, though, forces are active who work for the complete occupation of Serbia by the NATO, the US, France, Great Britain and the Federal Republic of Germany, and who in order to divert from this fact chose somebody who speaks of nation, of national independence etc. but who shall only serve for bringing these forces, with Zoran Djindjic in the first place, to power.

We can afford a prognosis: even if these forces should be successful - the US and the other NATO countries do not have a solution. How do they intend to solve the Kosovo question according to their wishes if their allies of yesterday, the Albanians, urge the total separation? The new government will have to save face. For that, civil war-like occurrences might be the consequence in Kosovo. The contradictions which today exist in Serbia won't be solved by the West by means of this kind of lackeys. Many of their promises will vanish into thin air. Capitalism does not make such attempts to corrupt without reason.

If the forces who stand for Serbia's national independence really want to grasp a chance yet, then they will have to attack the miserable essence of this so-called opposition to the full extent, and in the future they certainly will have to fight decidedly against privileges, mismanagement, corruption and other things within the bureaucratic state apparatus. This will be a precondition. A renewal of the state is needed but how and under which preconditions it will take place, this will be the decisive factor.

We want to express the hope that the Serbian people will resist the infiltrative methods as it resisted the war and the military threatening.

The whole of Europa is required to lift the sanctions against Yugoslavia immediately!

Note:

In this year's June, concrete sums for the "post-Milosevic Serbia" were named by the US and the EU to the participating members of the so-called opposition, at a meeting of the so-called "Balkans stability pact": \$ 4 billions.

Editorial staff of Neue Einheit

4.10.2000

E-mail: verlag@neue-einheit.com

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neue einheit
Zeitschrift fuer Politik, Oekonomie und Kultur

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The U.S. Moves to Impose a Puppet Regime in Yugoslavia

by Michel Chossudovsky and Jared Israel

www.tenc.net
[Emperor's Clothes]

Yesterday we wrote an article analyzing the situation in Yugoslavia. Before we could publish it, our analysis has been confirmed by events. We have confirmed from an unimpeachable source that members of the "democratic" opposition have been visiting Belgrade residents, threatening to murder them if they voted in the runoff elections. (Our interview with one person who received such a visit will be published shortly) Now there are incomplete reports of the burning of the Yugoslav parliament - where the government has a majority of seats - and the sacking of sections of Belgrade and murder of citizens who don't support the opposition. These measures are intended to bring a US puppet regime to power.

The article follows.

The evidence is mounting that the "Democratic" opposition strategy in Yugoslavia, worked out under the guidance of Washington and Bonn, is not to elect Mr. Kostunica President of Yugoslavia. If it were, why wouldn't they gladly participate in runoff elections, given that Kostunica has an admitted 10% lead? One reason they don't want to participate is that most of the approximately 40% of the electorate which did not vote in round one would most likely vote against Kostunica in round two.

But apart from that, the main reason is that the president of Yugoslavia has no power without a parliamentary majority. The elections gave the current government a clear majority in both houses.

NATO's plan for Yugoslavia is to apply the most severe economic shock treatment which requires domination of the government. The shock therapy was admitted by Mr. Dinkic, chief economist for the opposition:

"we are thinking of adopting... a shock therapy in some areas, and mild and gradual reforms in others," Dinkic told Beta. : Beta news agency, Belgrade, in Serbo-Croat 1828 gmt 26 Sep 00 posted by BBX Oct. 5, 2000)

The same was stated in law HR1064, passed by the US House of Representatives a day after the elections. This law granted an additional 105 million to be shared between the pro-NATO government of Montenegro (\$55 million US) and the leaders of the DOS (\$50 million.)

That money was released on an emergency basis - Oct 1. It was immediately wired to the DOS bank accounts in Budapest and then smuggled across the border in new US bills for immediate use. to destabilize Yugoslavia.

The law ordered that the most draconian economic "reforms" be imposed on Yugoslavia, ordered the breakup of Serbia into separate min-states, ordered the imposition of complete "democratization", that is, adoption all measures demanded by the US and ordered the hunting down of all people whom NATO decides to accuse of being war criminals,

The violent economic "adjustment" and political destruction mandated by HR1064 and outlined in the program of "democratic" opposition itself are an attempt to crush Yugoslavia as a force capable of resisting US domination of the Balkans, to reduce it to an impoverished territory - a colony. .

These measures cannot be implemented unless NATO has full control of the Yugoslav government including the army and police. (The other alternative, invading a Yugoslavia run by a hostile government, is politically unfeasible for NATO) .

Therefore the DOS has used the charge of "election fraud" - endlessly repeated but never with any evidence - as an excuse to boycott the runoffs. In contrast, the fraud involved in the US paying hundreds of millions of dollars to the "democratic" opposition is never mentioned. This bribe money violates the electoral laws of every country. Using the veneer of protesting election fraud, the "democrats" are mobilizing all possible forces in an attempt to seize power by force. These include pro-fascist Croats and pro-KLA Albanians who are the hard core supporters of the pro-NATO Djukanovic government in Montenegro, they include , secessionists from the Serbian province of Vojvodina and southern Serbia,

young people who have never worked and who are being fed trickles of cash from the several hundred million dollars the US has pumped into opposition hands, people coerced by superiors at work or by school headmasters to demonstrate, people bribed by a taste of the vast sums of money the US has pumped into Yugoslavia especially in the past two weeks, and people who have been fooled by the massive, US funded campaign, by "independent" media, public relations firms and election pollsters, into believing that their falling living standards, caused by sanctions just as severe as those imposed on Iraq, are the "fault of one man - Milosevich" and that the US-backed opposition will bring prosperity. In fact they would bring the prosperity of the grave.

Because the truth is that countries like Bulgaria and Russia which have swallowed the "democratic" bait are far poorer than Yugoslavia - even though they are not suffering from sanctions. and were not yet bombed

The scenario is much like what occurred in Chile in 1973.. There was the same sort of disruption of transportation and essential services including electricity. There was the same effort to create the appearance of a majority movement against Chilean Pres. Allende.. Events were staged which a captive media misdescribed as popular protest, giving ordinary people the impression that Allende was about to fall. At the same time, the CIA-directed plan deprived the people of basic necessities, causing real unrest. In Yugoslavia, the disruption of the supply of essential commodities started before the election with a US-instigated rise in the price of bread

Under cover of disruption and "popular protest" the CIA overthrew President Salvador Allende and installed a pro-US military junta headed by General Augusto Pinochet.

The strikes which crippled transport and food distribution in Chile were funded by the CIA. The same is being attempted right now in Yugoslavia. Vast sums of US tax payers money has been poured into opposition coffers in Serbia. We know of \$182 million. But this is only what is officially admitted. What about CIA money, which the New York Times says is going into Serbia "in suitcases full of cash"? What about money from the Soros Foundation and other CIA-connected "charities"? This money is being used to finance the miners' strike and to lure young people into the Western-created group Otpor by giving them money and trinkets, like cellular phones. .

Of course, many Yugoslav people are disgruntled. one miner told the 'NY Times': "I used to make \$1500 a month. Now I make \$80." Dishonest forces put the blame for this on the government that is resisting US control. In fact, the problem started because in 1989 a World Bank plan, overseen by a leading member of one of the current 'democratic' opposition groups, closed over a thousand Yugoslav business, devastating the economy. The wars and sanctions, whose fault lies with the US and Germany, have further hurt the economy. The Yugoslav government, routinely accused of being dictatorial, has tolerated the creation of an immense Fifth Column in Serbia by the US government, which has poured millions into the funding and training of what are falsely called "civil society" organizations. These organizations, funded through the National Endowment for Democracy, Freedom House, the USIA, the CIA and the Soros Foundation, among others, pay thousands of people in Serbia and maintain an entire "alternate" media with the latest equipment and high salaries. This media then uses the problem caused by the US to sow discontent among anyone who is susceptible.

The US effort to destroy Yugoslavia goes back to 1984. A U.S. National Security Decision Directive NSDD133 entitled "United States Policy Toward Yugoslavia. Labeled SECRET Sensitive has recently been de-classified. It is a prescription for destroying Yugoslavia as an economic and political entity.

Since the elections on 24 September, the Democratic opposition has met with NATO officials in Sofia, Bulgaria. NATO Assistant Secretary General Paul Klaiber was in Sofia and Bucharest for high level discussions on security issues resulting from the elections. Barely reported in the media, an IMF donors' conference was held behind closed doors. Two leading "democratic" representatives presented their so-called "Letter of Intent", a plan for imposing harsh economic measure on Yugoslavia, to their IMF and World Bank leaders. And on the 4th of October, the Stability Pact for

South eastern Europe was meeting under its so-called "Title III" which pertains to "security issues." The elections and "transition" in Yugoslavia were on the agenda. The press reports do not confirm that the two "democratic" representatives stayed for these meetings. We suspect they did.. The ploy being employed now is to create chaos while dangling promises of money and peace, instigate whatever elements - children ignorant of politics and lured by money, secessionist elements, fascists, people under compulsion from superiors - along with infiltrators from NATO armed forces disguised as rebellious youths, to terrorize Yugoslav loyalists and create the impression of popular revolt. Already we have learned that DOS activists are going around Belgrade, threatening death to anyone who votes in the Sunday elections. Further provocation may occur at any time. These "democrats" aim to provide Washington and NATO with a pretext to intervene as "peacekeepers" as they did in Bosnia.

In the meantime, not only are NATO war ships in the Adriatic, but foreign troops are already on Yugoslav soil. British SAS special forces are training paramilitary police in Montenegro to assassinate Yugoslav army officer.. Money is being channeled to finance these groups..

What we are witnessing is nothing less than an attempt to install a fascist-like government in Yugoslavia, to turn all of Yugoslavia into Kosovo. Yugoslavia has stood up to the biggest bully in history, the US government. Now it is time for all who oppose the creation of US/German dominated world empire to stand up for Yugoslavia.

www.tenc.net
[Emperor's Clothes]

Global Reflexion - Amsterdam - The Netherlands

van holst en steijnen

From: Despotovic Ruza <despot@wishmail.net>
To: <michel.collon@skynet.be>; Globalreflexion <office@globalreflexion.org>; Nico /Neeltje Steijnen <n.h.van.holst@freeler.nl>
Sent: maandag 2 april 2001 12:28
Subject: Fw: Our letter: Why it is wrong to give in to U.S./NATO demands

— Original Message —

From: "T. V. Weber & Alida Weber" <jatich@ameritech.net>
To: <jatich@mcs.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 01, 2001 11:39 PM
Subject: Our letter: Why it is wrong to give in to U.S./NATO demands

> Here is a copy of the letter that we sent on Saturday, March 31, 2001 1:44
 > PM, to the following recipients:
 >
 > Yugoslav President Vojislav Kostunica Vojislav.Kostunica@gov.yu
 >
 > DSS (Mr. Kostunica's party) info@dss.org.yu
 >
 > Yugoslav Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic, c/o "Democratic Party of Serbia"
 > info@demokratska.org.yu
 >
 > Dear President Kostunica and Prime Minister Djindjic,
 >
 > Once again, the Yugoslav nation and the Serbian people are being subjected
 > to blackmail and vilification on the part of the U.S. government and NATO.
 > It is time – in fact, it is long past time – to say "No," once and for
 > all, to any and all demands to compromise the sovereignty of the Yugoslav
 > nation and the well-being of the Serbian people.
 >
 > No matter what Mr. Milosevic may or may not have done with regard to the
 > financial situation in Yugoslavia, any attempt to arrest him will be, and is
 > being, interpreted as another long step on the slippery slope toward
 > selling
 > him out to the Hague "Tribunal." This sudden urgency to arrest Mr.
 > Milosevic
 > in time to meet the shameful ultimatum of the U.S. government is, all too
 > clearly, a sell-out, in return for the promise of a pathetically small
 > amount of U.S. "aid" and in fear of threatened reimposition of sanctions.
 > Along with the obvious fact that it is morally wrong to sell out in this
 > way, it is also wrong for the following practical reasons:
 >
 > 1. The U.S. government has scarcely any genuine allies any more, other
 > than
 > the morally bankrupt and shaky Tony Blair regime. We do not believe that
 > the
 > U.S. government any longer has the capability to succeed in repeating its
 > crimes of two years ago.
 >
 > 2. Nor does it appear that any NATO government other than that of Tony
 > Blair
 > has any genuine interest in stirring up a crisis in order to round up more
 > indictees to send to the Hague "Tribunal." Thus, even the threat of
 > renewed
 > sanctions is most likely an empty one.
 >
 > 3. The U.S. government has a pitifully poor record with regard to keeping
 > its promises, especially with regard to "aid." Instead of getting ready to
 > sell out your nation's sovereignty in return for empty promises and
 > threats,
 > you should be demanding – UNCONDITIONALLY – one hundred billion dollars'
 > worth of reparations from the U.S. and NATO, payable immediately and in
 > cash.
 >
 > 4. Finally, why aren't both of you demanding that EVERYONE who has been

...able for the use of depleted uranium, cluster bombs, and other
...al means of warfare against your nation, be put on trial? Given that
...aggressor nations are unwilling even to consider the possibility of
...holding these perpetrators accountable, why do you not insist that they
> be turned over to the Yugoslav government for trial?

>
> We pray that Our Lord Jesus Christ will protect the Yugoslav nation and
the
> Serbian people, and that He will guide your words and actions in this time
> of crisis.

>
> Pozdrav,

>
> T.V. & Alida Weber
>
>
>

Bloedbad in Kosovo

19-1-99

HET commentaar van de zondag in spoedzitting bijeengekomen NAVO-ambassadeurs is volkomen op zijn plaats. De moord, gepleegd door Servische politietroepen, op minstens 45 ongewapende Albanen uit het dorpje Racak is om van te walgen.

Uiteraard rijst onmiddellijk de vraag hoe de internationale gemeenschap op deze flagrante schending van het tussen Milosevic en de Amerikaanse diplomaat Holbrooke gesloten akkoord dient te reageren. De reactie van de NAVO kwam snel (dat valt te prijzen), maar oogt niet bijzonder krachtig.

Op zichzelf zijn de door de NAVO ondernomen stappen zinnig. Het kan geen kwaad, dat twee generaals de Joegoslavische president nog eens komen waarschuwen, dat hij zich aan zijn beloften moet houden: geen geweld, laat staan excessief geweld, in Kosovo, en terugtrekking van het grootste deel van de Servische militairen en politie-eenheden. En het is logisch en verstandig om te eisen dat het Joegoslavië-tribunaal in de gelegenheid wordt gesteld de in Kosovo gepleegde misdaden ter plaatse te onderzoeken.

Rest slechts de vraag: wat te doen, als Milosevic zich van de aan hem gestelde eisen niets aantrekt? Nou ja, slechts.... Dat is helaas de kern van de kwestie. Want de kans dat de Servische leider de visite van de NAVO-generaals benut om zijn manschappen terug te trekken of hen in elk geval aan te sporen tot uiterste zelfbeheersing, is minimaal. En aanklaagster Louise Arbour van het Tribunaal mag van de Serviërs Kosovo domweg niet in.

Het is nu eenmaal niet Milosevic' gewoonte om te capituleren voor eisen, waaraan geen geloofwaardige dreiging met geweld verbonden is. Bovendien gebiedt de eerlijkheid te zeggen dat het Albanese bevrijdingsleger UCK zich provocerend gedraagt en de door het Holbrooke-akkoord geboden adempauze openlijk benut heeft om zich voor te bereiden op een volgende ronde in de strijd om Kosovo.

Het wankele bestand in Kosovo staat op het punt te bezwijken. Het is hoe dan ook nuttig om die realiteit onder ogen te zien. Maar welke consequenties daaraan moeten worden verbonden is minder eenvoudig te beantwoorden. Waarschijnlijk zullen de OVSE-waarnemers binnenkort teruggetrokken moeten worden. In een oplaaiende oorlogssituatie weegt het voordeel van hun aanwezigheid niet op tegen het gevaar dat ze lopen.

Zolang zij in Kosovo zijn, kan de NAVO bovendien niet daadwerkelijk optreden. Of zulk optreden, met kruisraketten en bommen, zou helpen, is óók onduidelijk. Maar er zal snel een antwoord op dit uitermate lastige dilemma moeten worden gevonden, want met gekruiste armen toekijken bij steeds nieuwe bloedbaden, dat kan de NAVO en - breder - de internationale gemeenschap zich niet permitteren.

van holst en steijnen

From: Despotovic Ruza <despot@wishmail.net>
To: Nico /Neeltje Steijnen <n.h.van.holst@freeler.nl>; Ksenija Sigulinski <sigu@worldonline.nl>; Jelle van der Meulen <jellevdmeulen@introweb.nl>; feddema <feddema@wish.net>; Herman de TI Tolenaar <my636847@asianhistory.myweb.nl>; Hans Hupkes <hans.hupkes@planet.nl>; Globalreflexion <office@globalreflexion.org>; DOLF Loth <dolfloth@hotmail.com>; <beentjes@ision.nl>; Annamiek Vermeulen <Speerpunt@wxs.nl>
Sent: woensdag 7 maart 2001 13:06
Subject: Fw: APPEAL FOR SOLIDARITY [SOCIALIST PARTY OF SERBIA]

----- Original Message -----

From: Vladimir Krsljanin
To: vk
Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2001 1:50 AM
Subject: Fw: APPEAL FOR SOLIDARITY [SOCIALIST PARTY OF SERBIA]

----- Original Message -----

From: Vladimir Krsljanin
To: vk
Sent: Wednesday, March 07, 2001 1:41 AM
Subject: APPEAL FOR SOLIDARITY [SOCIALIST PARTY OF SERBIA]

APPEAL

TO THE POLITICAL PARTIES, MOVEMENTS, NGOs AND INDIVIDUALS

Ever since the federal elections of September 24, setting ablaze of the Federal Assembly and the Serbian Broadcasting Corporation building and the putsch that took place on 5th October, after the republican and local elections of December 23, 2000, Socialist Party of Serbia is facing organized campaign of the new DOS authorities to eliminate it from the political scene, while in the country, under the guise of democracy, Europeanisation and rule of law, normal political life would be blocked. Atmosphere of fear, staged court trials and persecution of persons of different political opinion, especially members of the SPS, is spreading over Serbia.

A campaign, into which almost all the media, now controlled by the current regime are included, is for last few weeks mostly directed against president of the Socialist Party of Serbia and up-to-recently President of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia Slobodan Milosevic. Aim of this campaign is to brake up the Socialist Party of Serbia and to move the country from the path of free and independent development.

Incompetent DOS authorities are not ready to solve economic and social problems growing ever deeper, not able to wipe out Albanian terrorism and to protect sovereignty and integrity of the country. By the campaign of intimidation, lynching and persecution against Slobodan Milosevic and other prominent members of the SPS they are attempting to hide their responsibility for catastrophic deterioration of social, economic and security situation in the country.

So-called "crisis committees", under the DOS control, by violent means took over and are still taking over leading positions in the economy, administration, education, health care. Along with threats and blackmail mass dismissals of experts and competent persons are carried out.

In several municipalities where SPS won local elections (Bosilegrad, Batocina, Kladovo, Ub, Dimitrovgrad, Bela Palanka) DOS is usurping local self-rule, by crude force and in a bandit's manner. SPS leaders and militants all over Serbia are subjected to violence and intimidation. House of the chairman of the County Committee of the SPS in Leskovac was burned down, an explosive device was thrown at the offices of SPS in Nis. Town councilors from SPS in Vranje were held locked in the Municipal Assembly Hall for six hours.

Ministers in the DOS government are taking active part in the campaign. Atmosphere of the public lynching of the SPS members is imposed. Constitution, laws, moral norms, human rights and rights of the citizens are drastically violated by the "revolutionary justice" of the "new democratic authorities".

Socialist Party of Serbia, as the strongest opposition party (44 deputies in the Federal and 37 deputies in the Republican parliaments respectively) is resolutely confronting such situation and practices. After its Fifth Extraordinary Congress, SPS strengthened its unity, reaffirmed its progressive, democratic political attitudes in the new conditions. Citizens are defending dignity of the nation and the state, freedom and human rights by democratic means. There are daily protests and strikes, requests for release of the victims of staged political trials and calls for responsibility of DOS authorities for economy going down-hill, impoverishment, abnormal growth of unemployment and endangering national and state survival of Yugoslavia and

erbia. Daily, 24-hours people's watch is held in front of the home of the SPS president Slobodan Milosevic.

Socialist Party of Serbia calls upon friendly parties, movements, non-governmental organizations and individuals in the Balkans, in Europe and in the world:

- to request an end to the campaign of public lynching against President Slobodan Milosevic, leadership and members of SPS;
- to condemn most decisively unlawful, pogrom-like behavior of the ruling regime that represents flagrant abuse of democracy and a disallowed violation of basic human and political rights;
- to condemn media gloom in Serbia;
- to request dissolution of the Hague Tribunal as an ad hoc political institution that has no legal grounds, that is under NATO control and used for persecution of Serbs;
- to support Yugoslavia's legal suit against NATO officials and persons from governments of NATO-member countries for crimes at the Balkans, as well as the claim for compensation of the war damages.

SPS is thankful for the expressions of support in confronting external and internal pressures and in the defense of the principles of freedom, dignity, human and political rights received so far.

SPS shall highly appreciate all the messages of solidarity with the efforts to stop the current campaign against SPS, as the largest opposition party and its President Slobodan Milosevic and for provision of conditions for normal conduct of the political life in Serbia, as a precondition of real democracy and continued development.

Belgrade, March 7, 2001

To join or help this struggle, visit:
<http://www.sps.org.yu/> (official SPS website)
<http://www.belgrade-forum.org/> (forum for the world of equals)
<http://www.24casa.co.yu/> (the only free daily newspaper in Yugoslavia)

Who lies Kostunica?

In only few days Election Team of Democratic Opposition of Serbia (DOS) and associates of Kostunica published few different information about votes their candidate won on the Yugoslav presidential elections.

2.783.038 54,66 %	2.649.003 52,54%	2.424.187 51,34%	2.377.440 50,35%
DOS Election team	Ceda Jovanovic DOS spokesman	Zoran Sami DSS vice-president	Zoran Šami DSS vice-president

Who lies to Kostunica? Election team, spokesman CJ, vice-president YS or his campaign manager.

Judge yourself-anyway liar is

DOS-of course

Print

van holst en steijnen

From: Despotovic Ruza <despot@wishmail.net>
To: DOLF Loth <dolfloth@hotmail.com>; Ksenija Sigulinski <sigu@worldonline.nl>; Nico /Neeltje Steijnen <n.h.van.holst@freeler.nl>; Ruza Despotovic <ruzad@ggzba.nl>
Sent: vrijdag 16 februari 2001 16:27
Subject: Yahoo! Groups sorabia Messages Message 12062 of 12526.htm


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From: "Bob Petrovich" <bojanp@h...>
Date: Wed Jan 24, 2001 7:50am
Subject: Rubin: The Limits of Law

 THE NATIONAL INTEREST

Number 46, Winter 1996/97

Dayton, Bosnia and the Limits of Law
 Alfred P. Rubin

★ = Owner
 ☆ = Moderator
 ☉ = Online

 In an attempt to create an American-style, multi-ethnic democracy in the Bosnia-Herzegovinian rump of the formerly multi-ethnic dictatorship of Yugoslavia, American negotiators brokered a complex series of formal undertakings known collectively as the Dayton Accord. This Accord was initiated by representatives of the Muslim-dominated Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, whose authority is rejected by its Serbian minority; by the Serb-dominated Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which denies that it is involved in the Serb resistance to the nominal government of Bosnia-Herzegovina, but which was authorized by the leaders of that resistance to speak for them; by the Republic of Croatia; by a representative of the European Union; by the United States; and -- apparently redundantly since they are members of the European Union -- by France and the United Kingdom as well. This great abundance of intialing occurred on November 20, 1995, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio, and was later rendered legally binding by a formal signing in Paris on December 14 of that year.

As written, the Accord presumes that a legal authority resides in the United Nations Security Council to act in cases of internal conflict. It assumes further that enforcement of the international laws of war by the community of nations is consistent with the current international legal order of separate states. Both bases for supporting the Dayton Accord to be legally binding are dubious.

