

EIR

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From the Managing Editor

At the Yalta conference at the end of World War II, Churchill, Roosevelt, and Stalin concluded their cynical agreement which put half of Europe under communist dictatorship. This is the spirit of the ugly geopolitical manipulations which we see being repeated today in the Balkans.

As our *Feature* documents, the foreign policy of the Clinton administration is being run by the likes of Reginald Bartholomew, the “destroyer of Lebanon,” who had formerly served at the State Department under both Henry Kissinger and Cyrus Vance. This is not some “new team”; it’s the same old Anglo-American establishment, ruling with the same geopolitical doctrines that destroyed the nation of Lebanon—among others.

In the report by Croatian journalist Srecko Jurdana, and in interviews with notables from Kosova, Bosnia, and Croatia published in this section, you can see precisely the effects of this policy. At each point that Serbia could have been decisively defeated—and quite easily so—a phone call came in from the “peace negotiators” Vance, Carrington, and Owen. And decisive action against the enemy was blocked. As Jurdana documents, the deployment of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in Croatia was specifically the *precondition* for the Serbian drive into Bosnia.

Now, as the prime minister of Kosova, Dr. Bujar Bukoshi, explains in our interview on page 29, the war is set to expand even more, and “it will get very bad, unless effective action is taken from the outside.”

On the map on page 17, you can find the specific Serbian targets that should be taken out by air strikes, immediately, to stop the aggressors in their tracks. The longer decisive action is delayed, the more difficult it becomes—as the world should have learned, but apparently did not, from the case of Nazi Germany.

Our readers will want to know what Lyndon LaRouche had to say about President Clinton’s State of the Union speech—the story is the lead to the *National* section. As Mr. LaRouche underlines the importance of changing the role of the Federal Reserve, we are happy to report that, as we go to press, a memorial bill has been introduced into the New Mexico State Senate, calling for just that.

Susan Welsh

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They're calling it a 'Depression'—now what?

by Marcia Merry

The hallmark of this publication since its founding 20 years ago, has been its coverage of the condition of the U.S. and global physical economy, based on the economic model developed by Lyndon LaRouche on the basis of the mathematical physics of Bernhard Riemann—the LaRouche-Riemann economic model. In recent years, *EIR* coverage has documented in detail the breakdown of the U.S. economy, and focussed on the emergency measures required to reverse the depression collapse.

In the meantime, media representatives of Wall Street, the City of London, and other financial centers have spun tales of business cycles, upturns, downturns, “soft” and “hard” recessions, and all manner of other misrepresentations. In December 1992, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) put out the official lie for the new year, that the U.S. economy can expect a 2.5-3% growth rate in 1993. But now, even some of the “money boys” media are calling it by its rightful name: Depression.

Over the same week that President Clinton delivered his economic program, a slew of news articles came forth, disputing the premise of the administration and Congress that the problem is the deficit, and the illusion that the right batch of austerity measures and adjustments could fix it.

The *Wall Street Journal* ran a “Counterpoint” guest column Feb. 11, headlined “The Depression of the 1990s—It’s Already Here,” by James Dale Davidson, co-author of *The Great Reckoning*. Davidson began by pointing out that “Most observers, including the *Wall Street Journal*, believe that the economy has now emerged from recession. The consensus expects 3% real growth, declining unemployment and a sustained improvement in earnings. Don’t bet on it.

“The past three years have not been a normal postwar recession, but a depression. Depressions don’t end just be-

cause we have an election or a Christmas shopping spree.” Davidson opined that the worst is yet to come, ending with the forecast, “Debt has grown too large to be sustained out of cash flow. As soon as the balance sheet is depleted, a deeper crisis of asset liquidation will catch the world by surprise.”

