

# Kohl: Recognize Croatia and Slovenia!

by Umberto Pascali

Speaking to the German Parliament on Nov. 6, German Chancellor Helmut Kohl called for the immediate recognition of Croatia and Slovenia, two states in the former Yugoslav Federation which declared independence and have been under brutal military assault by the Yugoslav Army. The Chancellor was commenting on the decision of the European Community (EC) to introduce a series of sanctions against the Serbians, the largest republic in the former Yugoslavia, to stop their aggression. "The point is above all to convince the Serbian camp that their policy of force is in vain," he said, in the context of a major speech on foreign policy. "The German government will continue to press for speedy international recognition of those republics that want it."

The day before, the Greater Serbians under their communist leader Slobodan Milosevic, had rejected the European-sponsored peace plan for the third time. The EC had threatened sanctions against the party who rejected it.

The plan was not exactly tough with the Milosevic people. Under the sponsorship of the so-called European "mediator," former British Foreign Secretary Lord Peter Carrington, the plan had dropped any demand to respect the autonomy of the ethnic Albanian region of Kosovo, and the predominantly Hungarian Vojvodina, which Serbia swallowed unceremoniously a year ago. This is an unbelievable injustice when one considers that the Greater Serbians' aggression against Croatia is based on the invented pretext of defending the Serbian minority there—a minority that voted to a large extent for Croatian independence!

But Carrington decided to stick to his policy of "equidistance" between aggressor and victim. "The problem we have . . . is that we don't really have [the possibility of] any sanction. We don't have any weapons with which we can stop this," he said, obviously encouraging the most voracious instincts of the Serbians. He spelled out his solution: "I am going to see both the Croatian and Serbian ministers of defense and the chiefs of staff and I am going to do what I can to bang their heads together."

## \$4.4 billion missing

Is it true that the European Community is impotent to do anything after having assumed the role of mediator (in the person of Carrington) and even obtained from Slovenia and Croatia a three-month "moratorium" on their declaration of independence? Some European governments do not think so.

German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher stated that "Serbia cannot be allowed to block the self-determination of those republics that want to be sovereign with its strategy of delay and rejection." He proposed a series of measures aimed at curbing the military capabilities of the Federal Army: a trade embargo, but above all freezing the Yugoslav central bank's foreign accounts—"through which the war is being financed." In other words the Greater Serbians have de facto stolen the financial resources contributed by all the republics and especially Croatia, to wage a war of aggression against those populations!

The Yugoslav National Bank hastened to deposit 90% of the \$4.4 billion of foreign currency reserves with foreign banks. Those accounts are the big secret behind the Federal Army's ability to wage a war to transform the whole of former Yugoslavia into Greater Serbia. Wild rumors are circulating in Belgrade and Croatia concerning the \$4.4 billion and the deep apprehension of international financial institutions over the question: Who will pay the debts of the former Yugoslavia?

For decades the Yugoslavian model "worked." The sa- traps in the central (communist) bureaucracy in Belgrade successfully exploited the republics, first of all the more-developed Croatia and Slovenia, and then they paid their tribute to international banks. It is not by chance that "Führer" Milosevic started his career as a cosmopolitan banker close to Deputy U.S. Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger. The Nov. 5 visit to Belgrade by former Secretary of State Cyrus Vance has been seen in the light of these rapid changes. Vance visited Milosevic, Defense Minister Veliko Kadijevic, the strategist of the aggression, and Foreign Minister Budimir Loncar. Vance is formally the special envoy of U.N. Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuellar. "The most important thing is to establish a ceasefire," Vance said.

## Serbian dissidents want Nuremberg trial

But whom does Milosevic really represent now? Despite the brutal repression of any dissent, activities of resistance to the regime are more visible in Serbia. "We are already talking a lot about another Nuremberg," Serbian intellectual Bogdan Bogdanovic stated on Oct. 29, referring to the international war crimes tribunal held after World War II. "I can see it clearly. . . . In the dock will be sitting Milosevic and his comrades, and also a certain group of intellectuals who contributed to this psychosis that war with Croats was unavoidable." The Serbians fighting in the Federal Army, he said, "have accepted the worst possible role that the Serbian nation can play: the role of the aggressor. . . . I can say few nice words only about the youth who are running away from the battlefield. . . . Intellectuals call them traitors. But they are not cowards, they are brave."