Under the United Nations Charter, itself a binding treaty, the Security Council can require action from the members of the United Nations in accordance with judgements rendered by the International Court of Justice (Article 94.2), as well as in reaction to a "threat to the peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression" (Article 39). But the war crimes tribunal at The Hague is not the International Court of Justice (ICJ). Aside from a preliminary judgement in July 1996 accepting jurisdiction in a case against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, not to be argued in substance until 1997, the ICJ has uttered no judgement whose implementation in the Balkan area

is in question. Moreover, unless the Security Council itself makes a determination relevant to international peace and security, no organ of the United Nations is authorized by the Charter to "intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state"(Article 2.7).

Suppose the military struggle within the Bosnian "state" were legally a "civil war", as indeed seems to be the case. To assert that a civil war is by its nature a threat to international peace and security -- however distasteful its rationales might seem to those standing outside the struggle, and however much governed it may (or may not) be by the laws or war observed internationally -- is to try to make revolution illegal. If all states were well-governed today, or if stability were the overriding aim of international politics, such a proposition might be desirable. But as things are, that seems ill-based. Certainly, the Bosnian armed struggle itself cannot be called "international" by those who argue that a Bosnia-Herzegovina that incorporates its former Serb population with its designated territory preserves a historical unity. Nor, except in an inconsistent attempt to gain legal control over it, have the parties to the Dayton Accord accepted the international personality of the "Republika Srpska", the Serb organization fighting for independence in the territory of Bosnia-Herzegovina; and that organization is not represented in the United Nations, except by the very government against which it is rebelling. The government of the Serb-dominated Federal Republic of Yugoslavia denied that it represents the Bosnian Serbs in the United Nations, and says that it does not want to expand at the further expense of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Nonetheless, the Security Council acted. It determined that the conflict in Bosnia was a threat to "international" peace and security.

If the Security Council, by its own vote, can categorize events in such ways as to avoid limits on its own authority placed there by those submitting to that authority, a radical change in the structure of the United Nations will have been achieved. It is a change that few members of the United Nations would agree to, other than the five great powers that have the protection provided by vetoes in the Security Council. If the Security Council were to use the case of the former Yugoslavia as a precedent, defections from the United Nations might well result, threatening collapse of the organization as a whole. The alternative -- regarding the case of the former Yugoslavia as unique -- undermines the universality of the rule of law and the notion of the sovereign equality of states on which the organization is based (UN Charter, Articles 1.1 and 2.1). It is very difficult to understand how the authority of the Security Council to determine that a civil war constitutes a threat to international peace can be supported by people interested in the rule of law.

THE NATIONAL INTEREST:

Number 46, Winter 1996/97

Dayton, Bosnia and the Limits of Law
Alfred P. Rubin

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From: Despotovic Ruza <despot@wishmail.net>
To: Sneza Nena Andjelkovic <andjelkovic@wxs.nl>; Tanja Magnee <tanja.magnee@planet.nl>; Richard Branka Novakovic <RICHARDENBEB@PI.NET>; Nico /Neeltje Steijnen <n.h.van.holst@freeler.nl>; Jelle van der Meulen <jellevdmeulen@introweb.nl>; Jan Beentjes <jbeentjes@mac.com>; Globalreflexion <office@globalreflexion.org>; DOLF Loth <dolfloth@hotmail.com>; <beentjes@ision.nl>; Annamiek Vermeulen <Speerpunt@wxs.nl>
Sent: zaterdag 17 februari 2001 15:27
Subject: Fw: [SIM] [SIN] Recent Kosovo Anti-Serb Attacks

--- Original Message ---

From: "Miroslav Antic" <miroslav@antic.org>
 To: "Du238" <du_watch@listbot.com>; "Du-Watch" <du_watch@yahogroups.com>; "Ljudska Prava" <ljudska_prava@yahogroups.com>; "NATO" <STOPNATO@listbot.com>; "NSP" <STOP-NSP@topica.com>; "Otava-1" <ottambyu@capitalnet.com>; "Siem News" <news@siem.net>; "Skwl" <skwl@lists.golden.net>; "SIM Egroups" <SrpskaInformativnaMreza@egroups.com>; "SerbianNewsNetwork" <SerbianNewsNetwork@egroups.com>; "Sin" <sin@antic.org>
 Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2001 2:32 AM
 Subject: [SIM] [SIN] Recent Kosovo Anti-Serb Attacks

>
 >
 > Friday February 16 8:03 PM ET
 >
 > Recent Kosovo Anti-Serb Attacks
 >
 > By The Associated Press,
 >
 > Recent anti-Serb attacks:
 >
 > - May 29, 2000 - An attacker opens fire on a group of Serbs gathered in a
 > store in an eastern Kosovo village patrolled by U.S. soldiers, killing a
 > 4-year-old boy and two men.
 >
 > - Feb 2, 2000 - A U.N. bus carrying 49 Serb civilians is rocketed, killing
 > two and leaving five injured.
 >
 > - Jan 7, 2000 - An ethnic Albanian gang kills two Serb women on their way
 > to
 > a Christmas Day liturgy in the southwestern city of Prizren.
 >
 > - Dec 27, 1999 - Assailants hurl grenades into a bar in southeastern
 > Kosovo,
 > injuring at least 10 people.
 >
 > - Dec 4, 1999 - An explosion blows apart the home of a local Serb leader
 > in
 > the eastern part of the province, killing a woman and injuring two other
 > family members, just hours after NATO (news - web sites) reports that two
 > other Serbs were killed about 30 miles southwest of Pristina while
 > gathering
 > firewood.
 >
 > - Sept 7, 1999 - Two people are killed and four wounded after shells hit
 > two
 > all-Serb villages.
 >
 > - Aug 16, 1999 - Attackers fire mortar rounds at a village in the U.S.
 > sector, killing two Serb teen-agers and injuring five other Serbs.
 >
 > - July 23, 1999 - Fourteen Serb farmers are machine-gunned to death in a
 > field south of Pristina.
 >
 > Miroslav Antic,

> <http://www.antic.org/SNN/>

>

>> Serbian News Network

>

> owner-sin@antic.org

>

> <http://www.antic.org/SNN/>

>> Srpska Informativna Mreza

>

> owner-sin@antic.org

>

> Lista: sin@antic.org

>

> <http://www.antic.org/News/>

>

van holst en steijnen

From: Despotovic Ruza <despot@wishmail.net>
To: Ksenija Sigulinski <sigu@worldonline.nl>; Nico /Neeltje Steijnen <n.h.van.holst@freeler.nl>
Sent: donderdag 8 februari 2001 15:03
Subject: Fw: [SIM] STOP OR ARREST SOLANA - big rally in Belgrade

----- Original Message -----

From: Vladimir Krsljanin
To: b-antinato@yahoogroups.com
Cc: STOPNATO@listbot.com ; sim@antic.org
Sent: Wednesday, February 07, 2001 8:55 PM
Subject: [SIM] STOP OR ARREST SOLANA - big rally in Belgrade

About 20 000 people gathered tonight in front of the Foreign ministry in Belgrade, protesting against the visit of Xavier Solana to Yugoslavia. Demonstrators have burned a doll in prison clothes with the face of Solana, demanding that the verdict of Belgrade court should be applied. Rally then moved to the American embassy in Belgrade shouting slogans against NATO, Solana, Hague NATO Tribunal and in favour of former president Slobodan Milosevic. Several dozens of Greeks from Thessaloniki, organised by Greek Communist Party have joined the demonstrations, warmly welcomed by crowd.

With leaders of leftist parties and patriotic organizations in front, thousands of demonstrators than passed through whole centre of the city, blocking the traffic, up to the Republic Square, where rally was finished with singing the national anthem. Before that the colourn stoped in front of Zoran Djindjic's Democratic Party very angrily protesting against new Prime-minister of Serbia as a trator. Obviuously being afraid from earlier announced demonstrations, Solana decided to shorten his stay in Belgrade. He will arrive only thursday early morning and will stay untill noon. All his talks (with Kostunica, Djindjic and Svilanovic) will take place in the Federation Palace, not far from the airport. Demonstrators have been called to regather in the morning in front of the Federation Palace. In spite of totally controled media by prowestern government, there is a huge public pressure on Kostunica eighter to cancel the visit or to arrest Solana.

van holst en steijnen

From: global reflexion <office@globalreflexion.org>
To: <office@globalreflexion.org>
Sent: dinsdag 13 februari 2001 10:57
Subject: Serbian workers threaten nationwide General Strike

The Global Reflexion Foundation contributes, according to her ability, to the distribution of information on international issues that in the media does not receive proper attention or is presented in a distorted way. We receive information from different sources, that does not necessarily reflect our opinion. If you don't want to receive it, please send us an e-mail.

 Tuesday, February 13, 2001

1. Serbian workers threaten nationwide General Strike
2. Belgrade Demands: 'Arrest Solana!'
3. The Incorporation of Spain and Javier Solana Into NATO
4. Javier Solana's Visit to Belgrade is an Outrage!

 As Serbian workers threaten nationwide General Strike -
 The Issue is, Who Gets the Shares?

By Milos Zorich - Special to Emperor's Clothes
 Belgrade, 2-12-2001
 Translated by Tika Jankovich and Jared Israel

Will the ranks of 800,000 already jobless Serbian workers be swelled by thousands laid off following planned changes in the Privatization Law?

Belgrade is being watched carefully by international business. They want auctions where they can buy companies at bargain prices and they want legal guarantees protecting investments. Meanwhile, the Serbian Parliament will decide whether to halt a wave of privatizations by workers. And the workers are threatening a General Strike

A Proclamation to the People

"In short, the state is selling. Foreigners are buying. Workers and citizens are losing. We workers are not for sale. Let's stop the plunder!"

Thus writes the Association of Serbian Unions. Urging the Serbian people to protest changes in the Privatization Law announced by the Serbian Government, the unions have called a General Strike starting February 14 at 8:00 AM.

The Core of the Conflict

The current Privatization Law was passed during the Miloshevic administration, a coalition of the Yugoslav Left, the Socialist Party and the Radical Party. If a company was privatized, the first priority in obtaining shares would go to the workers who invested their labor for many years.

Anticipating the present regime's intention to sell companies which are supposedly in bad financial shape to foreign bidders, workers and managers have speeded-up privatization under this law. They are trying to preempt the process before a government sell-out to foreign interests can take place.

Thus a race is underway, with the workers privatizing state and public property, and the government trying to halt it.

This reporter spoke to several people on the street about the proposed sell-off. Here are the words of Vladimir Matvejevic, an engineer and one of

0,000 men and women in Serbia who are unemployed and looking for work:

"Before our eyes we have the examples of Bulgaria, Romania, Russia and other economies in "transition" where the largest industrial enterprises have been handed over to foreign corporations. As a consequence, thousands of workers were fired, in obedience to rules imposed by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

"One should bare in mind that for decades our Yugoslav model of social-economy differed from those in Eastern Europe. They had central state economic control. We built a system where businesses under workers' self-management existed side by side with others that were privately owned. In the self-managed sector, the companies were run by elected representatives. Workers shared the profits."

Workers Ask: Why Give Up Our Shares?

So, nobody is against privatization per se. The conflict is over how to do it. The workers demand to be the majority shareholders. The present regime insists that the major shareholders be investors, whose money, they say, can revive production, introduce more economical operating structures based on up-to-date technology and maximize savings in production.

While this battle escalates, Belgrade is being watched closely by foreign investors and businessmen. Last week a delegation from the European Union visited Belgrade. Also, there was a two-day meeting of the Business Council of the Stability Pact for Southeastern Europe with representatives from sixty companies in Europe, Asia and the U.S.

This "Investors Mission" met with 150 leading Yugoslav industrial managers. Mr. Bodo Hombach, special coordinator for the Stability Pact, and Manfred Nusbaumer, Vice-President of the Business Council, held a press conference where they demanded that: "the Belgrade Government provide suitable conditions for business, along with a law that it will guarantee the safety of foreign investments."

"Please, no more help," says Mrs. Brezovacki

"They are offering to help us from abroad? Please!" says Mrs. Goritsa Brezovachki, who works at a garment factory. "First they impose sanctions. Then they instigate civil war, stop production, bomb our factories. Now finally after devastating our country and putting us in a desperate position, they swarm in with their bags of gold to buy our businesses cheap and make us a colony. No more help!" (1)

The above opinion is not shared by Mrs. Mirosinka Dinkich, a member of the G-17 group of economists. (2) Says Mrs. Dinkich:

"It is better to be a well paid employee in a foreign owned company, than a poor shareholder in a company that makes no profits."

But workers counter this, asking, "Who says we will have any job at all if these foreign interests get a hold of our companies?" And Mrs. Dinkic admits that in the first year of the regime's proposed economic reforms approximately 300,000 more workers would be left jobless. Out of these, some 50,000 could find jobs in reconstructed companies and another 50,000 in new companies. What about the remaining 200,000 desperate, hungry people? She recommends spending around \$400 million. But this is only to help them during the first year. What about later on? And in any case, where would this money come from? The government has no answer.

"Stop stealing the Electrical Power Assets"

Today (Monday, February 12) the Government will submit its proposal for changing the old Law on Privatization to Parliament. Meanwhile, workers are angry and getting angrier.

Mr. Radomir Smiljanic, President of the Council of the Serbian Association

Unions, says that:

"This Government 'writes the lunch bill for the waiter,' avoiding consultations with the workers. As proposed by the Government, workers are entitled to 10% of the free shares. Other private parties may obtain 15%. But 60% of the shares are earmarked for bidders in public auctions to be run by the state. The money thus obtained is to be used by the state to meet its obligations, including providing pensions."

Many workers feel this amounts to blackmail. If you want your pensions, the argument goes, you have to give up your right to shares in companies where you labored with the understanding that you were the shareholders.

Mr. Aleksandar Vlahovic, the Minister of Privatization, argues that, "it is essential that 'strategic partners', those with a fresh money supply, enter the company."

To secure this plan, the new law would immediately halt the current wave of worker-oriented privatizations.

While the conflict between the regime and the workers intensifies, workers in major Serbian companies are sending out urgent messages about the "organized plunder" of national economic assets. "Stop the stealing of Serbian Electrical Power Assets", alerts the paper of the Serbian Electrical Power Industry. The employees say there's been a rapid erosion of asset-value by management. Last Fall management declared the assets to be worth more than \$20 billion. Now the figure is down to \$4.2 billion.

Social Upheaval?

Last year, around 870 facilities out of a total of 7,000 were privatized under the old Privatization Law. But this year, in the past three months alone, 630 state and public companies have gotten new, private owners.

The Deputy Minister of the Ministry for Economical International Relations, Mr. Boran Karadjola, says "Whether we like it or not, globalization is an unstoppable process, which has to enter Yugoslavia, if it wants to be a part of the world." He has recently signed a document bringing Yugoslavia into the WTO as an observer.

Similarly, the head of the new Serbian Government, Mr. Zoran Djindjic, told a meeting with the Serbian managers of major companies three days ago that, "We want strong foreign capitalists to come in, not shaky ones."

Clearly the government won't willingly back down. It intends to open the door to foreign capital although it is fully aware that foreign bidders will collude to keep the selling price low. (3)

The ongoing conflict between the government and workers is entering a period of great uncertainty. Social upheavals and the further destabilization of the otherwise poor Serbian economy are quite possible. Interviews I conducted with a dozen employees of the largest companies point in this direction. For example, a woman who works at Yugoslav Airlines, told
Emperor's Clothes:

"I have been working here 25 years and have acquired certain rights to the property of my company. Why should I agree now to be hired by a new owner who would buy our airplanes, buildings and technical equipment dirt cheap? If it happened, I would feel deceived and ripped off."

And other workers ask, after they buy our property dirt cheap, what prevents them from taking the assets and closing us down?

Such sentiments - that the country's economic assets are being ripped off, that the country is becoming dependent on foreign powers which, during a protracted agony of economic transformation that they would impose on Serbia, would care only for their own interests - these sentiments of rebellion are the driving force behind the planned General Strike by the worker unions.

**
Further reading -

1) Two very good background pieces on the so-called civil wars in Yugoslavia are: 'German and U.S. Involvement in the Balkans' by T.W. Carr, at <http://emperors-clothes.com/articles/carr/carr.html> and Diana Johnstone's classic study, 'Seeing Yugoslavia Through a Dark Glass' at <http://emperors-clothes.com/articles/Johnstone/lyugo.htm>

2) 'The International Monetary Fund And The Yugoslav Elections' by Michel Chossudovsky and Jared Israel. This article has been reprinted around the world. It documents the connection between the G-17 economists, the present Serbian regime, and the nation-destroying International Monetary Fund and World Bank. It can be read at <http://emperors-clothes.com/analysis/1.htm>

3) We came across a most revealing U.S. Commerce Department Document, see Grand Theft: Montenegro... at <http://emperors-clothes.com/news/commerce.htm>

Belgrade Demands: 'Arrest Solana!'

By Milosh Zorich (Special to Emperor's Clothes)

Belgrade, February 8, 2001

"One question the new regime, which describes itself as legalist, cannot answer is how to avoid arresting Solana, given that he was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment by the Belgrade County Court last year. Will their guest walk freely through the city and tour the destroyed monuments? Will he meet with the families of those killed by his "Merciful Angel"? Will he talk with the scientists and physicians who are currently seeking ways to avoid the long-term consequences of depleted uranium poisoning from munitions launched against Serbia?" (From text below)

Today thousands demonstrated against the arrival of former NATO leader Javier Solana, sentenced by a Yugoslav court to 20 years in prison for aggression against Yugoslavia and crimes of war.

"The murderer returns to the scene of his crime" would best describe the reactions of today's Belgrade to the arrival of Javier Solana. Currently a high EU official, Solana was the NATO Secretary-General who in 1999 issued the order to bomb Yugoslav towns and cities. The bombing destroyed numerous civilian buildings, hospitals, schools, churches, bridges, infrastructure and a passenger train...

Reporters estimated that last night's protest drew several thousand citizens. They burned an effigy resembling Solana, stoned the US Embassy, laid a wreath on the heavily damaged building of the Yugoslav Army's General Staff and lit thousands of candles to commemorate the victims of NATO's attacks that took place from March to June 1999.

Escorted by police, the demonstrators marched through downtown Belgrade chanting "Solana-Satan!", "Solana - murderer of innocents," "Out with the murderer!", "NATO-Nazis!", "Serbia is awake" and "Arrest the criminal."

The rally was joined by a large group of Greeks, who traveled to Belgrade to protest the presence of NATO in the Balkans.

Another rally was scheduled for this morning at 9 a.m., before the Federation Palace in New Belgrade, where the three-member EU delegation including Solana met with President Koshtunitsa and other official representatives. As the demonstrators gathered, the police used force to arrest Sinisha Vuchinich, chairman of the "Nikola Pashich" Radical Party. Several hundred protesters dispersed after 10:30 a.m..

One question the new regime, which describes itself as legalist, cannot

...wer is how to avoid arresting Solana, given that he was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment by the Belgrade County Court last year. Will their guest walk freely through the city and tour the destroyed monuments? Will he meet with the families of those killed by his "Merciful Angel"? Will he talk with the scientists and physicians who are currently seeking ways to avoid the long-term consequences of depleted uranium poisoning from munitions launched against Serbia?

According to district attorney Andria Milutinovich, who prosecuted NATO leaders at the trial last year, the presiding judge, Justice Verolub Rakitch, has not yet finalized the very complex verdict. It is currently being translated into four foreign languages, and has not yet been served to the police, together with the warrant for Solana's arrest.

Protest rallies drew many citizens who did not belong to any political party, but were united by their condemnation of NATO crimes and belief that Solana was personally responsible for them.

"I lost my husband and my brother. The West is responsible for their deaths. And when I came to Serbia, NATO destroyed my refuge. Solana must be punished," said Maria Potkonyak, a retired Serb who was driven from Croatia during Operation Storm in 1995.

"I lost my job," said Zdravko Yagich, a worker at the bombed-out "Milan Blagoyevich" appliance factory. "NATO took the bread from my family. I think Solana is a common thug."

"NATO did a lot of damage to my country," said Stevan Soch, a civil servant and father of three. "How will the economy recover, how will the lost lives be recovered? How can I feed my family in a devastated country? I would like that murderer Solana to answer these questions for me."

Interestingly enough, even the papers that have supported the changes in Yugoslavia, that were critical of Milosheвич and his government, gave much room to accusations against Solana and disapproved of his visit. The daily "Glas Yavnosti" [Public Voice] for example, in today's edition quoted many citizens who demanded that the current regime should not talk with Solana.

"Solana should be shown what was destroyed, then arrested. Maybe we should organize some sort of Hague-like trial for him, too," said student Milan Lukovich.

"He should be arrested right away, at the airport!" said lab assistant Milena Stevanovich.

Seventeen-year-old high school student Ivan Maksimovich said, "After all he's done to us, I would have him shot in front of the Parliament, but not before everyone had a chance to spit on him."

The talks at Federation Palace were successful, to the mutual pleasure of the EU visitors and the government.

-- Milosh Zorich, February 8, 2001

[translated by N. Malich]

Milosh Zorich is a Yugoslav journalist with many years experience.

The Incorporation of Spain and Javier Solana Into NATO [2-9-2001]
An Historical Analysis by Francisco Javier Bernal
<mailto:asterion@ntlworld.com>

One of the main contentions regarding Javier Solana Madariaga's past is his presumed anti-NATO stance during the 1980s. Although this volte-face from alleged peace activist to born-again militarist has been debated many times before, I think it is necessary to put it into historical context.

In June 1980 U.S. President Jimmy Carter affirmed his administration's conviction that Spanish membership in NATO would significantly enhance the

organization's defensive capability. During the Cold War, the importance of Spain for NATO was clear due to its great geo-strategic importance, particularly its possession of the Canary Islands in the Atlantic Ocean, of Ceuta and Melilla on the Moroccan coast, next to the straight of Gibraltar, and of the Balearic Islands in the Mediterranean Sea. It meant that Spain controlled a vital maritime route. Moreover, it had first-class facilities for air-force operations, like Morón de la Frontera, an American base in Andalusia that had been operative since 1953, following an agreement between President Eisenhower and Generalísimo Franco.

However, at that time the by then Spanish Prime Minister, Adolfo Suárez, was not being very "cooperative". Though coming from a conservative party, the Union of the Democratic Centre (UCD), he was conducting himself as an individual too independent in his views, making contacts with Castro, Qadhafi, Arafat and other pariah leaders. Of course, something needed to be done: The Pentagon's impatience with such disobedience soon resulted in its rattling its sabers... In just two months, Suárez was the victim of a smear campaign from inside his own party, leading him to resign shortly thereafter. The objective of the White House was to integrate Spain into its military engines, even at the cost of seriously damaging (or even aborting) the constitutional process in the course of performing this integration. In February 1981, an attempted coup d'état occurred: The U.S. Secretary of State, Alexander Haig, affirmed publicly that "it was an internal affair only of concern to Spain," despite the publicly known active participation of agents from the U.S. Embassy in the preparations of the military pronunciamiento.

Solana's Socialist Workers Party (PSOE) had already shown itself as very useful for the U.S. Secretary of State's purposes, having promoted a vote of no confidence in the parliament against PM Suárez. The new UCD designated Prime Minister, the greatly unpopular Calvo Sotelo, pushed the incorporation of Spain into the Atlantic Alliance in the autumn of 1981. Of course, it was still not the ideal situation for the Pentagon. Javier Solana, an old Fullbrighter, accused of being a CIA man inside the PSOE structure (see the book 'Soberanos e Intervenidos, Estrategias globales, americanos y españoles,' by Jaon Garces), was the person who made the official presentation of Felipe González (PSOE's Secretary General) to the US Embassy in Madrid.

Washington was very much interested in controlling the Spanish political scene, as it had done through the efforts of U.S. Ambassador Frank Carlucci shortly before in Portugal to "manage" the revolution of 25 April there, isolating people like Saraiva de Carvalho and, mainly, Vasco Goncalves, and offering in exchange blind support for "moderate democrats" like Costa Gomes.

What the Spanish Socialist Party received as payment was indirect financing for the next round of general elections, via the omnipresent AFL-CIO trade union federation, whose foreign activities peculiarly always coincided with the State Department's and the CIA's interests.

Anyway, if the Socialists wanted to win the elections they needed to play the NATO card very wisely. Most of the Spanish people were fiercely anti-NATO and any different position would alienate the leftist voters. (The Communist Party, PCE, had been the only real political underground opposition during Franco's dictatorship). The views of the PSOE on that matter were always far from being clear. Even their slogan for the 1982 campaign had a strange double meaning: "OTAN, de entrada no" that could be understood as "NATO. No incorporation" or "NATO, at first no; but later..."