The bill that can't be paid

Europe has seen even more outspokenness on the depression and on unpayable debts. The mass-circulation German tabloid, *Bild Zeitung*, on Feb. 17, ran an article titled, “The Day the Bill Arrived.” The piece reckons that there are \$50 trillion worth of unpayable debt, after 20 years of living “like there’s no tomorrow.” *Bild* then poses the question, “Who is to pay?” It points to the unemployment and austerity in Europe, and the famine in Africa and elsewhere.

All of Clinton’s public relations ploys—the television and radio talks, the trips to the “heartland” cities in Missouri and Ohio—are ineffective in diverting attention from the economic and policy collapse. One sign is the scramble by certain speculators to go for short term six-month investments in Europe, on grounds of going for “all you can get” while the collapse proceeds.

A senior European banking source told *EIR* the day of Clinton’s economic speech, “We already see signs of a crisis of confidence over the Clinton presidency. I haven’t seen the markets this nervous in eight years. The U.S. stock market was inflated on the premise that Clinton would deliver his promised major fiscal stimulus. His call for “sacrifice” and higher taxes . . . has shattered those illusions. The bond markets reacted neutrally, because that is what they expected anyway.

The source said that Clinton’s Feb. 17 State of the Union

address bore all the footprints of Goldman Sachs's Robert Rubin—now head of the White House Economic Council—with a bit of Labor Secretary Robert Reich, but only a bit. Clinton had allowed himself to get locked into an impossible fix with a boom in stocks and bonds and the dollar. But now his program is being made concrete, and the edifice of illusions must crack.

Speculators lap up blood in the streets

Perhaps the definitive declaration by financier circles that the world is gripped by depression—not just a downturn—is from Lord William Rees-Mogg, in the Feb. 18 *London Times*, in his commentary on Clinton's State of the Union address. He states that Clinton and his advisers have "underestimated the force of the world depression." Because of this, he notes, the new administration's proposals will likely worsen the economic decline in the U.S. itself.

Rees-Mogg writes that the financial community is concerned about the misperceptions of the Clinton administration. He says that the touted "recovery" in the U.S. is probably only a "partial" one "which could soon fade away." The U.S. unemployment figures have been effectively doctored to hide the real magnitude of the situation. Meanwhile, outside the U.S., "Russia is in a slump, with no recovery in sight," while Europe and Japan face increasing troubles. As for Canada, a new report issued in Toronto mid-month warned that "Canada's growing foreign liabilities might lead to a sudden refusal by investors to buy more Canadian debt."

Consider who Mr. Rees-Mogg is. Lord William is not only a former editor of the *London Times*, but is the investment adviser for an outfit called Global Asset Management, part of Jacob Rothschild's financial empire. Rees-Mogg has written a book called *Blood in the Streets*, outlining his perspective on how to continue to make money during conditions of economic chaos. His advice is to the effect, "Don't buy till there's blood in the streets." His perspective is that in a world which will come to be characterized by nations disintegrating into strife-torn, warring fiefdoms, and smaller, gang-size territorial units, there comes a bloody opportunity for the canny speculator to buy and profit. Rees-Mogg says that his perspective will hold as long as there is no technological revolution to wipe out the depleted assets associated with old, existing technologies.

And now for the social explosions

In fact, the depression process under way cannot at all be expected to conform to Rees-Mogg's scenarios of warring territories. The depression is fuelling the potential for internal social explosions in national economies around the globe. Look at just the news of the day.

- **Germany.** On Feb. 15, protest rallies against 30,000 planned job cuts in the steel industry took place at four affected steel sites: Siegen (7,500 demonstrators), Weimar (5,000), Hattingen (3,000), and Brandenburg (1,500). The

rallies were supported by unions from all the steel industry supply sectors, in particular the coal miners, whose sector faces 17,000 job cuts. On Feb. 16, Ruhrkohle AG, Germany's leading coal producer, announced that its financial position was the worst since its founding 22 years ago, and it would shed 8,500 workers out of its total 82,000 work force this year, and 7,500 more layoffs to follow.

