

Ohio, and with reference to the fact that there was no court-accepted evidence against Kenneth Richey, and there were well-founded reasons to put the justness of his conviction into doubt,

F. in consideration that it is even more serious, that, as in the most recent case of the execution of Roger Coleman, there often exists serious doubt about the actual guilt of the convicted person, and that their execution precludes all possibility that a mistaken court decision could be corrected,

G. concerned about the lack of leniency shown to persons who have committed crimes during adolescence, and to mentally retarded persons,

H. with reference to the fact that in the past many mistakes have been made in connection with the death penalty, and that these mistakes can never be rectified,

I. in view of the fact that according to the most recent report of Amnesty International, 2,500 people in the United States are sitting on "Death Row" awaiting execution,

J. in the fear that the resumption of executions in some states can be an incentive for other states to follow this example,

K. gladdened by the courage of Governor Cuomo, who has intervened against the proposal to reintroduce the death penalty into New York State,

L. in reference to its [European Parliament's] resolution of March 12, 1992 (Part II, Point 7 of the Protocol bearing that date) on the death penalty,

1. rejects the death penalty and demands its revocation in all countries of the world;

2. calls upon the legislative bodies, the governors, and the appeals authorities of the various U.S. states, as well as the President and the Congress of the United States of America, to prevent executions from being carried out;

3. calls on candidates for high offices in the United States, to set an example by rejecting the application of the death penalty;

4. especially insists on the urgent necessity to practice leniency toward minors or mentally retarded individuals who have committed capital crimes;

5. commissions its delegation for relations with the United States, to stress anew the European Parliament's position against the death penalty, when the delegation meets in Washington and New York at the end of June;

6. calls upon the President and the [European] Council to do all in their power to ensure that Kenneth Richey is not executed;

7. calls upon the [European] Council to request that the U.S. government enact laws exempting U.S. citizens who have been condemned of a capital crime in a member state of the EC, from extradition to the United States;

8. commissions its President to convey this resolution to the Commission, the Council . . . President Bush, the governors of all U.S. states, as well as to the majority and minority leaders of both houses of Congress.

Monarchy option brings new dangers to Balkans

by Mark Burdman

Yugoslav-Serbian Crown Prince Alexander, claimant to the throne of the House of Karageorgevic, will return to Belgrade on June 27, *EIR* has learned. He was invited for his first visit to Serbia since his much-publicized visit last October, by the Serbian Orthodox Church Patriarch Pavle, in a message delivered over the June 13-14 weekend. The date of his arrival is symbolic; June 28 is the national day of remembrance of Serbia's defeat in Kosovo in 1389 at the hands of the Ottoman Turks, and tends to be a day of nationalist fervor among certain elements.

Informed sources insist that the possibility that the House of Karageorgevic will be formally restored soon is very real. One Serbian-origin insider in Europe admitted during a background discussion: "I formerly thought the idea was ridiculous, but there is enough despair now in Serbia to change my mind. It is an option now, things have gotten so bad." He said that the decisive role is played by the Serbian Orthodox Church, which since late May has been conducting a public mobilization to bring down the Milosevic regime. This contrasts to a centuries-old Orthodox Church practice of public acquiescence to the regime in power.

Alexander's scheduled return introduces a new element of danger to the war-torn Balkans. As *EIR* has warned, the reinstatement of the monarchy in Serbia could catalyze bringing back monarchies in many other countries there, starting with Romania and Bulgaria. The process could then swiftly be extended to Georgia in the Caucasus.

Responsible figures in Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina worry that the return of the monarchy will provide a "legitimacy" to the Serbian wars of aggression, which does not exist in the eyes of the international community as long as the tyrant Slobodan Milosevic remains in power. As Paul Tvrtkovic, spokesman for the government of Bosnia and Herzegovina in London, warned in a letter published in various British newspapers June 15, "it is under the royalist insignia" of the majority faction in the anti-Milosevic opposition in Serbia "that the most appalling crimes in Bosnia and Croatia are being perpetrated." What he is referring to is that the brutal "neo-Chetnik" militias of Vojislav Seselj, who have carried out the worst atrocities in Sarajevo, Vukovar, and elsewhere, are committed royalists. As Milosevic's star has fallen, Seselj's has begun to rise.