The Socialists also promised a referendum so that Spaniards could decide whether they wanted their country to remain inside NATO or not. After winning the elections in October 1982, the Socialists changed their position and the new government of Felipe González quickly adopted a pro-NATO stance. Three months later they signed an agreement for the renewal of the US military bases in Spain. With each succeeding day, they were making clear their NATOist position: "The permanence in the alliance is a vital step towards the consolidation of democracy"; "If Spain wishes to join the EEC, then it has to be part of the defense system of the West"; NATO membership, and joining the European Community, mean the end of the traditional isolation of Spain."

the country which Felipe González offered as the example of democracy that Spain might emulate was... Turkey.

González even threatened pensioners, telling them that an eventual exit from the Alliance would mean "the end of the Welfare State." Anyway, the Spanish people did not want to swallow that so easily. In 1986, two million Spaniards signed a petition for a referendum on continued membership in the Alliance.

The referendum was held in March of 1986: The Socialist government campaigned in favor of NATO, the Communist Party and many other groups on the left campaigned against it, and the Popular Party (pro-NATO) adopted a contradictory position and asked its voters to abstain. Of course Solana, González and their acolytes were not going to give the electorate a simple choice to make. That would be too easy and very dangerous if they happened to choose "the wrong one." They rephrased the question to be asked in the following way: Do you consider it advisable for Spain to remain in the Atlantic Alliance, provided that:

- 1) Spain will not be incorporated into NATO's integrated military structure?
 - 2) Spain would be a nuclear-free country?
 - 3) American presence on Spanish territory would be considerably reduced?
- Results: Yes: 52.5%; No: 39.8%; Abstention: 40% of the electorate. Solana and Co. had found a way to divide the strong anti-NATO feeling among the country's majority. Many people believed in their words again when they promised that "Spain will never join the Common Command," keeping outside the military structure; they also believed that any status changes would require further referenda before being approved. At the same time, the United States looked aside while the Spanish Government profited from a \$280 million re-sale of American arms to Iran.

Spanish duties inside NATO would be restricted to:

1. Defence of the national territory.
2. Naval and aerial operations in the Eastern Atlantic Ocean.
3. Control over the Strait of Gibraltar and its access points.
4. Naval and aerial operations in the Western Mediterranean Sea.
5. Control and defence of the air space of Spain and adjacent areas.
6. Use of the national territory as a retreat or multifunctional platform (traffic, support and logistics).

According to the above points, any Spanish collaboration in a future NATO aggression against Yugoslavia would be illegal. However, on November 14, 1996, during the last Socialist term, one year after Solana became NATO Criminal-in-Chief (sorry, I mean NATO Secretary General), they rushed a law into the Parliament to "authorise the government to negotiate the terms for the incorporation into the new NATO Joint Military Command," clearly breaking the previous referendum's commitments. Javier Solana welcomed this change with the words "It is time for Spain to assume the role it should have inside the Alliance." In regard to his old "anti-NATO" positions, he told the Spanish language paper 'El Nuevo Herald' of Florida that, "he - the same as Clinton or even the CIA director, James Woolsey, himself - is a pacifist who knew how to evolve with the new times," and (in another interview given to 'El País') that "he was proud to represent an Alliance dissociated from its Cold War origins".

Some biographical details:

Javier Solana's brother, Luis Solana, was the first Spanish Socialist politician to join the Trilateral Commission;
Solana was the author of the Manifesto titled "50 reasons to say NO to NATO" that led to the Socialist Party victory in the 1982 elections;
His favorite hobby is collecting guns.

Don't entertain him - arrest him!
 Javier Solana's Visit to Belgrade is an Outrage!
 [2-7-2001]

Prof. Michel Chossudovsky, Jared Israel (editor, Emperor's Clothes) and Nico Varkevisser (President, Global Reflexion)

Today several thousand Yugoslavs of varying political beliefs passionately protested against Javier Solana's visit to Belgrade. This protest, loud and spirited, was held in the center of Belgrade, on Knez Milosh Street, outside the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It represents a most important act of defiance, held in the face of widespread violence and intimidation following the U.S.-backed coup in Belgrade, Oct. 5th.

Javier Solana was head of NATO during and after NATO's 78 day bombing campaign. He was convicted of mass murder by a Yugoslav court and sentenced, in absentia, to 20 years hard labor. The court that made that decision still has jurisdiction under Kostunica, who insists that he stands for the rule of law.

Yet today Solana is in Belgrade. And the Kostunica/Djindjic regime is not arresting him.

Now, all the media lies that were used as a pretext to bomb Yugoslavia - from the lies about mass graves to the lies about the phony Racak massacre - have been refuted by NATO's own data as well as by official organizations such as the FBI, Europol, the OSCE, the UNHCR and Finish Forensic experts. And yet it is now, mocking Yugoslav justice, that the new Belgrade regime, backed by NATO and the International Monetary Fund, invites Solana to Belgrade. Not to arrest him, but to meet with him and to celebrate, while at the same time they are hunting down those who resisted NATO and indicting them for NATO's crimes.

Solana is a criminal. He is guilty of:

Crimes against humanity - Javier Solana was head of NATO when, in violation of its charter and all international law, it launched the bombing war against Yugoslavia, including the use of nuclear-sheathed weapons. It was Solana who was responsible for the destruction of the homes and lives of Kosovo residents of all nationalities. It was Solana's NATO that has put 25 million people in the Balkans at risk by bombing the area with low level nuclear weapons. Solana's NATO oversaw the expulsion of hundreds of thousands of Yugoslavs from Kosovo after the bombing.

Crimes against the truth - Solana was not only an organizer he was a direct apologist for the war and the subsequent violent expulsions from Kosovo. For example, after NATO bombed a group of returning Albanian refugees in the town of Korisa, Solana went on TV declaring that the Serbs were at fault for the deaths although in fact the killing was done by NATO bombs.

This truly insane argument was invoked recently by Carla Del Ponte of the kangaroo-court War Crimes Tribunal, who accused Milosevich of being responsible for the deaths of 16 people when NATO bombed Serbian television. Following Del Ponte's lead, the Belgrade government has threatened to indict Dragoljub Milanovic, director of Serbian TV at that time, for the NATO bombing. Thus the Kostunica/Djindjic government invites Javier Solana, a convicted war criminal, to be wined and dined in Belgrade while trying to jail Yugoslav leaders for the bombs that NATO dropped.

Many Yugoslavs voted for Vojislav Kostunica because they saw in him a hope of peace with justice. But where is the justice when murderers are entertained and the innocent are accused of their crimes? Now, when the horrors of NATO's use of depleted uranium are coming out, it is incumbent on those who supported this regime to join with all others in Yugoslavia and around the world to condemn the real criminals: Solana, Clinton, Blair, Schroeder, Chretien and all other NATO heads of state and heads of government and their Yugoslav political puppets.

- February 7, 2001

Further Reading

- 1) On NATO's carefully orchestrated campaign to turn neighbor against neighbor before and during the bombing of Kosovo in 1999, see 'Why Albanians Fled Kosovo During NATO Bombing' at <http://emperors-clothes.com/interviews/keys.htm> (Interview with Kosovo historian Cedita Princevic. Interviewer, Jared Israel)
 - 2) On NATO's involvement in expelling hundreds of thousands from Kosovo after the bombing, see 'Driven from Kosovo: Jewish Leader Blames NATO - Interview With Cedita Princevic' at <http://emperors-clothes.com/interviews/ceda.htm>
 - 3) On NATO's conscious effort to punish Yugoslavia by creating environmental disasters, see 'NATO Willfully Triggered Environmental Catastrophe In Yugoslavia' by Michel Chossudovsky at <http://emperors-clothes.com/articles/chuss/willful.htm> and 'Chemical/Nuclear Warfare in Bosnia: Eyewitness To Hell' by war crimes investigator, Tika Jankovic at <http://emperors-clothes.com/articles/tika/hell.htm>
 - 4) On NATO's attempt to replace international law with the rule of NATO, see 'Humanitarian War: Making the Crime Fit the Punishment' by international affairs analyst Diana Johnstone at <http://emperors-clothes.com/articles/Johnstone/crime.htm> and 'Mocking Tradition and Practice - NATO's War & World Security' by Prof. Raju Thomas at <http://emperors-clothes.com/analysis/security.htm>
 - 5) On the effort by distinguished Western lawyers to bring NATO to justice, see Report: Meeting with Carla del Ponte on NATO Crimes of War' by Michael Mandel at <http://emperors-clothes.com/news/mandel.htm>
 - 6) On efforts to intimidate anti-NATO dissent in Yugoslavia, see "These Djindjic People are Brownshirts," an interview with a Yugoslav activist, conducted by Jared Israel at <http://www.emperors-clothes.com/interviews/djindjic.htm>
- and "Report on the Dec. 23 Elections" by the British Helsinki Human Rights Group at <http://emperors-clothes.com/docs/srbelc.htm>

van holst en steijnen

From: Despotovic Ruza <despot@wishmail.net>
To: Nico /Neeltje Steijnen <n.h.van.holst@freeler.nl>
Sent: maandag 12 februari 2001 14:52
Subject: Fw: 12-02-2001 YUGOSLAV DAILY SURVEY

----- Original Message -----

From: "Ambasada SRJ - HAG" <yuambanl@bart.nl>
 To: "a.n.p. netherland press agency" <buitenland@anp.nl>
 Sent: Monday, February 12, 2001 9:22 AM
 Subject: 12-02-2001 YUGOSLAV DAILY SURVEY

> FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA
 > FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
 >
 > YUGOSLAV DAILY SURVEY
 > BELGRADE,9 February 2001 No.3336
 >
 > C O N T E N T S :
 > YUGOSLAVIA-EU
 > - E.U. WANTS BELGRADE COOPERATION WITH WAR CRIMES COURT, REFORMS
 > - LINDH: BELGRADE TALKS WERE FRANK, FRIENDLY
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 SERBS
 > - AMBASSADORS OF NORWAY AND SPAIN PRESENT CREDENTIALS
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 > - YUGOSLAV MINISTER OF MINORITIES RECEIVES DELEGATION OF DEMOCRATIC STATES
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 > YUGOSLAVIA-WARSAW DECLARATION
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 > - WARSAW CONVENTION AMBASSADORS MEET WITH YUGOSLAV PRIME MINISTER
 > - YUGOSLAVIA JOINS COMMUNITY OF DEMOCRACIES
 > - US STATE SECRETARY CONGRATULATES YUGOSLAV FOREIGN MINISTER
 > YUGOSLAVIA-RUSSIA
 > - LABUS ARRIVES IN MOSCOW
 > - YUGOSLAV VICE-PREMIER CONDUCTS CONSTRUCTIVE TALKS WITH RUSSIAN OFFICIALS
 > YUGOSLAVIA-ECONOMY-COOPERATION
 > - EUROPEAN INVESTORS MEET YUGOSLAV BUSINESSMEN
 > - YUGOSLAVIA BEGINS ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH WORLD
 > - EUROPEAN INVESTORS INTERESTED IN COOPERATION WITH YUGOSLAVIA
 > - SPECIAL YUGOSLAV ENVOY MEETS EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER
 > - YUGOSLAV CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOLDS MORE TALKS IN GREECE
 > KOSOVO METOHJJA-SOUTHERN SERBIA-INTERNATIONAL REACTIONS
 > - PARDEW:US DOES NOT SUPPORT INDEPENDENCE OF KOSOVO-METOHJJA
 > - CIA CHIEF: SOUTHERN SERBIA DANGEROUS CRISIS SPOT - ESCALATION POSSIBLE
 > - NATO CONDEMNS VIOLENCE BY EXTREMISTS IN KOSOVO, SOUTHERN SERBIA
 > - GREECE, BULGARIA URGE BALKANS TO SETTLE PROBLEMS
 > - RUSSIAN DEFENSE MINISTER URGES FOR MORE POLITICAL ENDEAVORS IN KOSOVO
 > KOSOVO METOHJJA-SOUTHERN SERBIA-CURRENT SITUATION
 > - SERBIAN PRIME MINISTER REJECTS IDEA OF INTERNATIONAL MEDIATION
 > - COVIC-PLAN FOR CRISIS IN SOUTHERN SERBIA IS ON EUROPEAN AND WORLD LEVELS
 > - COVIC RECEIVES HOMBACH, SULLIVAN, SORENSEN
 > - ETHNIC ALBANIANS IN SOUTHERN SERBIA TO PRESENT PLATFORM BY WEEKEND
 > - YUGOSLAV MINISTER ON SETTLING CRISIS IN SOUTHERN SERBIA
 > - ETHNIC ALBANIAN EXTREMISTS DESTROY ORTHODOX CHURCH
 > - ETHNIC ALBANIAN EXTREMISTS OPEN MACHINE-GUN FIRE AT POLICE
 > - KFOR ARRESTS 7 KOSOVO ALBANIANS
 >
 > YUGOSLAVIA-EU
 >
 > E.U. WANTS BELGRADE COOPERATION WITH WAR CRIMES COURT, REFORMS
 > BELGRADE, February 8 (Tanjung) - A visiting European Union "troika" on

- > Thursday supported the new government in Belgrade and pledged further
- > assistance to Yugoslavia, expecting in return reforms and cooperation with
- > the war crimes court in the Hague.
- > Swedish Foreign Minister Anna Lindh, whose country holds the rotating
- E.U.
- > presidency in this term, told a news conference Yugoslavia was expected to
- > carry out sweeping reforms, cooperate fully with the Hague-based tribunal
- > and release political prisoners.
- > The news conference was attended also by Commissioners Javier Solana
- > (foreign policy, security) and Chris Patten (foreign affairs), and Belgian
- > Secretary of State Annemie Neyts.
- > Lindh described Thursday's talks with Yugoslav President Vojislav
- Kostunica
- > and the Yugoslav republic of Serbia's Premier Zoran Djindjic as
- constructive
- > and fruitful.
- > Asked what the European Union expected in connection with the extradition
- > of former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic to the Hague-based court,
- > Lindh said the Union did not think the matter could be settled
- immediately,
- > but did expect swift results.
- > Solana, in turn, said he had seen some buildings demolished by NATO
- during
- > its air campaign against Yugoslavia in 1999, when he was NATO
- > secretary-general.
- > Asked what he felt at the sight of them, he said he was human and had
- > feelings, that this was an important day for him and he did not wish to
- > share his personal feelings, adding he had come to help Yugoslavia get
- > closer to Europe.
- > He said the "troika" had communicated to Kostunica, Djindjic and Foreign
- > Minister Goran Svilanovic the Union's willingness to help the Yugoslav and
- > Serbian governments find a settlement for southern Serbia within Serbia
- and
- > Yugoslavia, without changing the borders.
- > He added that special efforts must be made to heal the economy in
- southern
- > Serbia and open a dialogue between local Serbs and ethnic Albanians, and
- > added the "troika" had become convinced that the Serbian and Yugoslav
- > governments shared these sentiments.
- > He said Europe was prepared, in consultation with Yugoslavia, to increase
- > the number of its observers in southern Serbia.
- > Chris Patten, for his part, said about one million euros had been set
- aside
- > for the humanitarian needs of the municipalities in the region, adding
- that
- > the Union was open to cooperation with the Serbian government on their
- > economic recovery.
- > Annemie Neyts of Belgium, which takes over the rotating E.U. presidency
- in
- > July, speaking about intra-Yugoslav federation relations, said the
- Belgrade
- > government had again been assured the European Union insists on respect
- for
- > all international borders.
- > Patten said it was necessary to open a serious and objective dialogue,
- > taking into account the positions of the Yugoslav government and the
- > governments of its federal units Serbia and Montenegro.
- >
- > LINDH: BELGRADE TALKS WERE FRANK, FRIENDLY
- > BRUSSELS, February 8 (Tanjug) - Swedish Foreign Minister Anna Lindh was
- > quoted in Brussels on Thursday as saying that her Belgrade talks earlier
- in
- > the day had been friendly, open and frank.
- > Lindh, who headed an E.U. "troika" to talks with senior officials of
- > Yugoslavia and its federal unit Serbia, said they had reviewed a wide
- > variety of questions, such as reforms lying before the Belgrade
- government,
- > the crisis in southeastern Serbia and relations between Serbia and the
- other
- > Yugoslav federal unit, Montenegro.
- > The "troika" met Yugoslav President Vojislav Kostunica and Foreign
- Minister

- > Goran Svilanovic, as well as Serbian Premier Zoran Djindjic.
- > Lindh, who chairs the E.U. ministerial council, is quoted in a statement released at E.U. headquarters as saying the talks had touched also on what the European Union could do and what had been done already for Yugoslavia and the region.
- > She added that the E.U. delegation had clearly stated its expectations from the new leadership in Belgrade.

> FROM THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

> YUGOSLAV PRESIDENT RECEIVES DELEGATION REPRESENTING EXPELLED KOSOVO SERBS

- > BELGRADE, February 8 (Tanjug) Yugoslav President Vojislav Kostunica received Thursday a delegation of the committee for the return of Serbs expelled from Kosovo-Metohija.
- > They pointed to the need for determining the fate of missing and abducted persons and resolving the problem of Serbs held in Kosovo prisons.
- > The delegation said that expelled Serbs wish to return to their homes in improved security circumstances, but underlined that international forces have not helped create an atmosphere of tolerance for peaceful and civilized coexistence of all ethnic communities.
- > The international community must therefore help stabilize the situation in Kosovo-Metohija and pave the way for the safe return of displaced Serbs, they said.
- > The new Yugoslav authorities will do everything in their power to normalize the situation, improve the present situation of expelled Serbs and pave the way for their return, a statement issued after the meeting said.

> AMBASSADORS OF NORWAY AND SPAIN PRESENT CREDENTIALS

- > BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - Yugoslav President Vojislav Kostunica received on Friday the credentials from the newly-appointed, extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassadors of Norway and Spain, Hans Ola Urstad and Mariano Garcia Munoz, respectively.
- > At a ceremony at the Federation Palace in Belgrade, the two ambassadors expressed belief that the new circumstances, following the democratic changes in Yugoslavia, will result in the promotion of cooperation and affirmation of ties with Yugoslavia in all spheres, the Yugoslav president's cabinet said.
- > The ambassadors said their countries supported the further strengthening of the democratic processes and Yugoslavia's efforts for maintaining stability in the region.

> YUGOSLAVIA AND ESTONIA ESTABLISH RELATIONS

- > BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Estonia established diplomatic relations in Helsinki on Friday, the Yugoslav Foreign Ministry has said.
- > After Lithuania and Latvia, this completes the process of establishing relations between Yugoslavia and the Baltic countries, the statement said.

> YUGOSLAVIA GETS OBSERVER STATUS IN WTO

- > BELGRADE, February 8 (Tanjug) - Yugoslavia was granted observer status in the World Trade Organization at the session of its general council Thursday, which officially initiates the process of its admission as full WTO member, Yugoslav Minister of Transport Zoran Sami said.
- > On his return from the council session in Geneva, Sami said this was an important step for Yugoslavia, as the observer status gives it all rights in the WTO except the right to vote.
- > The presentation of the Yugoslav delegation at the session was very successful, Sami said, adding that the proposal to grant it observer status was welcomed by many speakers.

- > Yugoslav Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade Boran Karadjole, member of the
- > Yugoslav delegation, said that the process of gaining full
- > admission to the WTO membership takes several years. Yugoslavia's goal is
- > to be admitted to the WTO by the end of 2002 or the beginning of 2003 at the
- > latest, he said.
- >
- > YUGOSLAV MINISTER OF MINORITIES RECEIVES DELEGATION OF DEMOCRATIC STATES
- > BELGRADE, February 8 (Tanjug) - Poland's Ambassador to the Organization for
- > Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Henryk Schleifer said Thursday
- > in
- > Belgrade that countries which advocate the creation of a community of
- > democratic states as an informal group within the OSCE hope that
- > Yugoslavia
- > would join them shortly.
- > Meeting Yugoslav Minister of Minorities and Ethnic Communities Rasim
- > Ljajic, Schleifer expressed hope that Yugoslavia would soon sign an
- > agreement on creating the community, which is planned by the Czech
- > Republic,
- > Chile, South Korea, India, Portugal, South Africa and the US, besides
- > Poland.
- > Schleifer briefed Ljajic on the goals of the proposed community - backing
- > democracy development endeavors, exchange of experiences regarding
- > hindrances to democratic processes and ways of removing them.
- > FEDERATION OR CONFEDERATION UNACCEPTABLE - MONTENEGRIN PRESIDENT ADVISER
- > BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - Montenegrin presidential adviser Miodrag
- > Vukovic said that official Podgorica has not changed its stand on
- > relations
- > between Serbia and Montenegro, and that both confederation and federation,
- > as a form of state union are not acceptable for Montenegro, Friday's issue
- > of the Belgrade Vecernje Novosti daily said.
- > Declining to comment press reports that new agreements allegedly include
- > a
- > concept of a confederation, Vukovic told the newspaper that "Montenegro is
- > intent on reaching an agreement with Serbia on such a concept of mutual
- > relations which will resist the coming times and avoid any of the
- > improvisations made so far, such as a federation."
- >
- > YUGOSLAVIA-PARLIAMENT OF EUROPE
- >
- > COOPERATION WITHIN SOUTHEAST EUROPE NECESSARY, YUGOSLAV FOREIGN MINISTER
- > BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - Yugoslav Foreign Minister Goran
- > Svilanovic
- > said in Belgrade on Friday that he had conducted talks with the head of a
- > Parliament of Europe delegation for relations with southeast Europe, Doris
- > Pack.
- > We discussed the need for cooperation within southeast Europe,
- > especially,
- > Yugoslavia's cooperation with its neighbours, including the former
- > Yugoslav
- > republics, Svilanovic set out.
- > Svilanovic told the press that he and Pack had also discussed other
- > topics
- > which could help Yugoslavia become a part of Europe.
- > Speaking on behalf of the delegation which also includes the president
- > and
- > members of the Parliament of Europe's budget and foreign affairs
- > committees,
- > Pack told the press that discussed were Yugoslavia's international
- > obligations and cooperation with the war crimes tribunal in The Hague.
- > According to her, the delegation was interested "whether the aid sent to
- > Yugoslavia to survive the winter, had been sufficient," and "what are the
- > plans of the Yugoslav authorities for the coming months."
- >
- > EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, COMMISSION DELEGATIONS VISIT YUGOSLAVIA
- > BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - Delegations of the European Parliament
- > and
- > the European Commission, headed by Doris Pack and Geoffrey Barrett, were
- > received at the Yugoslav government and central bank on Friday.
- > The delegations were received by Justice Minister Momcilo Grubac,

Interior

- > Minister Zoran Zivkovic, Minister for minority affairs Rasim Ljajic,
- > Assistant Minister of Foreign Trade Milica Uvalic and National (central)
- > Bank Governor Mladjan Dinkic.
- > The talks focused on the situation in southern Serbia, relations between
- > the Yugoslav federal units Serbia and Montenegro, and Yugoslavia's
- > cooperation with the war crimes court in the Hague.
- > Also touched upon was monetary and fiscal policy reform and imminent
- > restructuring of the banking system and the economy.
- > Grubac stressed that the new Yugoslav authorities were determined to
- > discharge all international obligations, including the obligation to
- > cooperate with the Hague-based Tribunal.
- > Zivkovic, in turn, said that, although ethnic Albanian extremists who
- > threaten the safety of the people are terrorists in the eyes of the law,
- the
- > new authorities, as different from the old, are trying to settle the
- > southern Serbia crisis peacefully and democratically.
- > Ljajic, for his part, said that the attitude to southern Serbian problems
- > was a political test for similar crises in future, and for the rights of
- > ethnic communities.
- > He stressed that, despite provocations and criticism from the home public
- > for apparent weakness and vacillation, the new authorities had not been
- > lured into the trap of using force.
- > Doris Pack stressed there was a clear wish to help the new Yugoslav
- > government, but it was necessary first to settle the matter of cooperation
- > with the court in the Hague and to define projects that would apply for
- E.U.
- > aid.
- >
- > YUGOSLAVIA-WARSAW DECLARATION
- >
- > YUGOSLAVIA ACCEDES TO WARSAW DECLARATION
- > BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - Yugoslavia acceded on Friday to the
- Warsaw
- > Declaration, signed in June 2000, at the initiative of the United States
- and
- > Poland, by 106 countries represented at a conference on prospects for
- > democratic development in the world.
- > Yugoslavia's accession to the Warsaw Declaration was formally completed
- in
- > Belgrade at a meeting between Yugoslav Foreign Minister Goran Svilanovic
- and
- > a delegation of the Polish foreign ministry.
- > The Polish delegation was headed by Heinrich Schleifer, chief of the
- > Vienna-based Polish mission to the Organization for Security and
- Cooperation
- > in Europe (OSCE), the United Nations, and other international
- organizations.
- > After the ceremony of accession, attended by the local ambassadors of
- > Poland, the United States, the Czech Republic, Portugal, and India,
- > Svilanovic told the press he was certain that the real image of Yugoslavia
- > as a democratic state would be formed in the years that lay ahead.
- > Expressing satisfaction with Yugoslavia's accession to the Warsaw
- > Declaration, Schleifer said that the member-states would, with other
- > international institutions and organizations, strive to attain a common
- > goal - democracy, which is the future of Europe.
- >
- > WARSAW CONVENTION AMBASSADORS MEET WITH YUGOSLAV PRIME MINISTER
- > BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - Representatives of the Convening Group of
- > the Warsaw Declaration "Towards a community of democracies" met on Friday
- > with Yugoslav Prime Minister Zoran Zizic to discuss the political
- situation
- > in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia following the democratic changes and
- > prospects for cooperation within the Warsaw Convention.
- > Zizic told the delegation that the stability of democratic processes in
- > Yugoslavia and peace in the region directly depend on the preservation of
- > the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Yugoslavia, and that
- democratic
- > transition cannot be viewed as a phenomenon separate from regional and
- > global trends.
- > The delegation of ambassadors expressed satisfaction that Yugoslavia has
- > joined the group of 106 countries signatories of the Warsaw convention

> coupled with the belief that Yugoslavia will contribute to the affirmation
> of democratic values, the Yugoslav prime minister's cabinet said.