"We are in a situation in which criminals say they are patriots," said another Belgrade intellectual, Filip David. "People wanting peace are accused; during anti-fascist ralli-

es, speeches are delivered by fascists." And a third one, Mirko Kovac: "Today every honest man in Belgrade and in Serbia must feel lonely and miserable." What has been done against Croatia "is a genocide of the culture, this is the desire that one nation be exterminated by destroying that people's sacred things and their culture. This will be recorded in history as an act of dishonor, the final blackout of the mind."

The question now is: How will history remember the international backers of Milosevic? The prosecution could maybe start with the infamous, hypocritical speech of Secretary of State James Baker in Belgrade after the overwhelming vote for independence in Slovenia and Croatia. Baker said he preferred "unity" of Yugoslavia. The Greater Serbians saw this as the alibi they were awaiting: The Federal Army was unchained. The massacre began.

The Yugoslav Army has supplied troops with medical drugs in their first-aid kits along with instructions for use, according to a Nov. 5 news bulletin from the Foreign Press Bureau in Zagreb, Croatia. The drugs in one such kit found in a captured tank near Farkas around Oct. 22 were described by a medic in the National Guard of Sisak (Croatia), a former medical student working on a master's degree. One drug packet contained "Fortal," produced in Slovenia. Its international pharmaceutical name is Pentasocin; a morphine derivative, it can act as a hallucinogen. According to University of Zagreb pharmacology professor Dr. Lackovic, it is known to cause anxiety, nightmares, and loss of control of thought processes, and could be addictive.

A second drug in the packet, "Okamid," has the international name Piracetam. It is normally used to treat illnesses which cause physical damage to the brain, like senile dementia, some cerebrovascular disorders, and alcohol-induced delirium. Dr. Lackovic said that if taken by healthy patients it could cause palpitations, nervousness, and aggressiveness.

The medic stressed that these are perfectly legal pharmaceuticals but should only be administered by trained professionals under a doctor's prescription. The directions in the packet suggest that Fortal be used as a painkiller and Okamid to combat fatigue, without mentioning the side effects. Most incredibly, the instructions recommend they be used by pilots and tank crews. Former medical technicians who have served in the Yugoslav Army report that they were directed to pack other drugs in these kits at times, including Ravibol, an amphetamine derivative psychostimulant which induces euphoria and can cause schizophrenia.

## Croatian medical HQ appeals for truth

*The following "Appeal for the Truth about the Dirty War Against the Republic of Croatia" was received by fax. EIR made minor corrections to the English, and elided a few passages which were illegible. It is addressed: "To all our colleagues; to all people of good will."*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

After a thousand years of living on the tortuous path of European history and after 45 years of existing in one-dimensional communism, the Croatian people finally met the chance to live in democracy and prosperity. The first free and democratic elections in summer 1990 clearly expressed the wish of the Croatian people to live in a non-communist state based on parliamentary democracy. And we were not alone on this path in Yugoslavia; three other republics (Slovenia, Macedonia, and Bosnia Hercegovina) clearly expressed the same attitude.

Unfortunately, the two remaining republics (Serbia and Montenegro) chose to remain the ardent representatives of communism, abundantly supported by the Yugoslav Federal Army which has a predominantly Serbian commanding staff and was tightly connected with U.S.S.R. General Yazov.

As you may easily conclude, it is very hard to imagine a successful way of organizing social, political, and economic life in the federal state in which both parliamentary democracy and hardline communism are competing ideologies. Taking into account that over 1 million Croats live in the other republics of the former Yugoslavia and that the Serbian people are solely responsible for their own destiny, we have chosen to live in a free and independent country and to make reasonable and peaceful arrangements for future life with our immediate neighbors.

But alas, the Serbian communists are not interested in negotiations or even the democratic and economic prosperity of their own people. They only care to preserve communism and to retain domination over the whole territory of the former Yugoslavia. The only thing which they are able to offer to their own people is the dream of Greater Serbia ("All Serbs must live within one single State"); the only arguments they are capable to make are *argumentum ad hominem* (in the form of unprecedented Goebbels-like methods, military repression and destruction). The only way for the regime of