Bosnians and Croatians fear that the worst is yet to come.

On June 16, the two newly independent nations formally signed a mutual defense pact, the first such bilateral treaty in Europe since World War II.

'The violence will persist'

Fears of what would likely happen under Alexander's rule were heightened by his own statements in an interview with France's *Le Figaro* June 11, where he made clear that the war will continue under his prospective rule. He also lined up strategically with the provocative policy of London, Paris, and Washington, which portrays the conflict as a consequence of German ambitions in the Balkans.

Faithful to the public relations needs of the moment, Alexander portrayed himself as the arch-reformer, insisting that he wanted to install a "democracy under the auspices of constitutional monarchy." In his view, Milosevic's departure from the political scene is now inevitable. A "government of national salvation to install democracy" would be set up, with the foundations of the society being "the Army and the people," and his own role being more that of an arbiter than a "little bridge" between various social forces: "I would like to establish durable and solid bridges. I am in contact with all the forces which, in Yugoslavia, believe in the virtue of democracy." He would meet all such forces, he said, in Belgrade.

The democratic mask came off when the question was posed whether he thought it were "utopian" to think of a monarchy "in what was Yugoslavia," given that Slovenia, Croatia, and Bosnia-Herzegovina were now independent states recognized internationally. Alexander's reply exuded contempt for these new nations: "In most of the ex-Yugoslav republics, power is in the hands of communists, who have traded their former faith for an obsessional nationalism, in order to maintain themselves in power. Constitutional monarchy, respectful of democracy, is the only response to the problems of the region. Its installation must begin in Belgrade itself, where it is necessary to end, through it, the communist dictatorship. But in Zagreb, too, a change must manifest itself. The least that one can say, is that democracy is not very familiar to [Croatian President] General Tudjman. In truth, it is even totally unknown in Croatia. In Bosnia-Herzegovina, [President] Mr. Izetbegovic dreams of an Islamic state, which is not, perhaps, the best democratic reference. I admit that these states are independent. But it is necessary, at the same time, that the rights of their minorities be respected. As long as these rights are not recognized and guaranteed, one can be sure that the violence will persist."

When France's *Le Figaro* asked him about his views of Europe's position toward the crisis in former Yugoslavia, the would-be monarch attacked former German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher for changing Europe's "impartial" position when the European Community recognized Slovenia and Croatia. "Everything is happening as if Germany had not learned the lessons of a recent past."

Interview: Ivan Culic

Bosnian refugees pouring into Croatia

While the focus of the firefight in the Balkans has moved to Bosnia, Croatia remains under the thumb of Serbian blackmail. Culic is the president of the Croatian Democratic Union in Villeurbanne, France. He was interviewed on his return from Croatia, by Eric Sauze, of the Lyons bureau of the French bi-weekly newspaper Nouvelle Solidarité. The interview appeared in its June 12 issue.

EIR: What is the situation in Croatia?

Culic: It has not changed; it has even gotten worse with the arrival of refugees from Bosnia. I was in Zagreb, and especially in Split. Every day, 3,000-4,000 new refugees arrived: They were housed in sports arenas, movie theaters, sleeping on the ground without mattresses. There is also the problem of food: There is plenty of food, but no equipment to prepare it. So, the refugees can only eat canned goods, when there are any; that was why I went, to bring food in.

But the morale of the Croats is good. We are certain that Croatia will be freed without European aid, because we expect nothing from Europe, especially not military aid. The attitude of the European Community (EC) and the United Nations would be rather inhibiting, because the Serbs are continuing to shoot, while we are respecting the cease-fire. At the front, people are nervous; they cannot live with this situation.

EIR: What is happening at the front?

Culic: It's a disaster: All the villages are abandoned. I was 50 kilometers from Split, in my hometown, and all I saw were two dogs and a donkey walking around. On the other side, 500 meters away, there are the Serbs. There is no water or electricity. But the Croatian Army has good morale. Up to now, it did not have any weapons, but it now possesses light arms. The fields are mined on both the Serbian and Croatian side, and therefore, it's very difficult to attack; so, they have to remain at their positions, but that cannot last.

EIR: Then what do you expect to do?

Culic: If the EC and the United Nations do nothing to get Croatia out of this situation, it is certain that we will retake our territory by force.

EIR: What do you think of the attitude of Europe?