> YUGOSLAVIA JOINS COMMUNITY OF DEMOCRACIES

> BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - Yugoslav Foreign Minister Goran
Svilanovic

> received on Friday the Convening Group of the Community of Democracies
made

> up of the representatives of Poland, the United States, Chile, the Czech
> Republic, India and Portugal.

> In view of the scope and importance of the democratic transformations
> recently carried out in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the delegation
> of the Convening Group has proposed to the Yugoslav side to associate
itself

> with the Warsaw Declaration and join the Community of Democracies, the
> Foreign Ministry announced.

> The Yugoslav side welcomed this invitation as an expression of the
> international community's appreciation of the democratic changes in
> Yugoslavia and, at the same time, as support to the Yugoslav government's
> efforts in that regard.

> Svilanovic informed the delegation about the current situation in the
> process of the democratization of Yugoslavia and its integration into the
> international community.

> By associating itself with the Warsaw Declaration, Yugoslavia has thus
> joined, effective as of 9. February, 2001, the Community of Democracies,
the

> statement said.

> US STATE SECRETARY CONGRATULATES YUGOSLAV FOREIGN MINISTER

> BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - US Secretary of State Colin Powell has
sent

> a congratulatory note to Yugoslav Foreign Minister Goran Svilanovic on the
> occasion of Yugoslavia's accession to the Warsaw Declaration and, at the
> same time, the Community of Democracies.

> According to a statement by the Yugoslav foreign ministry, Powell said
> that, after the democratic changes in the country, this is another step
> towards linking Yugoslavia with the world, as well as a reaffirmation of
> international support for the new democratic authorities and its efforts
> aimed at promoting stability and development of democratic processes in
> south-eastern Europe, the statement said.

> Powell expressed hope that he would soon have an opportunity to meet with
> Svilanovic to discuss prospects of improving US-Yugoslav relations.

> YUGOSLAVIA-RUSSIA

> LABUS ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

> MOSCOW, February 9 (Tanjug) - Yugoslav Deputy Premier Mirosljub Labus
> arrived late Thursday in Moscow, where he will on Friday confer with
Russian

> counterpart Viktor Hristenko and Minister of Industry, Science and
> Technology Alexander Dondukov.

> In the afternoon, Labus will meet with Dondukov, who is also a
co-chairman

> of the mixed Russian-Yugoslav intergovernmental committee for economic
> cooperation between the two countries.

> Talks between Labus and Hristenko will primarily deal with the
arrangement

> on imports of Russian gas by Yugoslavia this year.

> The Yugoslav government delegation, headed by Labus, includes Finance
> Minister Dragisa Pesic and Serbia's oil industry NIS Director General

Jovan
> Vulic.

> YUGOSLAV VICE-PREMIER CONDUCTS CONSTRUCTIVE TALKS WITH RUSSIAN OFFICIALS

> MOSCOW, February 9 (Tanjug) - Yugoslav Vice Prime Minister Mirosljub Labus

> said in Moscow on Friday that his talks with his Russian counterpart
Viktor

> Hristenko was very constructive and open.

> Labus said he and Hristenko had discussed all open issues linked to
> economic cooperation between the two countries and that the talks would
> continue to enable optimum and mutually acceptable solutions for both
sides.

- > We also discussed the 48 million dollars which have not been used so far,
- > Labus said adding that Yugoslavia is interested that a part of this loan is used for arrangements of interest to Yugoslav companies.
- > Labus announced that the additional import of Russian gas to Yugoslavia "should still be discussed."
- > Asked how the two countries would regulate the issue of mutual debts, Labus set out that "the problem of debts is always a complex one". He confirmed that "we also discussed numerous aspects of the debt problem."
- > Speaking to the press on the same topic following two-hour talks with Labus, Hristenko said that in this year the two countries are expected to step up mutual trade.
- > He stated that he had discussed with his Yugoslav colleagues the removal of obstacles for the full application of Russia's 180-million commodity loan to Yugoslavia.
- > Hristenko said that also discussed were some elements of the mechanism which should enable the realization of the agreement on the delivery of Russian gas in 2001.
- > Hristenko pointed out that Russia is interested in converting a part of the gas loan into Russian investments into the Yugoslav power, oil and chemical industries.
- >
- > YUGOSLAVIA-ECONOMY-COOPERATION
- >
- > EUROPEAN INVESTORS MEET YUGOSLAV BUSINESSMEN
- > BELGRADE, February 8 (Tanjug) - A two-day meeting of Yugoslav businessmen and visiting European investors started Thursday in Belgrade, organized by the Stability Pact business council and its Yugoslav office.
- > Welcoming the participants, including representatives of 60 European companies, Pact Coordinator Bodo Hombach said that Yugoslavia would be granted special privileges in the Pact programs.
- > The presence of large companies at the meeting is a sign that conditions have been laid for foreign investments in Yugoslavia, Hombach said, adding that the goal of this first visit of European investors is to intensify contacts with Yugoslav partners.
- > Co-Chairman of the Pact's business council Manfred Nussbaumer said that cooperation with Yugoslav companies should start shortly, underlining that the goal of the meeting is to initiate at least 10 projects in the infrastructure, energy, construction, transport, telecommunications and water management sectors.
- > The task of the business council is to establish lasting dialogue with governments in southeastern Europe, offer advice and help in laying the conditions for direct investments.
- > Serbian Premier Zoran Djindjic said that priority must be given to incentives for economic development, which cannot be achieved without considerable foreign funding.
- > "We are not asking for aid but for partnership", Djindjic said, underlining that work has started on coordinating national legislation with European standards.
- > Yugoslav Deputy Premier Miroslav Labus said that foreign investments would be most welcome in the sectors of telecommunications, clearing the Danube for navigation, power industry and transport infrastructure.
- > The participants, including representatives of large companies such as Siemens, Krupp, ABB and others, continued work in separate groups with Yugoslav businessmen.
- >
- > YUGOSLAVIA BEGINS ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH WORLD
- > BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - Talks between foreign investors and Yugoslav businessmen were very successful, was the conclusion at the end of a two-day meeting organized by the members of the business council of the Stability Pact for southeast Europe and the Pact's national office in Yugoslavia.
- > The organizers told a press conference that the meeting was very useful because they were informed about the needs and problems of the Yugoslav

- > economy which had appeared in the past ten years.
- > It was concluded that in Yugoslavia there exist very good conditions for
- > capital investment because this country posses good potentials, including
- > very well educated cadre.
- > According to the organizers of the meeting, this is why Yugoslavia will
- > shortly succeed in overcoming its problems and in a couple of years attain
- > the development levels of the central European countries.
- > This is only the beginning of an economic rise, the special coordinator
- of
- > the Stability Pact for southeast Europe, Bodo Hombach, said adding that
- > government aid to the economy is only a start in that direction and that
- > private investments and ventures will play the key role.
- >
- > EUROPEAN INVESTORS INTERESTED IN COOPERATION WITH YUGOSLAVIA
- > BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - The national coordinator for Yugoslavia
- of
- > the Stability Pact for Southeast Europe, Milan Pajevic, told Tanjug on
- > Friday that the meeting of Yugoslav businessmen with European investors
- > confirms mutual readiness to speed up cooperation.
- > Commenting the just finished talks in Belgrade in the organization of the
- > Pact's business council and its Yugoslav office, which were attended by
- more
- > than 50 prominent European companies, Pajevic said that the world is
- > absolutely once again starting to accept Yugoslavia as a partner for equal
- > cooperation.
- > In Yugoslavia the world is seeking a partner for economic cooperation and
- > we are doing everything to create such conditions in order to spark the
- > interest of foreign business partners, Pajevic said.
- >
- > SPECIAL YUGOSLAV ENVOY MEETS EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER
- > BELGRADE, Jan 9 (Tanjug) - Yugoslavia's Economy Minister Danilo
- Vuksanovic
- > and Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa expressed full readiness for
- > intensifying and promoting bilateral relations, which have been stagnating
- > for a decade.
- > Vuksanovic arrived in Cairo on Thursday heading a government delegation
- in
- > the capacity of special envoy.
- > A Yugoslav government statement quotes Vuksanovic as briefing Moussa on
- the
- > latest developments in Yugoslavia in the wake of recent democratic
- changes,
- > and its current international activity.
- > Moussa, in turn, affirmed Egypt's full support for Yugoslavia's
- democratic
- > changes and its foreign policy orientation which, it is believed here,
- will
- > very soon regain it the place and reputation it had enjoyed in the world.
- > The ministers noted with pleasure that a number of drives had been agreed
- > upon during the visit, which would considerably enhance bilateral
- relations
- > already in the course of this year.
- >
- > YUGOSLAV CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOLDS MORE TALKS IN GREECE
- > ATHENS, February 9 (Tanjug) - A delegation of the Yugoslav Chamber of
- > Commerce, which on Friday ends a three-day visit to Greece, has begun
- talks
- > with representatives of the technical chamber, a construction association,
- > and, later in the day, they will be guests at the Chamber of Commerce of
- > Piraeus and visit two fair exhibitions - an international food and drinks
- > show and a chemical products exhibition.
- > Representatives of some 30 Yugoslav companies who are in the delegation,
- > headed by Chamber Vice-President Slobodan Korac, continued individual
- > contacts with potential business partners from Greece.
- > According to Korac, the Yugoslav delegation had very useful talks over
- the
- > past two days at the federation of Greek industrialists, the Chamber of
- > Commerce and Industry of Athens, and the Ministry of National Economy,
- where
- > the hosts showed great interest in cooperation with Yugoslav companies and
- > in the new regulations which should make such cooperation possible.
- >

- > KOSOVO METOHIJA-SOUTHERN SERBIA-INTERNATIONAL REACTIONS
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- > PARDEW: US DOES NOT SUPPORT INDEPENDENCE OF KOSOVO-METOHIJA
- > PRISTINA, February 9 (Tanjug) - U.S. Balkans envoy James Pardew said that
- > the United States does not support the independence of Kosovo, and that
- > the
- > question of the final status of this province should not be discussed now.
- > Pardew said in the Albanian language paper Bota Sot interview that
- > relations between Belgrade and Kosovo should exist in the long run, adding
- > that the people in Kosovo and other parts of Serbia should decide on this
- > issue.
- > According to him, the U.S. always emphasizes that the decision of the
- > Kosovo people is necessary, no matter what it is, and the U.S. also
- > remains
- > dedicated to the construction of a democratic society after the war in the
- > region.
- > The present priorities are to secure democracy, a local administration,
- > police and banking system and other institutions in Kosovo, Pardew said.
- >
- > CIA CHIEF: SOUTHERN SERBIA DANGEROUS CRISIS SPOT - ESCALATION POSSIBLE
- > NEW YORK, February 9 (Tanjug) - The problems in Kosovo-Metohija province
- > are spilling over to the south of Serbia proper, a dangerous crisis spot
- > where an escalation is possible, CIA Director George Tenet said on
- > Thursday.
- > Speaking about the Balkans situation to the U.S. Senate Intelligence
- > Committee, Tenet said that the region remained unstable, and that the year
- > 2001 would bring many challenges. He went on to say that the Balkans would
- > still not be considered a violence-free region.
- > Developments in other parts of Yugoslavia will affect Kosovo-Metohija, he
- > said, adding that most ethnic Albanians still insisted on independence for
- > the province, regardless of their political beliefs.
- > Commenting the situation in Yugoslavia, Tenet noted that Yugoslav
- > President
- > Vojislav Kostunica was facing difficult tasks, and that it would be
- > difficult for him to keep the country together.
- > The new Yugoslav president is trying to create a legal, transparent, and
- > efficient government out of nothing, Tenet said. Meanwhile, the output of
- > the Serbian economy is down by 50 percent against 1990, he added.
- >
- > NATO CONDEMNS VIOLENCE BY EXTREMISTS IN KOSOVO, SOUTHERN SERBIA
- > BRUSSELS, February 8 (Tanjug) - The NATO Council which met at
- > ambassadorial
- > level Thursday in Brussels reiterated its stance that all problems in
- > Kosovo-Metohija and southern Serbia must be resolved through negotiations.
- > The Council most strongly condemned extremist violence in the buffer zone
- > in southern Serbia, a NATO spokesman said after the meeting.
- > The Council welcomed the restraint demonstrated by Yugoslavia in
- > endeavouring to halt extremist actions and expressed hope that problems in
- > the Presevo valley can be resolved peacefully.
- > NATO also welcomes the Yugoslav government's endeavors for
- > confidence-building among the local population in the Presevo valley and
- > for
- > including local ethnic Albanians in administration bodies, the spokesman
- > said.
- >
- > GREECE, BULGARIA URGE BALKANS TO SETTLE PROBLEMS
- > ATHENS, February 9 (Tanjug) - The Greek and Bulgarian foreign ministers
- > asked other Balkan countries to make joint efforts to end armed conflicts
- > in
- > the buffer zone in southern Serbia.
- > "This issue should be given the greatest importance," Greek Foreign
- > Minister George Papandreou said after talks with his Bulgarian counterpart
- > Nadezhda Mihailova.
- > Papandreou also said that this issue will be discussed at the Balkan
- > countries summit, which will be held in Macedonia late February.
- >
- > RUSSIAN DEFENSE MINISTER URGES FOR MORE POLITICAL ENDEAVORS IN KOSOVO
- > SLATINA, February 8 (Tanjug) - Russian Defense Minister Igor Sergeev
- > ruled
- > out Thursday any possibility of a military solution for Kosovo-Metohija
- > and
- > advocated an intensification of political endeavors aimed at a peaceful

- > settlement.
- > There is no alternative to a peaceful settlement, but restoring peace and stability in the area will take time, Sergeyev told the press at the Slatina
- > airport near Kosovo-Metohija capital Pristina, Itar-Tass reports.
- > The Kosovo-Metohija problem is unfortunately still far from being resolved,
- > he said.
- > Sergeyev said he was satisfied with his meeting Thursday with KFor commander and UNMIK chief, adding that joint decisions should be well balanced as it would be difficult to correct mistakes later.
- > Referring to the situation in Kosovska Mitrovica, Sergeyev said it was still tense and that Serbs and ethnic Albanians remained in confrontation.
- > He therefore proposed that international peacekeepers extend their control
- > from the northern, Serb, sector of the town also to the southern, ethnic Albanian, sector and thus place the entire town under their control.
- > Kosovska Mitrovica cannot be excepted from the general context of resolving
- > the Kosovo problem, Sergeyev said.
- > KOSOVO METOHIJA-SOUTHERN SERBIA-CURRENT SITUATION
- >
- > SERBIAN PRIME MINISTER REJECTS IDEA OF INTERNATIONAL MEDIATION
- > BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - Serbian Premier Zoran Djindjic on Friday
- > rejected the idea of international mediation in the negotiations with ethnic
- > Albanians on settling the crisis in southern Serbia.
- > In a statement to Tanjug, Djindjic said that he has nothing against someone
- > providing their good services, if they are requested, but he excluded the
- > possibility of direct participation of a third side in the negotiations.
- > During a regular working visit to Kosovo and Metohija province earlier this
- > week, NATO South Europe Commander, U.S. Admiral James Ellis urged the
- > international community or the United Nations to appoint a special
- > negotiator who would facilitate settling the conflict between armed ethnic
- > Albanians and Serbian security forces.
- > "I think that there are no grounds, nor any need for any intercession,"
- > Djindjic said.
- > He explained that "first of all, this would give the impression that the
- > two sides are equal, and, also, that there are doubts that we are able to
- > resolve the problem. And, neither of these are true."
- > Referring to the good services, Djindjic said that about ten E.U.
- observers
- > are present at the crisis area, there is free access for foreign
- > journalists, and that visits by representatives of foreign embassies are
- > allowed, adding that this is sufficient to make the process public.
- >
- > COVIC-PLAN FOR CRISIS IN SOUTHERN SERBIA IS ON EUROPEAN AND WORLD LEVELS
- > NEW YORK, February 9 (Tanjug) - The coordinator of the Yugoslav and Serbian
- > governments for southern Serbia, Nebojsa Covic, has said that the plan for
- > the resolution of the crisis in that region has received unequivocal
- > support, but that now time is needed for its realization.
- > In an interview to the Voice of America, Covic, who is also Serbian
- > vice-premier, expressed optimism that a long-term solution of the crisis
- in
- > southern Serbia would be reached through peaceful means.
- > Commenting reports that the members of the so-called Liberation Army of
- > Bujanovac, Presevo and Medvedja refuse to accept parts of this plan, Covic
- > said that "it is surprising that some refuse to accept something they have
- > not even seen yet."
- > Covic expressed doubts in the truth of these reports and added that if
- this
- > is really true, then big divisions have occurred in their (ethnic
- Albanian)
- > ranks."
- > I believe that the proposal, which has been supported by the
- international
- > community, is a right one, on an European and world level, Covic stated.
- > Serbia does not want and will not engage in a war, but it is important to
- > see who genuinely wants a war and who is refusing something they have not

- > even seen nor studied, Covic set out.
- >
- > COVIC RECEIVES HOMBACH, SULLIVAN, SORENSEN
- > BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - Serbian Deputy Premier Nebojsa Covic
- > conferred on Thursday with a delegation of the Balkan Stability Pact,
- headed
- > by special coordinator Bodo Hombach.
- > The delegation welcomed efforts by the Yugoslav and Serbian governments
- > toward a peaceful and democratic settlement of problems in southern Serbia
- > and expressed keen interest in the program for resolving the crisis in the
- > southern Serbian municipalities of Presevo, Bujanovac and Medvedja, and in
- > providing assistance for its implementation, said a statement released by
- > Covic's office.
- > Covic also received the KFOR commander's political adviser Shawn Sullivan
- > and the UNMIK chief's head adviser Peter Sorensen.
- > Talks covered the program for settling the crisis in these municipalities
- > and establishing lasting contacts through institutions between government
- > representatives and officials of the international community's mission in
- > Kosovo and Metohija province, the statement said.
- >
- > ETHNIC ALBANIANS IN SOUTHERN SERBIA TO PRESENT PLATFORM BY WEEKEND
- > BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - Ethnic Albanians have not as yet
- developed
- > a detailed platform for negotiations with the Serbian and Yugoslav
- > authorities, but it will be finalized by the end of the week, the mayor of
- > the south-Serbian Presevo town has been quoted as saying by the
- > Belgrade-based Politika daily.
- > Mayor Riza Halimi, who is also the leader of the Party of Democratic
- > Action, said the realization of human, national and political rights of
- > local ethnic Albanians will be the basis
- > of the document.
- > Politika said on Friday that Halimi had made the statement on leaving for
- > Veliki Trnovac to attend a meeting at which ethnic Albanians were supposed
- > to finalize the platform, and appoint a delegation for the talks. The
- > meeting, however, produced no results, the paper said.
- >
- > YUGOSLAV MINISTER ON SETTLING CRISIS IN SOUTHERN SERBIA
- > LONDON, February 9 (Tanjug) - Yugoslav Ethnic Minorities Minister Rasim
- > Ljajic said that all means for the peaceful resolving of the crisis in
- > southern Serbia must be exhausted.
- > This is necessary to prevent a use of force and suffering of people,
- > soldiers or civilians who live in the area, regardless of nationality,
- > Ljajic said in a statement to BBC radio.
- > Commenting on a main headquarters statement of the so-called Liberation
- > Army of Presevo, Bujanovac and Medvedja, which rejects the plan of the
- > Serbian and Yugoslav governments, Ljajic said that, first of all, the
- > authenticity of this statement should be examined.
- > Then the reaction of local ethnic Albanian political representatives
- should
- > be seen, he said, since the plan has been made for them. The international
- > community should then be asked to put pressure on ethnic Albanian
- extremists
- > so that they do not obstruct the dialogue.
- >
- > ETHNIC ALBANIAN EXTREMISTS DESTROY ORTHODOX CHURCH
- > GNJILANE, February 8 (Tanjug) - Ethnic Albanian terrorists mined
- Wednesday
- > night the house of a Serb and the church in the Orthodox cemetery in the
- > Gornji Lovoc village in the Gnjilane municipality in eastern
- > Kosovo-Metohija, local amateur radio operators report.
- > The church in which they placed an explosive charge is only 50 meters
- away
- > from a KFor checkpoint. Ethnic Albanian extremists continue harassing the
- > few remaining Serbs and other non-Albanians in the Gnjilane municipality.
- > Local Serbs blocked the Gnjilane - Urosevac road in protest and demanded
- > accountability of KFor and UNMIK police for the deteriorating security
- > situation.
- > After KFor used force to dismantle the road block, the Serbs blocked the
- > Zegra - Budriga village road.
- > In Gnjilane, the house of a Romany family was stoned for three hours, and
- a
- > Serb family home nearby was also stoned.

- > Unidentified attackers opened fire on the Draganac monastery in the area
- > and harassed the Serb inhabitants of the nearby hamlet.
- >
- > ETHNIC ALBANIAN EXTREMISTS OPEN MACHINE-GUN FIRE AT POLICE
- > BUJANOVAC, February 9 (Tanjug) - Ethnic Albanian extremists fired three
- > bursts from a Browning anti-aircraft machine-gun at Serbian police at 04:15
- > hrs Friday, from Gropa peak toward Taslak Hill in southern Serbia. Last
- > night and on Thursday, ethnic Albanian extremists were "somewhat less
- > active...which is in keeping with their practice of hot-cold," spokesman
- > Milan Kerkovic told a news conference at the Bujanovac Press center on
- > Friday. A Yugoslav Army report said ethnic Albanian extremists opened fire
- > from the direction of Gornja susaja village at 12:00 Thursday, but that
- > the
- > attack had not been countered.
- > Yugoslav Army units are closely monitoring the situation and are ready to
- > respond to any provocation if necessary, the report said. Peinja district
- > Human Rights Committee President Svetislav Velickovic told the press that
- > Bujanovac citizens were feeling less safe following the recent ethnic
- > Albanian extremist attacks on U.S. diplomats William Montgomery and James
- > Pardew, and a Serbian Radio Television RTS news team. Velickovic denied
- > reports by Albanian-language papers based in Pristina that policemen are
- > allegedly deployed in schools in Presevo. He also denied formulations in
- > these press reports that Bujanovac used to be within Kosovo and Metohija.
- > This was never so, at any point in history, Velickovic said.
- >
- > KFOR ARRESTS 7 KOSOVO ALBANIANS
- > PRISTINA, February 9 (Tanjug) - Seven ethnic Albanians believed to belong
- > to the self-styled Liberation Army of Presevo, Medvedja and Bujanovac have
- > been arrested by members of the international peace force KFOR while
- > attempting illegally to cross from Kosovo and Metohija province into the
- > Ground Safety Zone in southern Serbia proper.
- > A KFOR spokesman said all seven men have been transferred to the U.S.
- > army
- > base Bondsteel.
- > He said the KFOR had already arrested at least 70 ethnic Albanians in
- > attempts illegally to cross into the buffer zone.
- >
- > FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA
- > FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
- >
- > YUGOSLAV DAILY SURVEY
- > BELGRADE, 10 February 2001 No. 3337
- >
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- > - YUGOSLAV PARLIAMENT'S LOWER HOUSE SPEAKER RECEIVES EUROPEAN
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- > KOSOVO-METOHILJA - TERRORISM
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- >
- > YUGOSLAVIA - EU

- >
- > YUGOSLAV PRESIDENT RECEIVES EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARIANS
- > BELGRADE, February 10 (Tanjug) - A delegation of the Parliament of Europe
- > which met with Yugoslav President Vojislav Kostunica on Saturday fully
- > supported the efforts of Yugoslavia to resolve problems in southern Serbia
- > and to reorganize relations in the Yugoslav federation in a way that would
- > strengthen peace and stability in the region and the whole country.
- > A statement issued by the Yugoslav President's Cabinet said that
- Kostunica
- > conferred with European Parliament delegation head in charge of relations
- > with Southeastern Europe Doris Pack on started democratic reforms that
- bring
- > Yugoslavia closer to European Union standards.
- > The two sides also discussed a possible amnesty for prisoners who have
- not
- > participated in terrorist operations, and the need for establishing legal
- > frameworks for cooperation between Yugoslavia and The Hague War Crimes
- > Tribunal, the statement said.
- >
- > YUGOSLAV PARLIAMENT'S LOWER HOUSE SPEAKER RECEIVES
- > EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARIANS
- > BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - The Speaker of the Yugoslav Parliament's
- > Chamber of Citizens
- > (lower house), Dragoljub Micunovic, met on Friday with a delegation of the
- > Parliament of Europe, headed by Doris Pack, to discuss democratic
- processes
- > and changes in Yugoslavia.
- > The European parliamentarians focused on the fate of the Yugoslav
- > federation, i.e. relations between Serbia and Montenegro, and changes in
- the
- > legislature in the spheres of privatization, amnesty, and media, as well
- as
- > the overall economic reform.
- > Underscoring that the federal state would survive and that it has more
- > lives than it is supposed, Micunovic wondered who could want to "open up
- new
- > problems of divisions" now when Yugoslavia has a chance of becoming a part
- > of Europe and international integrations.
- > The state institutions and the Federal Parliament are trying to engage in
- > talks with the Montenegrin authorities in order to reach a solution
- without
- > creating a crisis and tensions, Micunovic said underscoring the huge
- > responsibility of the federal members for stability in the region and
- > Europe.
- > Micunovic set out that the amended law on privatization and economic
- > transformation have created conditions, on the federal and republican
- > levels, for speedy and decisive action in the comprehensive reform of the
- > economic system.
- > According to Micunovic, at its next session the Federal Parliament will
- > adopt a law on amnesty.
- > He pointed out that all existing democratic mechanisms will enable the
- > media to attain a democratic way of work.
- >
- > YUGOSLAV MP CONFERS WITH DORIS PACK ON SERBIAN-MONTENEGRIN RELATIONS
- > BELGRADE, February 10 (Tanjug) - Future relations between Serbia and
- > Montenegro and the possibility of preserving the joint state were the
- chief
- > subjects of talks on Saturday between Yugoslav Upper House Speaker Srdja
- > Bozovic and a delegation of the European Parliament headed by Doris Pack.
- > Bozovic said he believed that a joint state had a future, since the
- > majority of citizens support the idea for preserving the federal union of
- > the two republics on the basis of equality.
- > He said it was encouraging that the European Union, the United States and
- > Russia have a balanced and sensible stand on the issue, and that they
- > support relations between Serbia and Montenegro in a federal framework.
- > Since international factors insist on unchangeable borders and stability
- in
- > the region, that will help citizens to decide to live together within
- > Yugoslavia, Bozovic said.
- > Asked about the holding of a possible referendum on the future
- state-legal
- > status of Montenegro, Bozovic said he believed that all citizens of

- > Montenegro should have the right to express their will, wherever they live,
- > since only the majority of the total number of the citizens of Montenegro
- > can decide with legitimacy about the state-legal status of Montenegro.
- >
- > **YUGOSLAV DEPUTY PREMIER MEETS WITH EUROPEAN DELEGATION**
- > **BELGRADE**, February 10 (Tanjug) - Yugoslav Deputy Premier and Foreign
- > Relations Minister Miroslav Labus talked in Belgrade on Saturday with a
- > joint delegation of European Parliament and the European Commission,
- headed
- > by Doris Pack and Geoffrey Barrett, about the prospects of relations
- between
- > the European Union and Yugoslavia, and the intention of both sides to
- > promote cooperation in all spheres.
- > Labus briefed the European parliamentarians on the Federal Government
- > activities to strengthen regional, economic and trade relations, and
- efforts
- > to secure political and macroeconomic stability in the country, in order
- to
- > create conditions for greater foreign investments in the Yugoslav economy.
- >
- > **EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARIANS VISIT SERBIAN PARLIAMENT**
- > **BELGRADE**, February 9 (Tanjug) - Serbian parliament Speaker Dragan
- > Marsicanin and presidents and vice-presidents of three parliamentary
- > committees conferred on Friday with a European Parliament delegation for
- > southeastern Europe headed by Doris Pack.
- > The meeting focused on the activities of Serbia's new authorities and the
- > forthcoming changes in Serbia's legislation aimed at coordinating it with
- > European standards.
- > The meeting also focused on the need for Yugoslavia's reintegration in
- > European institutions as soon as possible and for establishing
- parliamentary
- > and other forms of cooperation, as well as for initiating wide-scale
- > democratic reforms in Serbia.
- > Serbia's participation in European integration processes will largely
- > depend on international community aid in resolving serious security
- problems
- > without which regional stability cannot be achieved, Serbian
- > parliamentarians said.
- > Pack said that the visit of her delegation after recent democratic
- changes
- > in Yugoslavia constitutes an expression of support to the new Yugoslav and
- > Serbian authorities.
- >
- > **SERBIA WILL OBTAIN PLEDGED AID - PACK**
- > **BELGRADE**, February 10 (Tanjug) - European parliamentarians will make all
- > possible efforts for Serbia to obtain the pledged aid as soon as possible,
- > said on Friday evening head of the European Parliament Delegation for
- > relations with Southeastern Europe Doris Pack.
- > She told the press after talks in the Serbian Government building that it
- > seemed to them that Serbs have not yet obtained the necessary aid.
- > Members of the European Parliament delegation, who are on a two-day visit
- > to Belgrade, previously held talks with Serbian Premier Zoran Djindjic and
- > Deputy Premiers Vuk Obradovic and Jozef Kasza.
- > According to Pack, all issues of the greatest interest were reviewed,
- > including the problem of the functioning of institutions, law amendments,
- > cooperation with The Hague Tribunal and media problems.
- > Pointing out it was too early to expect concrete results, she said she
- had
- > an understanding for the efforts of the new authorities and promised they
- > will have the full support of the European Parliament.
- > Kasza said that the talks dealt with future relations in the state and
- the
- > situation in south Serbia.
- > "We have indicated a decentralization of relations in the country, but
- > before that happens fundamental negotiations have to be conducted between
- > parts of the state, between Montenegro and Serbia," he said, adding that
- > European parliamentarians were informed that the "efforts are aimed at
- > setting up regions."
- > On the issue of cooperation with The Hague Tribunal, Kasza said that the
- > delegation was informed that Serbia wants war criminals to be held
- > accountable for their misdeeds, "and we will see whether that will be in

the

> country or in The Hague."

>

> EXTRADITION OF "VUKOVAR TROIKA" AS SIGN OF GOOD WILL, PACK SAYS

> BELGRADE, February 10 (Tanjug) - Chairperson of the European Parliament

> Delegation for relations with Southeastern Europe Doris Pack said in

> Belgrade on Saturday she believed in the "readiness and ability" of the

new

> Yugoslav authorities to fulfil the conditions for cooperation with the EU,

> which, among other things, would involve full cooperation with The Hague

> Tribunal.

> Pack told a press conference, at the end of a two-day visit of the

European

> Parliament Delegation to Yugoslavia that in the meetings with senior

> Yugoslav officials she conveyed the position that a "sign of good will"

for

> cooperation with The Hague could be the extradition of the "Vukovar

troika."

> The "Vukovar troika" are called three officers of the former Yugoslav

> People's Army (JNA) suspected of committing war crimes in the battle for

> Vukovar (1992), a town on the border between Serbia and Croatia.

> Saying no deadline had been set for the extraction, she assessed that

> Yugoslav officials had shown an understanding for the proposal, without

> giving a concrete answer.

> Pack expressed concern at the situation in the Ground Safety Zone, south

> Serbia, and called on all the parties to refrain from violence. Pointing

to

> the importance of preserving peace in the region, she welcomed the

presence

> of EU observers in the region and the extending of EU aid to the imperiled

> municipalities.

> Pack said in conclusion that without economic progress in Yugoslavia

there

> can be no fundamental reforms and pointed to the importance of new laws,

> drafting of new legal frameworks, and the reorganization of the judiciary,

> as well as of fighting organized crime and corruption, an area where the

> European union will help Yugoslavia.

> She welcomed the intention of Yugoslav authorities to establish a "truth

> commission," to "face the events of the recent past."

> Besides top Yugoslav officials, the European Parliament delegation also

> met, during its visit to Belgrade, with representatives of the World Bank,

> who in cooperation with the European Commission will draft the needs for

> foreign economic aid for the International Donors' Conference.

>

> MONTENEGRIN PARLIAMENT SPEAKER CONFERS WITH EUROPEAN TROIKA

> PODGORICA, February 9 (Tanjug) - Montenegrin Parliament Speaker Svetozar

> Marovic conferred on Friday in Podgorica with a European Union Troika

> delegation headed by Swedish Foreign Ministry General Director for

political

> issues Sven Olaf Petersson.

> Petersson, whose county chairs the EU Ministerial Council, conveyed to

> Marovic the EU views on resolving the relations between Serbia and

> Montenegro in a manner preserving peace, stability and development of

> democracy.

> Montenegro believes an agreement would be reached with Serbia that would

> not be detrimental to Montenegro but would benefit both republics, Marovic

> said.

> Montenegro sincerely believes that its future is in democracy, which

means

> dialogue and cooperation with the European Union, the US, and Russia, as

> Montenegro will not agree to isolationism or political marginalization,

> Marovic said.

> The meeting was attended by representatives of all Montenegrin

> Parliamentary Party Clubs.

>

> MONTENEGRIN PREMIER RECEIVES E.U. "TROIKA"

> PODGORICA, Yugoslavia, February 9 (Tanjug) - Montenegrin Premier Filip

> Vujanovic received in Podgorica on Friday a European Union "troika",

headed

> by Swedish Foreign Ministry Director-General Sven Olaf Peterssen.

> A statement from Vujanovic's cabinet quotes Peterssen as conveying high

> respect for this Yugoslav Republic's democratic policy in the past period,

- > especially for its role in the victory of democratic forces in the other
- > Yugoslav federal unit, Serbia.
- > Vujanovic said he expected this support to continue, stressing the
- > Montenegrin Government's commitment to reform processes towards attaining
- > the standards of a modern European state.
- > The Montenegrin Government would continue in good faith its talks with
- > Serbia on future relations in an effort to reach a mutually acceptable
- > solution, he added.
- >
- > EUROPE WANTS MONTENEGRO TO BE PART OF YUGOSLAVIA - PETERSSEN
- > PODGORICA, February 10 (Tanjug) - European Union representatives who paid
- > an official visit to Montenegro on Friday said in a clear message to the
- > Montenegrin officials and citizens that Europe would like democratic
- > Montenegro to be a part of Yugoslavia.
- > Swedish Foreign Ministry Director-General Sven Olaf Peterssen told the
- > Montenegrin authorities at Friday's press conference that if they want to
- be
- > a part of Europe, they must listen to EU "advice," and added that citizens
- > must not let officials make incautious moves.
- > Hasty activities in that direction could have grave repercussions, and
- they
- > could mean one step backwards in cooperation with the European Union, he
- > said.
- > He emphasized that the United States, 15 countries of the European Union,
- > and 30 states waiting to be admitted to the E.U., support the same stand.
- > Peterssen said they had made their stand clear, and that it was up to the
- > Montenegrin leaders to decide about the holding of a referendum, where it
- > should be known that leaders are always responsible for their stands.
- > The European Union thinks, he said, that the holding of a referendum is
- the
- > right of citizens, but it is very sensitive issue, and has very often led
- to
- > polarization. This is why it is very important to be well organized, and
- > that citizens have enough time to form their opinion.
- > Underscoring that this does not negate the right of Montenegro to decide
- > about the future of the state, Peterssen said that every decision will
- have
- > certain consequences and stressed the stand of the West that the taking of
- > hasty decisions was not in the interest of Montenegro, or the region, or
- for
- > the European Union.
- >
- > YUGOSLAVIA - INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS
- >
- > UNICEF OFFICIAL BRIEFS YUGOSLAV PRESIDENT ON PROJECTS IN YUGOSLAVIA
- > BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - Yugoslav President Vojislav Kostunica
- > received on Friday UNICEF Belgrade Office chief Jean Michael Delmotte, who
- > briefed him on the activities of his Office and UNICEF projects for
- > Yugoslavia.
- > According to Delmotte, UNICEF would like to help improve the position of
- > children in Yugoslavia and protect their rights. Kostunica upheld the
- > activities of the UNICEF Belgrade Office.
- > The meeting was attended by Nada Korac, who heads the Government
- Commission
- > for cooperation with UNICEF.
- >
- > USAID DELEGATION TO VISIT SOUTHERN SERBIA
- > BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - Yugoslavia's Minister for Minority
- Affairs
- > is soon to accompany a delegation of the U.S. Agency for International
- > Development (USAID) on a visit to the crisis area in southern Serbia
- > (Yugoslavia). The purpose of the planned visit is to establish what kind
- of
- > projects could help restore trust between the local Serbian and ethnic
- > Albanian communities.
- > Minister Rasim Ljajic on Friday met the New York-based Agency's
- delegation,
- > led by head of the legal department Paul Scott.
- > USAID said it was willing to give experts and funds for implementing
- > Yugoslav projects for harmonising the national legislation with modern
- world
- > standards by passing laws in the sphere of human rights.

- > USAID also plans to continue implementing humanitarian development projects
- > in certain parts of Yugoslavia.
- > Ljajic briefed the delegation on the process of consolidation of democratic institutions in Yugoslavia, drafting of bills on human and minority rights,
- > and a bill on the rights of ethnic communities, the statement said.
- >
- > YUGOSLAVIA - RUSSIA
- >
- > YUGOSLAV DEPUTY PREMIER IN MOSCOW ABOUT ECONOMIC RELATIONS
- > MOSCOW, February 10 (Tanjug) - Yugoslav Deputy Premier Miroslav Labus said
- > in Moscow on Friday that talks with the Russian officials centred on overall economic relations between Yugoslavia and Russia.
- > The two sides agreed to ratify as soon as possible the agreement on free trade, signed last summer, Labus told Tanjug.
- > He said that the so-called gas arrangement between the two countries was high on the agenda of his talks with Russian Deputy Premier Viktor Hristenko
- > and Industry, Science and Technology Minister Alexander Dondukov on Friday.
- > Of course, we discussed the size of our debt, our outstanding and how to solve these problems, Labus said.
- > He announced that Dondukov will arrive in Yugoslavia within three weeks, and later on Hristenko will also visit Yugoslavia to learn about the economic situation in the country.
- > During the visit, the talks that began in Moscow will be resumed, Labus said.
- > The Yugoslav delegation comprised Yugoslav Finance Minister Dragisa Pesic and Serbian Oil Industry (NIS) Director General Jovan Vulic.
- >
- > IVASHOV ON RUSSIAN DEFENSE MINISTER VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA
- > MOSCOW, February 10 (Tanjug) - Russian Defense Minister Marshal Igor Sergeev's visit to Yugoslavia gave a positive impulse to the promotion of bilateral military cooperation in new conditions, created after the political changes in Yugoslavia, it was said in Moscow on Friday.
- > Leonid Ivashov, who is in charge of international military cooperation in the Russian Defense Ministry, said that Sergeev's meetings with Yugoslav leaders in Belgrade showed there were good prospects for the development of a two-way military cooperation, in the conditions of the military embargo against FR Yugoslavia.
- > Also indicated were possible fields of cooperation of the two countries in the military and military-technical spheres, which will be realized after the lifting of sanctions, Ivashov said, assessing that sanctions against Yugoslavia are absolutely unnecessary.
- > Ivashov said that during the talks between Sergeev and Yugoslav President Vojislav Kostunica, Defence Minister Slobodan Krapovic and Chief-of-Staff Nebojsa Pavkovic, the two sides compared the Russian and Yugoslav positions and approaches with respect to European security, the situation in the Balkans, and fully reviewed was the situation in Kosovo-Metohija.
- >
- > FROM THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA
- >
- > SERBIAN GOVERNMENT APPROVES AMENDMENT TO AMNESTY BILL
- > BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - Serbian Premier Zoran Djindjic said on Friday that the Government has approved an amendment to the Amnesty Bill, which excludes persons sentenced for most serious crimes from the planned amnesty. The Amnesty Bill envisages reduction of sentences by 15 to 20 percent, but will not be applied to persons sentenced for most serious crimes as the Government is firmly committed to fighting crime, Djindjic told the press after a Government session.
- >
- > YUGOSLAVIA - SOUTHERN SERBIA
- >
- > YUGOSLAV ARMY SAYS ETHNIC ALBANIAN TERRORISTS BREACH SAFETY ZONE

- > BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - Sixty ethnic Albanian terrorists have
- > breached the Ground Safety Zone in southern Serbia (Yugoslavia) at the
- > village of Bukovac and are terrorising the local population and attacking
- > security forces, according to the Yugoslav Army on Friday.
- > The terrorists are members of the ethnic Albanian Kosovo Protection Corps.
- > Simultaneously, 50 terrorists have breached the buffer zone in southern
- > Serbia from the direction of Kosovska Kamenica in northeastern U.N.-ruled
- > Kosovo-Metohija and entered the ethnic Albanian-populated village of
- > Breznica, the Army says.
- > A lesser group of ethnic Albanian extremists has also attempted to
- > infiltrate army-controlled areas from the direction of Kokosarnik.
- > Training camps have been spotted in the Pristina area where ethnic
- > Albanians from the areas of Medvedja and Tulari in southern Serbia and
- > volunteers from Kosovo-Metohija are being trained for terrorists, the army
- > says.
- >
- > SERBIA AWAITS ETHNIC ALBANIANS' RESPONSE TO GOVERNMENT PLAN - PREMIER
- > BELGRADE, February 9 (Tanjug) - Serbia's Premier said on Friday the
- > Government was awaiting an official response from ethnic Albanians in
- > southern Serbia (Yugoslavia) to its plan for settling the crisis in the
- > area, and the appointment of their delegation to talks.
- > Speaking after a cabinet session, Zoran Djindjic said "the Government is
- > interested primarily in people who could exert an influence towards
- > settling
- > the problem".
- > "Those who do not want to influence a settlement and who are themselves
- > the
- > problem have made their choice", Djindjic said, adding the Government was
- > doing everything for the problem to be settled peacefully.
- > The time is near when it will become clear who wants a peaceful
- > settlement
- > and who does not, and a differentiation between ethnic Albanians along
- > these
- > lines has already begun, according to Djindjic.
- > "We expect the Government's reasonable offer to separate the reasonable
- > from the unreasonable forces among the ethnic Albanians", he said.
- >
- > FRANCE BACKS BELGRADE'S PLAN FOR RESOLVING CRISIS IN SOUTHERN SERBIA
- > PARIS, February 9 (Tanjug) - France backs Belgrade's plan for resolving
- > the
- > crisis in southern Serbia, Spokesman of the French Foreign Ministry
- > Francois
- > Rivasseau said on Friday.
- > France supports the political endeavors of the Belgrade authorities for
- > initiating negotiations to be sponsored by Yugoslav President Vojislav
- > Kostunica, in order to find a solution to the present situation in
- > southern
- > Serbia, Rivasseau told a regular press briefing.
- > That process will, however, be difficult and Paris believes that this
- > issue
- > is above all up to the Serbian and Yugoslav authorities, Rivasseau said.
- >
- > KOSOVO-METOHIIJA - TERRORISM
- >
- > ETHNIC ALBANIAN TERRORISTS TORCH TWO SERBIAN HOUSES
- > KOSOVSKA MITROVICA, February 10 (Tanjug) - Ethnic Albanian terrorists
- > raided the Serbian village Miroc in Vucitrn municipality and torched two
- > Serbian houses, which burned to the ground, Tanjug learned late on Friday
- > from Serbian sources in Kosovska Mitrovica.
- > The ethnic Albanians, perpetrators of the crime, who came from the
- > neighbouring village of Karac, three kilometres away from Miroc village,
- > torched the houses of two Serbs, Dragan Milivojevic and Danica
- > Milivojevic.
- > There were no casualties.
- > FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA
- > FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
- >
- > YUGOSLAV DAILY SURVEY
- > BELGRADE, 11 February 2001 No. 3338
- >
- > C O N T E N T S :

- > YUGOSLAVIA - HAGUE
- > - ZIZIC RULES OUT EXTRADITION OF MILOSEVIC TO THE HAGUE
- > YUGOSLAVIA - RUSSIA
- > - ASSISTANCE TO YUGOSLAVS FOR BUSINESS IN RUSSIA, LABUS SAYS
- > ITALY - YUGOSLAVIA
- > - ITALIAN GREEN PARTY FOR URGENT ECOLOGICAL AID TO YUGOSLAVIA
- > NATO - SOUTHER SERBIA - KOSOVO
- > - ROBERTSON WELCOMES PLAN FOR SOLVING CRISIS IN SERBIA'S SOUTH
- >
- > YUGOSLAVIA - HAGUE
- >
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- > ZIZIC RULES OUT EXTRADITION OF MILOSEVIC TO THE HAGUE
- > PLJEVLJA, February 11 (Tanjug) - Yugoslav Prime Minister Zoran Zizic said
- > that as long as he is at the head of the Yugoslav Government, Slobodan
- > Milosevic will not be extradited to The Hague Tribunal.
- > "I think it is beneath the dignity of a country to extradite its former
- > president to the international court for war crimes and I am certain that
- > the opinion is shared by Yugoslav President Vojislav Kostunica," Zizic
- > said
- > on Saturday evening for local Radio Pljevlja, in north Montenegro.
- > "This does not mean that someone who according to all evidence is a war
- > criminal, should not be held accountable, but we have a Constitution and
- > laws under which no-one is guilty until found guilty, and if it is proved,
- > priority will be given to domestic courts," Zizic said.
- > Zizic said that cooperation with The Hague Tribunal "was a national
- > interest" for our country in order to prove, among other things, what was
- > done during NATO's bombing of Yugoslavia.
- >
- > YUGOSLAVIA - RUSSIA
- >
- > ASSISTANCE TO YUGOSLAVS FOR BUSINESS IN RUSSIA, LABUS SAYS
- > MOSCOW, February 10 (Tanjug) - Yugoslavia and its institutions will
- > undertake all possible measures to facilitate and improve the work of
- > Yugoslav businessmen in Russia, Yugoslav Deputy Premier Mirosljub Labus
- > said
- > when he met with a group of businessmen in Moscow.
- > In the talks on Friday evening, Labus said that businessmen must find and
- > conclude deals by themselves, because that is the best way for expanding
- > economic relations and trade between Russia and Yugoslavia.
- > Yugoslav-Russian trade totalled last year nearly 400 million dollars,
- > which
- > is far below the objective possibilities and needs of the two countries.
- > On the Russian market are now working only ten thousand Yugoslav
- > construction workers, which is three times less than in the first half of
- > the past decade.
- >
- > ITALY - YUGOSLAVIA
- >
- > ITALIAN GREEN PARTY FOR URGENT ECOLOGICAL AID TO YUGOSLAVIA
- > ROME, February 10 (Tanjug) - The Italian Green Party will be among the
- > first to come to the aid of Serbia, in order to avoid an ecological
- > disaster, said the representatives of the Italian Green Party in European
- > Parliament Chicco Negri.
- > As a member of the delegation of the Green party he visited in Yugoslavia
- > the zone that was most endangered ecologically by NATO's bombing.
- > "Serbia is on the brink of an ecological disaster not so much due to
- > depleted uranium, but also due to chemical pollution directly caused by
- > the
- > bombing," Negri said.
- > Citing scientific results of research conducted by the Universities in
- > Belgrade and in Novi Sad, he said that in the bombed zones was registered
- > a
- > greater presence of cadmium and arsenic, which was also discovered in
- > national parks in Serbia.
- > Also very difficult is the pollution of the atmosphere where there is an
- > increased concentration of benzolpiren, benzol and vinyl-chloride, he
- > said,
- > while the President of the Green Party Gracia Francheskato warned that
- > "they
- > should not turn a blind eye to the tragedy."
- > An encouraging data is that research on 25 varieties of honey from all of

- > Serbia has not shown an increased level of contamination although the level
- > of radioactivity in places that were bombed with depleted uranium is one
- > hundred times greater than normal, the Italian Green Party delegation said.

>
> NATO - SOUTHER SERBIA - KOSOVO

>
> ROBERTSON WELCOMES PLAN FOR SOLVING CRISIS IN SERBIA'S SOUTH

- > BRUSSELS, February 10 (Tanjug) - NATO Secretary General George Robertson
- > welcomed on Friday the plan of Yugoslav authorities to solve the crisis in
- > south Serbia as an important indicator of the wish of the authorities in
- > Belgrade to reach a peaceful and balanced solution.

- > The details should be studied well, particularly those relating to KFOR,
- > but the initiative and wish should be welcomed for the development of the
- > situation in south Serbia towards a multiethnic community, based on the
- > principles of democracy and human rights, said the statement of NATO
- > Secretary General.

- > Robertson said he believed that in the current tense situation the most
- > important thing was that the Yugoslav Army and Serbian police forces
- > continue to demonstrate restraint.

- > He called on Albanian groups to put an end to violence and called on all
- > parties to make possible unimpeded traffic in the south of Serbia.

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>
>
>

van holst en steijnen

From: Despotovic Ruza <despot@wishmail.net>
To: Ruza Despotovic <ruzad@ggzba.nl>; Nico /Neeltje Steijnen <n.h.van.holst@freeler.nl>
Sent: maandag 19 februari 2001 14:18
Subject: Fw: - Ljudska prava - CPB: What's next ?

----- Original Message -----

From: "Bob Petrovich" <bojanp@home.com>
 To: "ljudska prava@egroups.com" <ljudska_prava@yahoo.com>
 Sent: Monday, February 19, 2001 10:31 AM
 Subject: - Ljudska prava - CPB: What's next ?

- > After 2 separate remote bomb attacks in Kosovo this weekend
- > (Strpce- 4dead, Podujevo -at least 10 dead) NATO got
- > the message from the terrorists.
- > <http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,99683,00.html>
- >
- > There is a subtle message for U.S.A. also: Second terrorist
- > attack (Strpce, American sector) possibly endangered American
- > lives on ground as well. However, this was concealed from
- > public view by mainstream U.S. media.
- > <http://it.news.yahoo.com/010216/2/t4k9.html>
- > There was no response for shooting at U.S. Ambassador earlier
- > this month either (news/web AFP). What's next?
- >
- > -----
- >
- >
- > The Centre for Peace in the Balkans
- > <http://www.balkanpeace.org>
- >
- > February 2001
- >
- >
- > WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE BALKANS?
- >
- >
- > After all that happened last fall on a political scene in Yugoslavia and
- > Serbia, the unavoidable logical question is: "What's next for the
- > Balkans"?
- > With divergent interests of the US and Western Europe, Albanian terrorism
- > in Serbia and Macedonia, Montenegrin secessionism and renewed nationalism
- > in Croatia, the Balkans will be a hot spot for some time to come.
- >
- >
- > Europe vs. U.S. : Divergent interests
- >
- > While publicly applauding the political changes that took place in
- > Yugoslavia
- > on October 5 of last year, the US has not done anything to support the new
- > authorities in Belgrade. On the contrary, it can be said that the US is
- > making
- > life difficult for President Vojislav Kostunica and his administration;
- > politically
- > through the Hague tribunal and militarily by allowing Albanian terrorists
- > to operate freely in Kosovo and the 5km buffer zone between Kosovo and
- > Serbia.
- >
- > A recent visit by Hague tribunal chief prosecutor Carla Del Ponte to
- > Belgrade
- > was followed by two prominent U.S.Senators, John McCain (R-Ariz.) and Joe
- > Lieberman (D-Del.). The Senators told the Yugoslav leadership that unless
- > they cooperated fully with the tribunal, no aid would be forthcoming from
- > the U.S. Such demands are creating tough choices for the new authorities
- > and causing a great deal of political turbulence. Both Senators are well
- > known for supporting Albanians and the terrorist so-called Kosovo

Liberation

- > Army (KLA). Sen. Lieberman told the Washington Post on April 28, 1999:
"The
- > United States of America and the Kosovo Liberation Army stand for the same
- > human values and principles...Fighting for the KLA is fighting for human
- > rights and American values." Sen. McCain demand the use of US ground
- > troops
- > against Yugoslav forces during NATO's aggression on Yugoslavia.
- >
- > The buffer zone between Serbia and Kosovo is a safe haven and training
- > ground
- > for Albanian terrorists. While controlled by US troops, the terrorists
- > were
- > free to enter and leave in uniforms and with weapons. The Europeans, tired
- > of Albanian intransigence, placed their own troops in the region to slow
- > down terrorist movements.
- >
- > It will take some time for new U.S. president George W. Bush and his
- > foreign
- > policy team to reverse the policies of the Clinton administration. At
- > present,
- > the desires of Europe and that of the US are in opposite camps. The
- > Europeans
- > want a stable region without conflict, while the US has tacitly approved
- > of Albanian terrorism, going so far as to provide training and arms for
- > them.
- >
- >
- > Building Greater Albania
- >
- > The Greater Albania project seems to have hit some obstacles, but the
- > dream
- > remains alive. Recent condemnation for terrorist attacks from the Council
- > of Europe has taken a shine off the self-styled Albanian
- > "freedom-fighters."
- > Even the US could not stay silent when Albanian snipers took pot shots at
- > US ambassador to Yugoslavia, William Montgomery, during his tour of the
- > Presevo
- > Valley.
- >
- > Undeterred and unrepentant, Albanians continue to arm and train. Recently,
- > an offshoot of the KLA announced its presence in Macedonia where the
- > terrorists
- > have shot at police, army personnel and border guards. Whenever things get
- > too hot for them in Macedonia, or any other area for that matter, the
- > terrorists
- > slink back to Kosovo where NATO troops turn a blind eye to their
- > activities.
- >
- > Recently, the KLA is looking into new sources of 'financing' in parts of
- > Europe that were previously outside their scope of operations
- > (<http://www.balkanpeace.org/hed/archive/may00/hed98.shtml>)
- > (even with the baby black market
- > <http://www.balkanpeace.org/hed/archive/july00/hed361.shtml>)
- > and as a result, it is turning out to be a nightmare for Western
- > Europeans.
- > The European Union has called the movement "economic refugees" to its
- > member
- > states a number one concern. The illegals are smuggled by criminal gangs,
- > many identified as being Albanian in origin. The activities of Albanian
- > criminals are creating enormous policing challenges for European law
- > enforcement
- > agencies. Whatever sympathy the Albanians enjoyed previously is quickly
- > eroding
- > as a result of their criminal enterprises.
- >
- > Recent developments suggest that Albanian strategists and their
- > consultants
- > entered into an extremely dangerous game without a predictable outcome.
- > Their
- > first gambit, getting NATO to intervene on their behalf worked. The
- > second,

- > continuing armed provocations in order to force the West into calling elections
- > in Kosovo and giving them independence all but in name, is failing. It is
- > totally unrealistic to believe that Kosovo Albanians will be content with
- > any form of autonomy, even the self-governing type provided by the communists
- > in 1974. Kosovo Albanians organized a number of violent demonstrations during
- > the 80s (<http://www.balkanpeace.org/cib/kam/kams/index.shtml>) only because
- > the law for autonomy didn't include the right to secession or independence.
- > There is no indication that they will stop at anything until they achieve
- > their independence goal and the Greater Albania project. Look for continued
- > and increased terrorist attacks by Albanians in Serbia, Macedonia and eventually
- > Montenegro.
- >
- >
- > Belgrade's Choices
- >
- > Essentially, Belgrade is faced with three choices: 1) Do nothing; 2) negotiate
- > and 3) use force. Option one is not an option as the situation on the ground
- > is untenable. The terrorists have set up checkpoints and preventing the free
- > flow of people and goods.
- >
- > The new authorities have opted for a negotiated settlement with the Albanians,
- > who have rejected the proposed peace plan. That action prompted the following
- > comment: "We have to give it a shot," said one Western diplomat of the Serbian
- > government's latest plan. "But I don't know if it will really work. In the
- > end, there is going to have to be some use of force on the Serbian side."
- > The use of force will have to be swift, decisive and with a minimum of civilian
- > casualties.
- >
- > Belgrade will not have a free hand to deal with the situation on the ground
- > but, if the diplomatic momentum continues, Yugoslav forces could end up working
- > in tandem with NATO troops. Whatever the means, use of force us unavoidable.
- >
- > Serbia and the Economy
- >
- > When William Clinton defeated Bush the Elder in the 1991 presidential election,
- > he did it with the catchphrase "It's the economy, stupid." Newly sworn-in
- > Serbian prime minister Zoran Djindjic, along with his economic advisors,
- > have been saying that since former Yugoslav president Slobodan Milosevic
- > announced elections last year. They had to add corruption, lawlessness, nepotism
- > and state and personal kleptocracy to the list, but this is the Balkans,
- > after all.
- >
- > The authorities are attempting to revive the Yugoslav economy, but this will
- > truly be a Herculean effort. The first task is to rewrite existing laws allowing
- > for foreign ownership and joint ventures, as well as liberalizing ownership
- > laws in Yugoslavia itself. The tax code must be re-written, both personal
- > and corporate. An intensive effort must be mounted to wipe out the black
- > market economy that was the economy during eight years of economic sanctions.
- > This would also allow the government to have a tax-base with which to rebuild

- > the infrastructure, mainly roads and the electronic grid.
- >
- > Once the legal framework is set, attracting foreign investment that will
- > rebuild plants and factories and provide local employment is the next challenge.
- > Yugoslavia's natural trading partners are Germany, Italy, Greece, Ukraine
- > and Russia. The capital investment will come from Western European countries,
- > specifically Germany, France and Italy.
- >
- > The task may not be as hopeless as it sounds. Serbia (and Yugoslavia) represent
- > a strategic position for Europe:
- >
- > - Germany has billions of dollars invested in the Danube and wants to secure
- > control and unobstructed passage of ships from the Black to Baltic Sea
- >
- > - The Iran-Western Europe natural gas pipeline would enable Europe to have
- > diversified deliveries of Russian natural gas. This highly rumored pipeline
- > was only in the planning stages as the US opposed it fearing it would strengthen
- > Iran. Under all realistic plans, the natural gas pipeline will have to go
- > through Serbia on its way to Western Europe which means direct competition
- > between companies such as British Gas, French and German companies. The advantage
- > here could be the influence France and Germany have with top-level Yugoslav
- > authorities.
- >
- > The Yugoslav economy was practically non-existent during the past eight years,
- > except for the black market. It has nowhere to go but up. The currency has
- > stabilized and has held solid for the last three months. Slowly, western
- > companies are opening branches to take advantage of Yugoslavia's highly educated
- > labour pool and advantageous geographic position. The only worrying aspect
- > is the slow pace at which economic progress is being made.
- >
- >
- > The Bush Team
- >
- > The United States has sent out some conflicting signals when it comes to
- > the Balkans. During the elections, national security advisor Condoleezza
- > Rice said the Bush Administration would pull US troops out of the Balkans
- > very quickly. Once in office, Secretary of State Colin Powell said the US
- > was in for the long haul. On the political front, Secretary Powell refused
- > a meeting with Montenegrin President Milo Djukanovic, sending a clear message
- > that the new administration will not support a further destabilization of
- > Yugoslavia (<http://www.balkanpeace.org/hed/archive/feb01/hed2552.shtml>).
- > However, Secretary Powell also met with Hashim Thaci and Ramus Haradinaj,
- > heads of the terrorist KLA. Conflicting reports were issued as to the topic
- > of discussion, with the Albanians saying the US was for Kosovo's independence,
- > while Powell's spokesperson said the topic was never broached.
- >
- > The Bush team is fully aware of the problems they face in the Balkans:
- > wide-spread
- > corruption in Bosnia
- > (<http://www.balkanpeace.org/hed/archive/nov00/hed1143.shtml>)
- > which puts in question all investments made by the West up to this point;
- > Albanian extremism is spilling over into FYR Macedonia
- > (<http://www.balkanpeace.org/cib/mac/mae15.shtml>)
- > which poses a questions of how far reaching is American tolerance for Hashim
- > Thaci, Ramus Haradinaj
- > (<http://balkanpeace.org/hed/archive/sept00/hed560.shtml>)
- > and the rest of the KLA leaders who are constantly walking that fine line
- > between criminal actions and 'political' aspirations

(<http://www.balkanpeace.org/hed/archive/aug00/hed516.shtml>).

> It is more and more obvious that Kosovo is becoming the base for drug smuggling

> (into Western Europe) mafias

(<http://www.balkanpeace.org/hed/archive/sept00/hed569.shtml>).

> It is expected that Europeans will put pressure on their American allies regarding

> Albanian 'politicians' and their aspirations to build a European Medellin

> in Kosovo. (<http://www.balkanpeace.org/our/our03.shtml>).

>

> The U.S. is in conflict with Europe (and the rest of the world) over the

> controversial Missile Defence Shield, policies towards Iraq and Israel, trade

> issues and finally the Balkans. It will take time for the Bush team to divest

> itself of Clinton's and former Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright's

> illogical policies in the region, and that divestiture cannot come too soon

> for the Europeans, and especially the residents of the region.

>

>

> Montenegro - A Family Affair

>

> The very first post-graduation job Milo Djukanovic secured was as prime minister

> of Montenegro. Appointed to the post by his good friend, then Serbian president

> Slobodan Milosevic, Djukanovic did not miss a trick from his mentor.

Having

> bit the hand that fed him (like Milosevic did with Stambolic), Djukanovic

> had no choice but to turn "democrat" and sing from the same sheet as

Madeleine

> Albright, the International Crisis Group, Joe Biden and Joe Lieberman.

>

> As president of Montenegro, Djukanovic turned it into a family business,

> with himself as capo di tutti capo. It is telling that Djukanovic's

finance

> minister and close friend was forced to resign after being indicted by

Italy

> for cigarette smuggling. Rumors persist that Djukanovic is the target of

> a wide-ranging criminal indictment by Italy. "I handsome" Milo's legal

troubles

> do not end at the potential Italian indictment, they only begin. There is

> another rumor that Djukanovic was secretly indicted by the Hague tribunal

> for his role in the bombing of Dubrovnik. Informed sources say that unless

> Djukanovic plays ball, the indictment will be made public. Milo was only

> too willing to oblige, as a recent Del Ponte visit to Podgorica proved.

>

> Djukanovic's potential legal troubles are the main motivation for his

desire

> to secede Montenegro from Yugoslavia. He thinks that as president of an

independent

> state, he will enjoy some sort of immunity as a political factor of

stability

> in the region. Obviously Mr. Djukanovic has not been reading the papers or

> he would have known about the fate of former Chilean strongman Augusto

Pinochet

> and his own mentor, Slobodan Milosevic.

>

> Djukanovic will press on for Montenegro's independence, as it is his

lifeline,

> at least in his own mind. The reality is that if he had the support for an

> independent state, he would have gone to the people instead of trying to

> pull a Milosevic and do it through the Montenegrin parliament.

>

> Montenegro is economically unviable and only exists because Djukanovic is

> still propped-up by the US, a carryover from the Clinton/Albright years.

> Where once a White house regular, Djukanovic could not get as much as a

cup

> of coffee from Powell, let alone a meeting. Should the US sever the

financial

> umbilical cord, it would at the same time sever Djukanovic's political

career.

- >
- >
- > Bosnia's nightmare
- >
- > Five years since the Dayton agreement was signed and the only thing different
- > in Bosnia is the military uniforms. Since Bosnia is being virtually occupied
- > by NATO troops and governed by the triumvirate of US ambassador Thomas Miller,
- > OSCE representative Wolfgang Petrich and UN representative and former US
- > general Jacques Klein, little was achieved without their dictate. It is worth
- > noting that their attempt to buy stability has largely failed. The Federation
- > entity (Muslim-Croat) received several billions of dollars in foreign aid,
- > most of which disappeared without a trace.
- >
- > Money aimed at helping Bosnia pay off its foreign debt has been used instead
- > for loans to well-connected officials to help their personal businesses.
- > Western officials suspect that reconstruction money "may be lining the pockets
- > of the officials close to Izetbegovic's ruling party, who head almost all
- > of Bosnia's state-owned public utilities companies," according to the Boston
- > Globe. <http://www.balkanpeace.org/cib/bos/bosi/bosi03.shtml>
- >
- > At the same time media reports about scandals showing that unconfirmed war
- > stories about Muslim forces killing their own citizens (mostly Sarajevo)
- > were true. <http://www.balkanpeace.org/cib/bos/wetb14.shtml>. Five years
- after
- > the Dayton love-in (all the signers are out of office now - Clinton,
- Izetbegovic,
- > Milosevic, Tudjman), Bosnia does not have an economy or political
- stability.
- > While its second part, the Bosnian Serb entity known as Republika Srpska
- > has formed an expert government that at least has the potential for
- success,
- > the Federation entity is still struggling to decide who will receive a
- mandate
- > to form the new government. At the same time, the HDZ (which enjoys
- majority
- > support from Bosnian Croats) has threatened to abandon all the
- Federation's
- > institutions and start a constitutional crisis. The Croat representative
- > in the Bosnia's "Presidency of three equals," Ante Jelavic, has recently
- > wrote a letter to the UN demanding a new conference about Bosnia and a
- re-writing
- > of the Dayton accords. Simply put, the HDZ wants its own Croatian entity
- > in Bosnia and no further co-existence with the Bosnian Muslims.
- Considering
- > the fact that the ruling triumvirate has violated the Dayton accords on
- numerous
- > occasions, including making the city of Breko a third entity, nothing
- should
- > come as a surprise, including the complete disintegration of a country
- that
- > was forced to be a country.
- >
- >
- > The Croatian Wildcard
- >
- > A rally in Split on Sunday, February 11, 2001, saw 100,000 people gather
- > to protest efforts to arrest retired Maj. Gen. Mirko Norac, 33, a popular
- > hero of the country's 1991 war for independence from the former Yugoslav
- > federation. According to reports, "dozens of people gave the Nazi salute
- > during the playing of the national anthem, recalling the merger of
- nationalism
- > and fascism in Croatia during World War II."
- >

- > Norac is being charged for war crimes by the Croatian government and is not
- > on any Hague wanted list. According to the Washington Post (Feb. 16/01),
- >
- > "Prosecutors' interest in Norac stems from events in 1991, when he was 23.
- > Norac allegedly took part in the brutal killings of Serbs, including women,
- > children and the elderly. According to Nacional, citing confidential court
- > testimony, six Croats who participated in the killing said Norac's paramilitary
- > forces took 15 civilians between ages 15 and 60 to a forest outside Gospic
- > and executed them.
- >
- > Norac is also accused of overseeing the execution of prisoners and the rape
- > and execution of women at a prison camp he helped set up in 1991."
- >
- > Croat extremists are outraged that a "hero" of the "Patriotic War" may face
- > war crimes charges, and in a Croatian court. Their movement is gaining momentum
- > with a disenchanted Croat public. (more about the Norac case at: <http://www.balkanpeace.org/gcgns/index.shtml>)
- >
- > The inability of President Stipe Mesic and Prime Minister Ivica Racan to
- > resuscitate the economy, unemployment climbed to 26% under their rule, has
- > given the hardliners and extremists a new impetus. Both Mesic and Racan are
- > fighting for their political lives as war veteran groups are calling them
- > traitors and demanding their resignations. It is unlikely that Croatia will
- > see foreign investment in the country as long the political situation remains
- > uncertain.
- >
- >
- > Conclusions
- >
- > Of course, the prerequisite for profitable investment is a stable political
- > situation in the region. From that perspective it is very clear why Europe
- > is not supportive of Djukanovic's idea for independence, why Europe wants
- > the Kosovo problem solved, and why they want Bosnia and Hercegovina to become
- > a link between Yugoslavia and Croatia, connecting Republic of Srpska and
- > Yugoslavia in the form of a "special relationships".
- >
- > The coming spring will certainly bring a lot of events. First of all, there
- > will be a division in the Momir Bulatovic's SPP (Socialist People's Party)
- > where most will accept Predrag Bulatovic's pragmatic diplomacy. We can expect
- > something similar to what happened in the Milo Djukanovic's ruling party
- > DPS (Democratic Party of Socialists) which may fall apart due to a lack
- > of vision in regards to Montenegro's future and decreased public support.
- > As such, Mr. Djukanovic is forced to form political coalitions that are not
- > supported by many of his party members. The elections in Montenegro will
- > show a huge division between the people, and this alone brings up a
- > question
- > if it is in Serbian best interest to carry this political weight around its
- > neck. In case Serbia gets a guarantee that Kosovo will remain a part of
- > Serbia
- > (theoretically guaranteed by UN Resolution 1244), Kostunica-Djindjic could
- > give up on keeping the federation together at "any cost" and call for a referendum
- > with the question if Serbs want to live together with Montenegrins.
- >
- > But, then again, should there be a division of Kosovo along Serbian and an
- > Albanian parts, we would expect Republika Srpska to ask for integration
- > with

mei 2000

Geachte mevrouw, meneer,

Vaak wordt het vergeten, maar een investering in de toekomst is wellicht de beste investering die u kan doen. Daarom vragen wij u te investeren in de toekomst van schoolkinderen in Joegoslavië. Zij zullen later dit land, waar nu nog zoveel moet veranderen, in de juiste richting moeten sturen. Goed onderwijs is daarom een eerste vereiste. Nu echter is die mogelijkheid ontnomen; vele scholen zijn zwaar beschadigd of verwoest door de bombardementen. Belangrijk is dan ook om een stap in de goede richting te zetten door deze scholen mee te helpen opbouwen. Wij vragen daarvoor uw financiële steun. Uw bijdrage is een investering. Een investering in een toekomst waarin wij hopen op één, vrij Europa.

Stichting Opbouw Basisscholen Joegoslavië (OBJ) zet zich in om alle scholen die nog grote schade hebben direct financiële hulp bieden. Stichting OBJ beschikt over de gegevens van 197 basisscholen die zijn getroffen, en nog eens 150 scholen die schade hebben geleden. Van de donaties koopt stichting OBJ ter plaatse materialen die nodig zijn om de scholen te herstellen. Stichting OBJ verstrekt donateurs overzichten van door hun giften aangekochte materialen. Als u een bijdrage in goederen zou kunnen en willen leveren, dan vragen wij u contact met ons op te nemen. Ook voor meer informatie kunt u zich richten tot onderstaand adres.

Bij voorbaat dank.

Met vriendelijke groeten,
Dhr. B. Lisac

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To: Jelle van der Meulen <jellevdmeulen@introweb.nl>; Annamiek Vermeulen <Speerpunt@wxs.nl>; Marrie & Jan Beentjes <beentjes@knoware.nl>; Ksenija Sigulinski <sigu@worldonline.nl>; Hans Hupkes <hans.hupkes@planet.nl>; Nico /Neeltje Steijnen <n.h.van.holst@freeler.nl>; Globalreflexion <office@globalreflexion.org>
Sent: zaterdag 17 maart 2001 14:59
Subject: Fw: - Ljudska prava - Banker ready to testify against Milosevic

----- Original Message -----

From: Slobodan Petrovic
To: Undisclosed-Recipient:
Sent: Saturday, March 17, 2001 11:16 PM
Subject: - Ljudska prava - Banker ready to testify against Milosevic

Date: Sat, 17 Mar 2001 10:14:38 +0100
 Subject: TIMES: Banker ready to testify against Milosevic

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/0,,3-100576,00.html>

THE TIMES (London)
 SATURDAY MARCH 17 2001

Banker ready to testify against Milosevic

BY DRAGAN PETROVIC IN BELGRADE, MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA, AND RICHARD BEESTON

A KEY figure in the secret banking network established by Slobodan Milosevic has agreed to help Yugoslav investigators hunting billions of pounds smuggled out of the country during his decade in power.

Borka Vucic, 72, once described as "Milosevic's banker", says that she is ready to testify against the former Serb nationalist leader.

The offer of assistance could not come at a better time for Mladjan Dinkic, the new Governor of the Yugoslav Central Bank, who led a team of investigators this week to Cyprus, one of the Milosevic regime's main conduits for sanctions busting in the 1990s.

For the first time in the island's corporate history, Cyprus's central bank lifted its banking secrecy laws and sent the UN war crimes tribunal in The Hague details of the accounts of nine companies suspected of having close ties with Mr Milosevic. Last week, the Government froze an additional 18 offshore company accounts at the tribunal's request.

"According to our estimates, \$4 billion (£2.6 billion) left Yugoslavia between 1992 and 1994," Mr Dinkic, 36, said. "That does not mean that all the money came to Cyprus, but a significant part did."

According to Mrs Vucic, who ran the Cyprus operation, transactions were "predominantly made in cash" to avoid the sanctions regime. "You have to understand that the country had to survive under the unfair regime of sanctions," she said. "Exports were predominantly paid for in cash. From the point of view of my country, there were no illegal transactions."

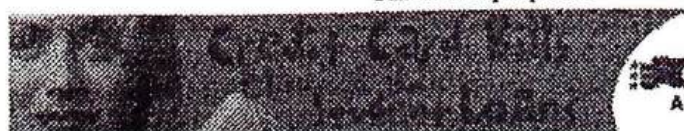
Her evidence could be vital for the authorities in Belgrade who are hoping to prosecute the former President on a variety of charges ranging from embezzlement to kidnapping and murder. Financial abuses could offer prosecutors the best chance of obtaining a conviction.

Mrs Vucic, a partisan fighter during the war who studied at the London School of Economics and later became president of the Beogradska Banka, had been a dominant figure in Yugoslav financial circles for more than 30 years until her recent retirement.

Although she insists that Mr Milosevic is not "a materialistic person", she has sought to distance herself from the former leader.

Above all, she insisted that it was her duty to help the newly installed Government of President Kostunica. "I am ready to provide any information that should be in the interest of our new Government," she said in an interview.

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NATO HITS SABAC WITH AT LEAST THREE MISSILES

SABAC - The NATO air force attacked the old inner core of the western Serbian town of Sabac at 1 a.m. Sunday.

The town on the Sava river was attacked on Saturday as well. At least three missiles were fired at the old core of the town, said the Information Center for the Macva district. There are no reports yet about possible casualties or damage.

STRONG DETONATIONS IN BELGRADE'S RAKOVICA DISTRICT

BELGRADE - Two strong detonations were heard on Strazevica Hill, in Belgrade's Rakovica district, at about 3 a.m. Sunday. The city information center said there were no casualties or fires. Strazevica Hill has been repeatedly attacked by NATO aircraft since the onset of the alliance's aggression on Yugoslavia on March 24.

NATO ATTACKS BELGRADE SUBURBS OF SURCIN AND JAKOVO

BELGRADE - The NATO air force attacked the area between Belgrade's suburbs of Surcin and Jakovo at about 1.30 a.m. Sunday, the Information Center of Belgrade's municipality of Zemun said.

Several detonations were heard in the area. Yugoslav air defense units were engaged in the wider area of Belgrade.

NATO MISSILES DAMAGE ELECTRIC POWER PLANT IN OBRENOVAC

BELGRADE - NATO aircraft fired two missiles at the Obrenovac electric power plant at about 4 a.m. Sunday, the Belgrade Information Center said. Power went out in this southern suburb of Belgrade, and the city itself has also been affected.

NATO DESTROYS ANTENNA TOWER IN VRBAS

VRBAS - The NATO air force destroyed the antenna tower in the northern Serbian town of Vrbas with one missile at 40 minutes past midnight, the Tanjug correspondent reported early Sunday.

The tower had been considerably damaged in a previous NATO attack.

NATO AIRCRAFT FIRE 20 MISSILES IN ONE HOUR AT MERDARE

KURSUMLIJA - NATO aircraft fired 20 missiles from 12.45 until 14.00 hrs Saturday at the Kursumlija village of Merdare, southern

The village is located near the municipality of Podujevo in Serbia's Kosovo and Metohija province.

NATO had attacked this area at 8.38 hrs also, firing one missile at a repeater on a hill near Prepovac, a village near the Kursunlija spa. The repeater was toppled in the second attack.

There is vast material damage on several houses in Merdara, a village which has never had any military objects.

The area is constantly under attack. NATO aircraft fired 170 missiles and a large number of cluster bombs at this village since the onset of the aggression on Yugoslavia on March 24. Many houses in the village have been razed, and practically all others are severely damaged. The elementary school in the village has also been considerably damaged.

NATO REPEATEDLY ATTACKS VELIKA GRABOVICA VILLAGE, SOUTHERN SERBIA

LESKOVAC - The village Velika Grabovica, near the southern Serbian town of Leskovac, was again attacked by NATO on two occasions late Saturday. The village was hit at 7 p.m. with three missiles, and 22 minutes later with three more.

This was the fourth NATO attack on this village since 9.45 a.m. Saturday, and there are no military objects anywhere in the area.

NATO aircraft again attacked the village at 11.35 p.m., and then about 20 minutes later, with four missiles. With this fifth attack, NATO fired over 20 missiles at the village.

NATO AGAIN TARGETS SERBIA'S NORTHERN MT FRUSKA GORA

NOVI SAD - Three big detonations reverberated on Mt Fruska Gora in the Yugoslav republic of Serbia's northern Vojvodina province at 1.03 a.m. on Sunday.

No word was immediately available about what were the targets or the effects of the NATO raid.

Half an hour after midnight, a powerful detonation, believed to be due to NATO planes breaking the sound barrier, rocked Vojvodina's capital Novi Sad and other towns.

At around 1 a.m., too, NATO planes again overflew Novi Sad in an effort to provoke a response from the air defence systems and so detect their positions, but the air defence did not rise to the bait.

NATO AGAIN RAIDS SERBIA'S SOUTHERN KURSUMLIJA AREA

BELGRADE - NATO planes again during the Saturday to Sunday night raided the area of Kursunlija in the south of the Yugoslav republic of Serbia. Four powerful detonations were heard in the area between 9.30 p.m. and 11 p.m. on Saturday.

After 11 p.m., NATO planes moved on further south, to Podnjevo in Serbia's Kosovo-Metohija province.

Several blasts had been heard south of Kursunlija also at around 3.30 p.m.

NATO AGAIN HITS ON TOWNS, VILLAGES IN SERBIA'S KOSOVO-METOHILJA

PRISTINA - NATO planes again late on Saturday raided towns and villages in the Prizren and Istok areas in the Yugoslav republic of Serbia's Kosovo-Metohija province.

In the Prizren area, the villages of Petrovo and Landovica were hit with seven missiles each in the space of half an hour, between 7.30 and 8 p.m. In the Istok area, the village of Zec was raided in two waves - first shortly after 6 p.m., when it was hit with three missiles, and again at 7.45 p.m., when another four missiles were fired.

NATO RAIDS SERBIA'S SOUTHERN LEBANE AREA

LEBANE - NATO planes on Saturday afternoon shelled villages in the Lebane area in the south of the Yugoslav republic of Serbia.

Two missiles were fired on the villages of Malo Vojilovce and Veliko Vojilovce, wounding one person. No other casualties have been reported and the damage is being assessed.

YUGOSLAV AIR DEFENSE HITS NATO AIRCRAFT

LESKOVAC - Yugoslav air defense units vigorously responded to a NATO attack on an airfield in Leskovac between 2 and 3 p.m. Saturday. Eyewitnesses said one NATO aircraft was hit. The plane left in the direction of Bulgaria, trailing thick black smoke from its fuselage.

NATO ATTACKS SEVERAL CIVILIAN TARGETS IN KOSOVO AND METOHILJA

PRISTINA - NATO aircraft bombarded several civilian targets in Serbia's Kosovo and Metohija province on Saturday night and early on Sunday, the Pristina Medical Center said.

NATO fired four missiles at the village of Ence, municipality of

municipality of Prizren, firing over 20 missiles.

NATO fired seven missiles at Landovica, municipality of Prizren, at about 8 p.m., the provincial Information Center said.

The village of Zec, municipality of Istok, was attacked with at least 10 missiles in two air strikes. The attacks caused heavy material damage. During the night, NATO fired several missiles at the Slatina civilian airport near Pristina. Shortly before midnight, two missiles fell near a monument to Kosovo heroes in Gazimestan.

NATO aircraft fired at least 10 missiles at the village of Velikince, near Gnjilane, at about 8 a.m. Sunday, and 13 missiles at the area of Urosevac 45 minutes later.

MORE THAN ONE MILLION DISPLACED PERSONS IN YUGOSLAVIA

BELGRADE - The now two-month U.S.-NATO aggression on Yugoslavia has resulted in more than one million internally displaced persons, the Yugoslav Red Cross said on Sunday.

These persons have left their homes either because they were destroyed in NATO air strikes, or as a measure of precaution to save their own or the lives of their families, an analysis said.

The greatest destruction of civilian districts has been in the towns of Aleksinac, Pristina, Novi Sad, Djakovica, Surdulica, Cacak, Valjevo, Cuprija, Nis, and Prokuplje, where countless citizens have been left without their homes and every other possession.

The destruction of factories has left more than 500,000 workers jobless, according to figures of the Serbian trade union. Including the workers' families, this means that at least two million people have been deprived of their livelihood, and they are soon expected to approach Red Cross organizations for help.

As Kosovo and Metohija province was attacked by NATO most frequently and most heavily, close to 250,000 people have fled from this southern Serbian province to Serbia proper or Montenegro.

There are also more than 600,000 refugees from Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia in Yugoslavia, who need humanitarian and other aid in these difficult times even more than before, as they are the most vulnerable category of the population.

CHILDREN MAKE UP 30 PERCENT OF KILLED CIVILIANS IN YUGOSLAVIA

BELGRADE - Since the start of the NATO aggression on the

Saturday.

Savovic told a press conference at the Yugoslav Army press centre that the hardest hit by the war are the children and that of the 5,000 civilians wounded so far, 40 percent are children.

Underlining that three million children in Yugoslavia are prevented from sleeping peacefully at night and live in a state of constant stress, Savovic set out that the effects of this will be visible after the war.

Speaking about the effect of the war on the health of the population, Savovic stated that after the war we should expect a lower birth-rate, a deterioration of the people's immune system, an increase of malignant disorders, a rise in the number of invalid children and those without parental care and with disturbed behavior, and an increase in teenage delinquency and serious mental disorders.

BOMBS IN SEA - GREAT DANGER WITH INCALCULABLE CONSEQUENCES

KOTOR - Reports that a fisherman from the Adriatic resort Brijuni, near Budva in Montenegro, had pulled up in his net a load of fish intermingled with explosive devices and bombs, most certainly unloaded by NATO aircraft returning to bases in Italy, has disturbed fishermen and other citizens on the Montenegrin Adriatic coast.

In view of the fact that NATO is using illegal weapons in the aggression on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, fears of an ecologic catastrophe are justified.

Dr. Slobodan Rogner, an expert at the Institute for the Biology of the Sea in Kotor, warned that the danger is threefold - from explosions, chemical devastation and possible delayed reactions resulting from the different character of the explosive devices.

NATO raids on manufacturing and civilian facilities on May 22st and in the night between May 22st and 23rd 1999

The destruction of industrial and civilian facilities on the 61st day of the aggression on FR Yugoslavia, continued all day yesterday and last night. Many facilities of major importance for the population of the Yugoslav capital and provincial towns. After the fourth raid on the Yugoslav power grid in which carbon filament and electronic bombs were used, many towns and villages faced black-outs and lack of running water. Transport infrastructure, residential buildings and telecommunication systems have either been newly damaged or completely demolished.

KOSOVSKA MITROVICA: (12:10) The suburb of Bair has been bombed. 18 missiles were fired by the attacking aircraft.

BELGRADE: (12:10) Three missiles were fired at the Maksis quarter in the outskirts of the capital. Enemy attacks were directed on the Lipovicka Suna area - to the southeast of the town center- as well.

LESKOVAC: (13:45) The entire municipal area faced attacks. The town and the surrounding area were targeted by at least 15 highly destructive missiles. The light planes' airport in the outskirts of town has been demolished including three light planes. Private homes in the immediate vicinity suffered great damages. The zone around the village of Velika Grabovica, a dozen kilometers from the town has been shelled with at least 10 missiles. A second attack followed between 19:00 and 19:15 when 6 more missiles were launched. This village suffered four attacks yesterday. The YA Air Defence put up a fierce resistance.

SMEDEREVO: (13:50 - 14:10) At least four missiles have been fired at the local industrial zone. Early this morning the railroad-crossing on the Rajka - Mihajlovac line has been hit.

KLINA: (14:44) The village of Budisavac in Klina county has been hit by two missiles launched by NATO planes.

PRIZREN, ISTOK: (18:00) Last night's enemy raid focused on the villages in the Prizren and Istok counties. The villages of Petrovo and Landovica (Prizren County) were bombed. Both of them were hit by seven missiles. The village of Zac (Istok County) faced two attacks by NATO planes that fired seven missiles each time.

OBRENOVAC: (01:00) The zones of Obrenovac and Baric have been raided last night. In the Obrenovac area, four missiles fell in the vicinity of the thermal power plant. Enemy attacks were retaliated by YA Air Defence.

SREMSKA MITROVICA: The village of Mandjelos and the zone between Crveni Cot and Brankovac on Mt. Fruska Gora were targeted.

SABAC: (01:03) NATO bombers launched three missiles on the local Sports Center on the banks of the Sava and the "Jugopetrol" depot.

PRIZREN: (01:15) Seven missiles have been fired on the municipal area.

van holst en steijnen

From: minja m. (by way of Herman de Tollenaere <hermantl@stad.dsl.nl>) <minja@supernet.ca>
 To: <office@globalreflexion.org>
 Sent: zondag 22 oktober 2000 03:22
 Subject: Diana Johnstone on Yugoslavia [fwd]

<http://www.zmag.org/johnstonem.htm>

11 October 2000

IN A SPIN

by Diana Johnstone

The "October surprise" that brought a change of power in Belgrade was actually two events, one superimposed on the other. One was a democratic election, made in Serbia. The other was a totally undemocratic putsch, made in the "international community", otherwise known as NATOland.

The democratic election would have been sufficient to oblige Slobodan Milosevic to retire as Yugoslav President. The majority of Yugoslav voters had long wished a change in leadership, and Vojislav Kostunica emerged as an acceptable alternative. But the NATO-backed putschists wanted more. They wanted two things that the legal elections could not provide: a dramatic media spectacle that would fit the Western "spin", and a seizure of power beyond the limited powers of the Yugoslav presidency.

The Democratic Election

The Yugoslav elections were called by Milosevic himself. Having been elected President of Serbia in the country's first multi-party elections in 1990, the "dictator" had followed the constitutional rules and left the Serbian presidency at the end of his second term, whereupon he was elected by the Yugoslav parliament to the mainly symbolic office of Yugoslav president. Having sponsored a constitutional change which would allow him to be re-elected, but by universal suffrage, he went on to call early elections, months before his term was to run out in mid-2001.

Milosevic was lured into this move by advisors pointing to deceptive public opinion polls indicating that he could win by a margin of 150,000 votes in the autumn, before winter hardships turned voters against him. This is similar to the "joke" played on French president Jacques Chirac, who called the early elections that brought his left opposition headed by Lionel Jospin into office. In Paris, it is even rumored that it was a French advisor who urged Milosevic to make this fatal error.

In short, Milosevic was not a "dictator" but a calculating politician trying to stay in office in a multi-party electoral system he had largely introduced. Aware that his popularity ratings had long been in decline, he counted on several factors to help him get the necessary 50% of the vote to be re-elected President of Yugoslavia. These were

- the chronic squabbling of the so-called "democratic" (meaning bourgeois, as the Swedes call the center right) opposition and the public rejection of its main leaders (especially Democratic Party leader Zoran Djindjic);
- the fact that Montenegrin president Milo Djukanovic was sure to call for a boycott of the elections as part of his secession strategy, which would leave only pro-Milosevic voters willing to go to improvised polling stations;
- the prospect of a couple of hundred thousand solid votes from Kosovo constituencies (where ethnic Albanians would, as usual, boycott the election) and from the armed forces.

Aware of its weakness, the opposition which had first loudly demanded early elections then threatened to boycott them, claiming that they would be rigged by Milosevic. The NATOland chorus joined in, proclaiming that Yugoslav elections would not be "fair and free" and that Milosevic was certain to cheat.

In fact, thanks to a normal democratic system of multi-party supervisors at polling stations, cheating in Yugoslav elections was nearly impossible in Serbia proper, except perhaps for the hundred thousand or so soldiers who vote in barracks. Kosovo and Montenegro offered limited opportunities for cheating only because of the obstructionism of the separatists. In the end, Milosevic was a whopping 700,000 votes short. Official results gave Kostunica over 48% of the vote in a five-man race. This fell slightly short of the 50% required to win, but indicated an almost certain landslide in the runoff against Milosevic, who trailed by some ten percentage points. (Yugoslav electoral law calls for a second round if no candidate wins an absolute majority in the first round.)

Here is where both sides contributed to a confusion that gave an opportunity to the putschists to move to steal the election. Apparently in a state of shock, the government announced the results slowly and without complete details. The "Democratic Opposition in Serbia" (DOS) backing Kostunica demanded recognition of a claimed first round victory and announced it would boycott the second round. This raised the danger of a second round that Milosevic could win by default. The prospect of two winners — one in the first round, the other in the second — would have created a dangerous civil war situation, favorable to NATO intervention. Kostunica's backers argued that since Milosevic had cheated in the first round, he would cheat even more in the second — this was not plausible, but widely believed anyway, as the demonization of the former leader and future scapegoat picked up momentum.

The DOS thereby moved the contest from the ballot box into the streets, where "the people" would demand recognition of Kostunica's election. This prepared the way for power — and property — to change hands amid confusion and violence.

Neither the police nor the Army was willing to support Milosevic against a patriotic Serb like Kostunica who had won popular support in a legal election. Their neutrality seems to have been ensured by the influence of two key figures dismissed by Milosevic two years ago, former security chief Jovica Stanisic and former army chief of staff Momcilo Perisic, who retained friends and influence in the police and the armed forces respectively. The rallying of other figures who had been part of the Milosevic power structure was hastened by Kostunica's reiterated assurances that there would be no vengeance. Former Milosevic followers began flocking to the side of Kostunica seeking protection from his short-run supporter and long-term rival, Zoran Djindjic, well known as Germany's man in Serbia. Thus Kostunica gained the Yugoslav presidency both because he was not Milosevic and because he was not Djindjic. But Djindjic has been strikingly active in grabbing the substance of victory away from the successful DOS candidate.

The Media Spectacle

It is arguable that Kostunica — considered the most honest of political leaders — could have won the presidential election just as easily (more

easily, some supporters claim) if the United States and its NATO allies had refrained from pumping millions of dollars and deutschmarks into the country to support what they called "the democratic opposition". But it is far less likely that without all that excess cash, we would have been treated to the spectacle of the October 5th "democratic revolution", when a large crowd stormed the venerable Skupstina, the parliament building in the center of Belgrade. That event, presented to the world public as the most spontaneous act of self-liberation, was probably the single most planned act of all. It was staged for the TV cameras which filmed and relayed the same scenes over and over again: youths breaking through windows, flags waving, flames rising, smoke enveloping what some newspapers described as "the symbol of the Milosevic regime".

This was utter nonsense. It was like calling Big Ben the "symbol of the Blair regime" or the Capitol the "symbol of the Clinton regime". But the Western spinners needed symbols and drama for the latest episode in the hit TV fiction series of the 1990s starring the "genocidal dictator", Slobodan Milosevic. It wouldn't do for "Europe's last communist dictator" simply to lose a democratic election. Something more exalted was needed. So there was an attempt to revive a hit drama of a decade earlier, the "fall of Ceaucescu", which was also contrived and staged. If Milosevic and his wife met the same bloody fate as the Rumanian ruling couple, that would be "proof" enough for the media that they were equivalent to the dictator couple of Bucharest.

But they weren't and fortunately it didn't happen quite like that. In Belgrade there was no equivalent of the Securitate (Rumanian secret police) to stage the drama. There was only a gang of toughs bussed in from Cacak, as the town's mayor later boasted to Western media, who led the mob up the Skupstina steps and easily broke into the scarcely guarded building, which was systematically vandalized and set on fire, causing considerable damage to public property. The liberators then went on to smash shop windows and steal property in nearby shopping streets. This failed to provoke the bloodshed that would have improved the TV show, but the vandals did their best.

The fiercely anti-communist mayor of Cacak, Velimir Ilic, told the French news agency AFP that his armed "commando" of 2,000 men had set out quite deliberately on October 5 to "take control of the key institutions of the regime, including the parliament and the television".

"Our action had been prepared in advance. Among my men were ex-parachute troops, former army and police officers as well as men who had fought in special forces," he told AFP. "A number of us wore bullet-proof vests and carried weapons", he added proudly. Ilic said contact was maintained throughout the action with high police and Interior Ministry officials, but that president-elect Kostunica was unaware of what was going on. "We were afraid he'd be opposed", said Ilic. And indeed, when he got word of what was going on, Kostunica by all accounts prevented the commandos from hunting down Milosevic and giving their spectacle a bloody finale.

Some of these former "special forces" commandos included veterans of the civil wars in Croatia and Bosnia. The peak of irony lies in the fact that such paramilitaries, primarily responsible for giving the Serbian people the (unjustified) reputation of "ethnic cleansers" and war criminals, were instantly promoted by Western media into heroes of an inspiring "democratic revolution". But there is a consistency about it: the same tiny group of men are able to perform for world media as an exaggerated caricature of "the Serbs", first as villains, later as heroes.

The ordinary citizens of Belgrade deplored the violence of October 5th, as they had deplored the violence of the civil wars. And the large crowds who gathered in Belgrade squares to support their candidate, Kostunica, were blissfully unaware of how they were being used as extras in an international TV production.

Violence Versus Votes

The law-abiding citizens of Belgrade were also unaware of how the euphoria in the streets would provide cover for an ongoing campaign of violence and intimidation aimed at changing the whole power structure in Serbia, outside of any democratic or legal process. The Skupstina that was targeted for vandalism was not "the symbol of Milosevic's regime" but a parliament where the Socialist Party and its allies still had a duly elected majority. The "democratic revolution" in the streets did not attack a Bastille prison to liberate dissenters, but the seat of the democratically elected representatives of the people. The mob ransacked and set fire to the federal Electoral Commission offices inside the Skupstina, reportedly setting fire to ballots collected there, making it highly unlikely that the disputed first round score will ever be satisfactorily clarified.

The spectacle enabled the managers of street violence to claim the "democratic revolution" as their own, openly attempting to relegate Kostunica to a figurehead role.

Since then, throughout the country, Socialist Party headquarters have been assaulted and demolished, officials have been beaten and expelled from their functions by gangs of "democrats". The most lucrative enterprises have been seized. Strange parallel governments called "crisis headquarters" have been set up without any democratic mandate to redistribute property and offices. The "revolutionaries" can be sure the NATO benefactors of Serbian democracy will not ask for their money back so long as they target the left, which is identified only as "the Milosevic regime". The clear lesson: "democracy" is not defined by elections, but by NATO approval. Methods don't matter. The end justifies the means.

Franco-German Rivalries

All through the Yugoslav drama of the past decade, not to mention for well over a century, internal conflicts have reflected external great power rivalries. This is still going on.

Among these rival powers, Russia scarcely counts any more. The Russians have more to lose from the Western absorption of Serbia than the Serbs have to gain from the Russians, who have been too weak to do anything to stop the steady erosion of their influence in the Balkans. As one observer put it, "the Serbs have the impression that the Russians only want to share their poverty, while the Serbs would rather share American wealth".

The rival powers are now all Western. A few years ago, Paris tried to support Vuk Draskovic against both Milosevic on the one hand and the German party (represented by Djindjic) on the other, but Draskovic proved too unreliable. Today, the implicit rivalry is between Kostunica, supported by France, and Djindjic, supported by Germany.

This division is a matter of political principle as well as personality, and relates to conflicting French and German views of the future of Europe. Kostunica, as is constantly repeated is a "nationalist" or, we could say, a patriot, who wants to preserve his nation-state, by giving it a new, modern democratic constitution. As a scholar of American federalism, he would base a political order for the future Yugoslavia on the American 18th century model.

For Djindjic, this is old-fashioned nonsense, good only for a transitional moment toward the dissolution of all the Balkan nations into a modern European Union where politics will take a backseat to business. Djindjic, who studied Germany, believes in "civil society" where the private sphere outweighs the *res publica*, and public political life is reduced to imagery. Business versus politics could sum up the conflict between these two.

Kostunica plans to stay in office for only a year, just the time to complete his constitutional reform. Thereupon Djindjic, who could never have won this election, openly hopes to take over.

The Economy, Stupid

For many years, the alternate currency in Serbia has been the Deutschmark, traded on every street corner by men murmuring " _devize, devize _ ". During the weeks leading up to the fall of Milosevic, so many D-marks have flooded into the country that the precious currency recently lost half its value. Everyone believes that most of this money flows in through Djindjic. It seems to have been spent less on the election (Yugoslav election campaigns are not the expensive affairs run in the United States) than on preparing aspects of "the putsch" that followed: the forceful takeover of media by "independent" (i.e., NATO-approved) journalists, of key businesses and official positions which has been going on since the October 5 arson of the Skupstina.

The European Union has moved quickly to lift some economic sanctions against Serbia and Madeleine Albright has also proclaimed the need to give the Serbian people "some dividends out of democracy" and to help President Kostunica. "We want to support him, we want to get assistance to him. I've been talking to our European partners. We will be lifting certain economic sanctions to make sure that the people can recover and the Danube is cleared," she declared.

Here the key word is "Danube". NATO bombing destroyed Serb bridges and blocked the Danube to European shipping, much of it German. The priority for Germany is to reopen the Danube, and it is for this purpose that important funds will be provided. To be precise, funds will be _lent_:

Western generosity will take its usual form of the "debt trap", and Yugoslav public services will have to be cut back for years to come in order to repay the Western powers for rebuilding the transportation structure they themselves destroyed. The reconstructed transportation structure will be used to ship other people's commercial goods through the country to other people's markets. The "democratic dividend" will mainly benefit German business.

But for the moment, the Serbian voters do not want to worry about that. They have been bombed, isolated, sanctioned, banned from traveling to other countries, reduced to poverty and treated as pariahs. Their main "crime" was to have wanted to preserve multiethnic Yugoslavia and to have been reluctant to give up all the benefits of self-management socialism in favor of the "shock treatment" impoverishing people in Russia and neighboring Bulgaria. Since Yugoslavia was not part of the Soviet bloc, its people were slow to realize that the defeat of the Soviet bloc meant that they too had to bow to the dictates of the West. Now they can dream of being "normal" Europeans again. For a relatively small minority, the dream of prosperity will no doubt come true. For others, there will be some unpleasant surprises. But that doesn't matter now. People have had enough of not being paid their wages more than a couple of months out of the year, of having to heat only one room, of shortages and travel bans. Young people, especially, want to live like other Europeans of their generation.

"People in Serbia are not looking for the truth", observed Serbian writer Milan Ratkovic, who lives in Paris. "They are looking for comforting lies." From being portrayed as monsters, the Serbs are suddenly being celebrated by Western media as heroes. They can turn on Western TV and see heroic images of themselves. "Look," says Ratkovic, "we held out longer than anybody else in Eastern Europe. Against us, the West had to use all its weapons and all its tricks." Sometimes the only way to solve a problem is to change problems.

van holst en steijnen

From: global reflexion <office@globalreflexion.org>
To: <office@globalreflexion.org>
Sent: vrijdag 20 oktober 2000 07:15
Subject: Kostunica Coalition Triples Prices & Blames...Milosevic

The Global Reflexion Foundation contributes, according to her ability, to the distribution of information on international issues that in the media does not receive proper attention or is presented in a distorted way. We receive information from different sources, that does not necessary reflect our opinion. If you don't want to receive it, please send us an e-mail.

 Friday, October 20, 2000

1. Kostunica Coalition Triples Prices & Blames...Milosevic
2. Croat President to Serbia. Cough Up and Pay Up!
3. The other Yugoslavian election

 Announcment

TARGETS, a Dutch monthly publication on international affaires, will organize a public meeting to discuss the current developments in Yugoslavia and the role of the Western powers.

The meeting will be adressed by:

- Jürgen Elsässer, editor of the German monthly publication KONKRET and
- Nico Varkevisser, editor-in-chief of TARGETS

Date: Sunday, October 29
 Place: Akhnaton, Nieuwezijds Kolk 25, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
 Time: 15.00h

Jürgen Elsässer will present his new book: 'Kriegsverbrechen'. Die tötlichen Lügen der Nato und ihre Opfer im Kosovo-Konflikt. (including a file on Srebrenica)

Kostunica Coalition Triples Prices & Blames...Milosevic
 by Michel Chossudovsky (10-19-2000)

"Immediately after taking the office, the new government shall abolish all types of subsidies. This measure must be implemented without regrets or hesitation, since it will be difficult if not impossible to apply later, in view of the fact that in the meantime strong lobbies may appear and do their best to block such measures... This initial step in economic liberalization must be undertaken as a "shock therapy" as its radical nature does not leave space for gradualism of any kind." (G-1& program of radical economic reforms, <http://www.g17.org.yu/english/>)

The Kostunica government has already started to implement deadly IMF 'economic medicine'. The first step consisted in lifting price controls on basic consumer goods, fuel and services. Prices have increased, as much as three times, causing extreme hardship for Yugoslav working people.

The country had been impoverished by years of economic sanctions, not to mention the IMF reforms applied in 1989-90 before the break-up of federal Yugoslavia. But a system of State subsidies and price controls nonetheless prevented a total collapse in the standard of living, such as occurred in neighbouring Bulgaria,

That system of price controls is now being disbanded by the DOS semi-government on orders of the

International Monetary Fund (IMF):

"..when Kostunica supporters forced out most managers in state-owned shops and factories and put their own people in charge, that system of controls collapsed and prices immediately shot up. The cost of cooking oil has more than tripled since last Friday, when Milosevic announced that he was stepping aside.. The prices of sugar and cigarettes are about to jump again. After Kostunica's supporters forced out Milosevic-era factory directors, the new ones are moving quickly to make their plants more profitable. (Los Angeles Times, October 15, 2000)

Freezing the Money Supply

To make sure the government could not finance subsidies, the G-17 economists forcefully took control of the Central Bank and immediately imposed a freeze on money creation ("printing of money"). This held up the outflow of cash which the government needed to sustain price controls on basic consumer goods.

At first, the DOS announced that 'removing controls' was a great achievement. And the Western media applauded Kostunica's determination, presented in sharp contrast to the supposedly devious Milosevic:

"One of the ways Milosevic tried to buy support among his impoverished people was by using price controls to keep down the cost of basic foods such as milk and cooking oil." (Los Angeles Times, October 15, 2000).

According to interviews we did with Belgrade residents today, the price of milk has almost doubled from 8 to 14 dinars per liter, largely affecting children; cooking oil has more than tripled, from 13.5 to 55 dinars; sugar has gone from 8 to 45 dinars. These interviews confirm the earlier Los Angeles Times' report.

Shoppers are commenting, "Ahh, democratic prices!" The Serbian use of black humor masks rising anger among ordinary people.

Faced with this simmering rebellion, Kostunica supporters, including the G-17 economists, have performed a dazzling flip:

"The new leadership [meaning Kostunica's DOS coalition] has accused Slobodan Milosevic's supporters of trying to causing chaos on the markets with a sudden liberalisation, which they say could undermine the fledgling democracy. The Serb republic's government, still dominated by Milosevic loyalists, has started allowing the liberalisation prices of basic goods that had been state-controlled. But reformists said the liberalisation could cause suffering among a population used to state-fixed prices, and some even called for the government to regain control of part of the market." (AFP 16 October 2000)

The Western media, which just a few days earlier congratulated Kostunica for removing price controls, now shamelessly parrots the line that's it's all Milosevic's fault:

"This decision [of Milosevic supporters] is a kind of shock therapy.. These measures will cause a lot of suffering among the people. G-17 director Mladjan Dinkic went further. The move was an 'attempt to create chaos on the market and provoke anger among the people directed at the DOS, he said.' (Ibid.)

G-17 economist Dinkic is worried about "suffering"? But isn't a tolerance for mass suffering the very basis of the IMF program which Mr. Dinkic negotiated in secret meetings with the IMF in Bulgaria, shortly after the elections of 24 September?

While in Bulgaria, Dinkic also met with representatives of NATO countries. He was told that Yugoslavia would have to eliminate price controls as a first step towards establishing 'a free market'. This is called 'price liberalization' and it is always an IMF precondition for loan negotiations.

"This revenge by the [pro-Milosevic] government will not succeed, but if

an interim expert government is not formed soon we will have a lot of trouble controlling prices,' he said. To counter this 'sabotage' Dinkic said he favored a 'return to regulations of prices for certain basics as well as imports of cheaper equivalents from abroad to tackle unjustified price hikes.' (Ibid.)

Note that under the guise of lowering prices Dinkic is talking about shipping in cheap 'equivalents'. In other words, dumping. This practice has destroyed local businesses and farms in Bulgaria and other countries. The previous (i.e., legally constituted) government made sure that producers survived and the poor got enough to eat. This new improved (illegal) government has abolished price controls and will now use the suffering it thus created to justify dumping low priced (often inferior) food and products, thus destroying small producers. Excellent work.

If Dinkic really wanted to go back to the price controls in existence prior to the elections why did the "democratic" gangs who illegally seized state stores abolish all the price controls? In fact, Dinkic wants to have it both ways: get rid of the controls and try to blame the legal government for this action, taken by his men and himself. For it is Dinkic himself who has seized control of the Central Bank, and quite illegally. (See: "Yugoslav Central Bank Tries to Stabilise Public Finances", By Gordana Filipovic, Reuters', Oct 12, 2000)

Concerning the rapid increase in prices, the program drafted by Mr. Dinkic's G-17 Plus is rather explicit:

"Immediately after taking the office, the new government shall abolish all types of subsidies This measure must be implemented without regrets or hesitation, since it will be difficult if not impossible to apply later, in view of the fact that in the meantime strong lobbies may appear and do their best to block such measures... This initial step in economic liberalization must be undertaken as a "shock therapy" as its radical nature does not leave space for gradualism of any kind(G-17 Program of Radical Economic Reforms, <http://www.g17.org.yu/english>"

The program they wrote attacking Milosevic said they would do it.

They have driven Milosevic out and begun to do it.

Naturally it is Milosevic's fault.

Further reading

For more on the IMF-G-17 connection see "The IMF and the Yugoslav Elections" by Michel Chossudovsky and Jared Israel at <http://emperors-clothes.com/analysis/1.htm>

For details on the funding and cration of a U.S/German proxy apparatus in Yugoslavia, see 'How the U.S. has Created a Corrupt Opposition in Serbia' By Jared Israel, Prof. Michel Chossudovsky, Karen Talbot, Nico Varkevisser and Prof. Petar Maher. <http://emperors-clothes.com/analysis/scam.htm>

For independent verification of this funding process, see 'NY Times' Confirms Charge: U.S. Gov't Meddles in Yugoslavia' with comments by Jared Israel. "Suitcases full of cash" says the 'Times.' <http://emperors-clothes.com/news/crlang.htm>

'Emperor's Clothes Interviews Radio B292' Revealing interviews by Jared Israel with two staff members at the U.S. "independent" radio station in Belgrade. <http://emperors-clothes.com/interviews/emperor.htm>

'Criticism of Emperor's Clothes on the Yugoslav Elections, with Reply' Prof. Robert Hayden & Jared Israel <http://emperors-clothes.com/letters/yugoltr.htm>

'U.S. Law Passed by I House of Representatives on Funding Yugo Opposition and Harsh Terms for Lifting Sanctions' <http://emperors-clothes.com/news/ITR.htm>

www.tenc.net [Emperor's Clothes]

Croat President to Serbia: Cough Up and Pay Up!

BUDAPEST, Oct. 18 - It didn't take long for the vultures to start circling over the heads of the new Yugoslav government. During his two-day visit to Hungary, Croatian President, Stipe Mesic, urged Yugoslavia's new authorities to strengthen democracy, allow war criminals to be brought to justice and to pay war damages, the Agence France Presse reported on Wednesday (Oct. 18).

"For us the war with Serbia is over. Now it is Serbia's turn to answer the questions that interest us," Mesic told reporters in Budapest.

Serbia has to be committed to cooperating with ex-Yugoslav states, and it has to make it clear that it did not see the Serbian minorities beyond its borders as means of conquering foreign territories, he added.

"We cannot speak about normal relations if war criminals who are responsible for the bloodbaths of Vukovar or Srebrenica, are walking free in Serbia," Mesic said. Croatia wants Yugoslav war criminals to be tried individually before the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) individually.

TiM Ed.: Way to stir up Kostunica/DOS pot! Cough up the alleged "war criminals" to the Hague, and pay up war reparations to Croatia! Not only is Washington presenting the new Yugoslav government with its diktats, now even its satellites in the Balkans are trying to dictate to Belgrade what it shall do.

Meanwhile, no one is talking about the much more significant amount (about \$30 billion) of war reparations that are due to Serbia, as a result of the NATO 1999 bombing. And to the Bosnian Serb Republic and the Republic of Serb Krajina, because of both the NATO 1995 bombing, and the American-assisted Croat-Muslim "Storm" operation the same year, in which over 250,000 Serbs were driven from their ancestral homes.

Will the real Kostunica please stand up again, and start bringing up these issues, instead of sweeping them under the rug, as he is supposedly bringing Serbia "back to Europe" - evidently with a noose around her neck?

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SERBS BOYCOTT THE KOSOVO POLLS

The other Yugoslavian election

History was made in Yugoslavia with the fall of Slobodan Milosevic on 5 October. His successor, Vojislav Kostunica, has been hailed as a man the west can do business with. But he also a nationalist. So the world will be watching his handling of Kosovo, where the avid demand for independence is the only common thread among the various Albanian parties competing for power in local elections on 28 October.

by JEAN-ARNAULT DERENS *

United Nations administrator Bernard Kouchner had serious misgivings about allowing polling in Kosovo for the Yugoslav federal elections on 24 September. In the event, the Serbs in the province were able to cast their votes. The Kosovar Albanians took no part in the poll. It served only served to remind them that, under UN Resolution 1244, Kosovo is still part of the Yugoslav Federation. Conversely, the Serbs are extremely unlikely to vote in Kosovo's municipal poll on 28 October, when the province will elect its own local authorities.

In any case, over 200,000 displaced Serbs, Montenegrins and Muslim Slavs will be unable to vote, while the 100,000 or so still living in the province support a boycott. And the election campaign itself has been

marred by violence. On 18 August a powerful explosion rocked a building in the centre of Pristina belonging to the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), which houses several ethnic minority parties. The prime target was the Party of Democratic Action (SDA), representing the province's Muslim Slavs. They feel increasingly under threat. And so do the Turks, who have been told to identify with the Albanians or get out.

Some members of ethnic minorities have registered to vote despite these threats. They make no secret of their support for the Democratic League of Kosovo, led by Ibrahim Rugova, which they hope will counter the influence of the Albanian extremists. Some Albanian-speaking Gypsies, particularly among the Ashkali minority, share this view. But most Roma still in Kosovo have not registered. In any case, the vast majority of the province's Roma, Serb and Montenegrin communities have been forced to flee to Montenegro or Serbia (1). In Serbia, the Belgrade regime has prevented OSCE officials from encouraging displaced persons to register as voters. But even in Montenegro, where the authorities facilitate the work of the OSCE, only a tiny minority of refugees have bothered to register.

In Kosovo itself, almost the whole Serb community is behind the boycott. Despite the deep political divides among its 100,000 members, almost all Serb leaders agree they cannot go to the polls as long as the Serbs in Kosovo have no guarantee of their security. Oliver Ivanovic, head of the Serb National Council in Mitrovica, took this position from the start. He advocates the establishment of a tiny Serb republic of Kosovska Mitrovica under his control. But moderate Serbs who support the Serb National Council in Gracanica and the Orthodox Church have taken the same line.

The Church itself is in a tricky position. Oscillating between participation and boycott of the co-management institutions set up by the international administration, it has confused Serb public opinion and can no longer rely on grassroots support. Ivanovic, however, is solidly backed by almost all the 50,000 Serbs living in northern Mitrovica and the neighbouring towns of Zvecan, Zubin Potok and Leposavic.

Yet Leposavic, a town in the far north of Kosovo with an exclusively Serbian population, is something of an exception. It is the only place where there has been an explicit call for Serbs to take part in the October elections. It came from the Coalition for Leposavic, an alliance of Serbian parties opposed to Milosevic, which argued that only cooperation with the international institutions could ensure a future for Serbs in Kosovo. According to unofficial figures released by the OSCE in July, only 400 Serbs had registered on the electoral roll for the whole of Kosovo, and 300 of them live in Leposavic.

Father Sava, spokesman for the Orthodox diocese, makes no attempt to conceal his despair. "International troops have been deployed in Kosovo for over a year, yet Serbs are still being attacked every day. The inability to deal with Albanian extremism is a bonus for Serb extremists." After the Serb boycott of the elections, fresh talks on the constitutional status of the Serbian people are inevitable. While the enclaved villages seemed doomed in the near future, the north Mitrovica region is rapidly moving away from the rest of Kosovo.

On the Albanian side, 25 parties have officially entered the election. But the contest will be between the three largest groups: the Democratic League of Kosovo (LDK), led by Ibrahim Rugova; the Democratic Party of Kosovo (PDK), led by Hashim Thaci, comprising many former members of the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA), and the Alliance for the Future of Kosovo (AAK), set up by Ramush Haradinaj, a former KLA commander.

Since returning to Kosovo in July, Rugova has confined himself to participating in the institutions created by the international administration and condemning political violence. For the rest, he has said nothing. His party seems struck by political paralysis, and leading members like Milazim Krasniqi have left in disgust. Some commentators, however, think Rugova may be playing a waiting game, allowing the former KLA guerrillas to make the running and hoping to cash in on their mistakes at the elections.

In fact, the opinion polls show the LDK clearly in the lead. Rugova

can reasonably expect mass endorsement of his role as a leader symbolising years of struggle against Serbian authority. But he has very little room for manoeuvre. In a number of towns in Kosovo, the LDK has practically been forced underground. In Decani, in the west of the province, its premises have been bombed several times and the party seems unable to maintain a public existence despite the presence of Nato troops. Worse still, Ilaki Imeri, the head of the LDK branch in Srbica, was assassinated last November. Local LDK activists say they are being terrorised and deprived of humanitarian aid by KLA sympathisers, who hold all the key positions on the municipal council, although it is theoretically controlled by the UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (Unmik) (2).

Former KLA members - including those who rushed to join its ranks at the last minute - have imposed a reign of intolerance on the province. Officially, the KLA dissolved itself last year. But the power of the group of ultra-nationalist ideologists who controlled it is undiminished. Its basis is both political and military.

Politically it rests on the PDK and the "provisional government" proclaimed by Hashim Thaci in Albania last April, which appointed local authorities in towns throughout Kosovo. Unmik's civilian administrators often had no choice but to come to terms with the former guerrillas, who have succeeded in eliminating potential competitors and hold a virtual monopoly of power in the municipalities. Officially, the PDK condemns political violence. But its leaders are frequently implicated in physical liquidation of former supporters deemed to be "collaborators" and in the harassment of national minorities.

The KLA's main military prop is the Kosovo Protection Corps (TKK), which is officially a civilian body. In fact, it consists of 5,000 former KLA guerrillas and is organised along military lines. Its six regional commands correspond exactly to the former operational zones of the KLA, and it misses no opportunity to advertise its continuity with the former guerrilla army. The KLA's intelligence services do not appear to have been disbanded either, and the TKK maintains close links with the Presevo, Medvedja and Bujanovac Liberation Army (UCPMB), which conducts sporadic operations in three towns in southern Serbia.

The KLA has paid no more than lip-service to disarmament. A number of tough operations by international troops have resulted in the seizure of whole arsenals of weapons, notably in Drenica. The international administration refused to incorporate former KLA fighters into the new Kosovo Police Service (KPS) en bloc, but many managed to join as individuals. They are clearly cooperating with the former KLA's military police (PU), another organisation that has been officially dissolved but remains in operation. In rural areas, in particular, its members willingly undertake the more sordid tasks, such as enforcing payment of the illegal taxes levied by the Thaci "government".

Many members of the TKK and PU, as well as former KLA fighters employed in the international police force, have been directly implicated in political and ethnic violence. Rexhep Selimi, minister of public order in Thaci's provisional government, has kept control of the PU and of Shik, the KLA's civilian intelligence service. The latter is probably receiving technical support from Albania's national intelligence service, also called Shik, which remains loyal to former president Sali Berisha.

Crime syndicates at work

In terms of ultra-nationalism, the PDK faces competition from the National Movement for the Liberation of Kosovo (LNCK), a small group that has not officially renounced the Albanian version of Marxism-Leninism. But the main threat to its unity comes from conflict between the crime syndicates.

In February fire raged for days in the huge Ramiz-Sadiku sports complex in Pristina, whose basement level houses prosperous shopping malls controlled by "Commander Remi" (real name Rustem Mustafa). Remi is suspected of running rackets in Pristina and is said to be in conflict with Thaci over control of the petrol stations springing up on all Kosovo's main roads (3).

Ramush Haradinaj, commander of the Dukagjin sector in western Kosovo

during the fighting, has also kept control of his native region, though he has since become deputy to Agim Ceku, commander in chief of the TMK. Haradinaj controls the borders with Albania and Montenegro from Prizren to Pec. From this strategic position, he supervises the illegal traffic in oil and cigarettes. The origin of the political rift that prompted him to set up the AAK may well lie in conflict between the crime syndicates. Both Haradinaj and Mustafa have narrowly escaped assassination attempts in recent months.

The spread of organised crime, and the carving up of the province by "patriots" applying Stalinist methods, is facilitated by the total absence of political debate. Not a single Albanian intellectual, newspaper or party dares criticise the former KLA, condemn the persecution of minorities, or call nationalist dogma into question. Rugova and Thaci have no ideological differences. They are simply engaged in a power struggle. They share the declared aim of independence for Kosovo and continue hypocritically to condemn violence while refraining from the slightest gesture that would loosen the ideological straitjacket in which Kosovo is held fast. Even the courageous condemnation of violence by journalist Veton Surroi last August failed to provoke a change of heart.

As for the international administration, it has come to terms with "reverse ethnic cleansing" and allowed crime syndicates and clandestine networks trained in the Enver Hodja school of maoism to take control of the province. For years Kosovo lived in the strange world of an "official" society controlled by the authorities in Belgrade and a "parallel" Albanian civil society. It is now experiencing a new cleavage between the "official" society administered by Unmik, abounding in fine phrases about democracy and the protection of minorities, and the real society controlled by the political and criminal mafia.

The international protectorate has freed Albanian political parties from responsibility for formulating policies, since Unmik takes all the important decisions. Their only platform is independence. Consequently, they can stand out only by being more demagogic than their opponents. As the editor-in-chief of the independent daily Koha Ditore realistically observes, "the UN troops are trapped between two illusions: that of the Serbs, who are certain they will return to the province, and that of the Albanians, who are convinced they will obtain independence" (4).

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(1) See Ljazar Semini, "Rugova Comeback?", Institute for War and Peace Reporting, London, 23 June 2000, <http://www.iwpr.net/>

(2) See "Elections in Kosovo: Moving Toward Democracy?", International Crisis Group, Brussels, 7 July 2000, <http://www.intl-crisis-group.org/>

(3) See "What happened to the KLA?", International Crisis Group, Brussels, 3 March 2000, <http://www.intl-crisis-group.org/>

(4) Emmanuelle Rivière, "Rencontre avec Baton Ijaxhiu", *Le Courrier des Balkans*, Paris, June 2000, <http://bok.net/balkans/>

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Le Monde diplomatique, October 2000

<<http://www.monde-diplomatique.fr/en/2000/10/07kosovo>>

Global Reflexion - Amsterdam - The Netherlands