- **Britain.** Mass protests can be expected this spring, as the government's ability to lie about unemployment and other problems comes to an end. One senior strategist told *EIR*, "Even my Conservative friends are now telling me that the country is heading toward some form of revolution; things are so volatile. . . . It's so bad here, you can't imagine. If you put aside the mathematical juggling acts of the British Treasury, the fact is that unemployment is already around the 4 million level, and perhaps much higher than that, rather than the 3 million officially admitted. Whole classes of people are not included in the official figures, including better-paid middle-class people who have become redundant and laid off, women, part-time workers, and so on. . . . What is meant by 'revolution,' I can't say, but at the least, the government will be thrown out if things don't pick up by the spring."

- **Venezuela.** Riots broke out across the country Feb. 17, sparked by a Supreme Court action which effectively certified rampant vote fraud in the states of Barinas and Sucre. The state houses were set on fire in the capitals of both states, and de facto martial law is in effect. Students and others rioted in Caracas and throughout the country. The disorders are the latest incidents in the volatile situation following two attempted coups in 1992, and a petition has been filed in Congress to remove President Carlos Andrés Pérez. The country is wracked by high unemployment, inflation, and dislocation from the countryside.

Emergency action required

Under these now-acknowledged depression conditions, the only fair, sound domestic and foreign economic program is emergency action. What the world requires is depression-fighting packages of financial emergency measures and mass-scale resumption of infrastructure projects to rebuild collapsing economies and restore growth potential.

Commenting on the Clinton State of the Union proposals to deal with U.S. debt and the federal deficit, political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche stressed that "the mechanism of the debt growth and the growth in the fiscal crisis, is a combination of deregulation, free market policies so called, but especially the role of the Federal Reserve System under this arrangement. *As long as [the proposed measures] do not touch the Federal Reserve System and its problems, there is no possibility—no matter how stringent or austere the measures—of dealing with the growth of the total national debt, or the growth of the fiscal bite of the debt into the operating budgets.*"

Bankers make Pronasol international model

by Cynthia R. Rush

Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari launched the National Solidarity Program (Pronasol) early in his administration, to ensure, through social control mechanisms, that a population subjected to years of International Monetary Fund austerity would not explode in rage against his government. Now, the World Bank, the IMF, and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) are escalating their campaign to extend Pronasol-style "anti-poverty" programs to all of Ibero-America, and beyond.

It's not that bankers have suddenly become concerned with the plight of the poor. Rather, they realize that the austerity policies they are committed to will lead to unmanageable political explosions, unless accompanied by social control operations such as Pronasol. If they don't at least give the illusion of addressing the continent's social problems, they could find themselves confronting massive popular upheaval which would put an end to their phony IMF-enforced "democracy."

Pronasol and similar programs are aimed at convincing people that they can "participate" in economic development, through cheap labor and local control "self-help" programs, while governments implement the austerity that the foreign creditors demand.

Selling fascism

Salinas's Jan. 22 announcement that the World Bank, the United Nations, and the World Conservation Union will host the First International Conference on Social Development and Combatting Poverty, to be held in Oaxaca next September, to promote Pronasol internationally, reflects the bankers' policy.

The plethora of recent regional conferences on how to "alleviate extreme poverty," sponsored by the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) and the UNDP, is part of a public relations campaign to sell these programs to governments whose implementation of IMF austerity has increased their poverty, and thus political instability.

Argentine President Carlos Menem has already put into place his Federal Solidarity Program modeled on Pronasol, and on Feb. 9, Brazilian President Itamar Franco announced that he would also adopt a Pronasol-style program to provide cheap food and housing for his country's poorest sectors. Governors of seven Brazilian states who traveled to Mexico to study Pronasol returned with high praises for it, and em-

phasized that the government could count on financial assistance from the World Bank and IADB for this venture. In an interview with Brazil's O Globo-TV, Salinas de Gortari extolled the benefits of the program, but then underscored the main point: "Economic reform *without* social welfare [i.e., social control—ed.] cannot be successful."

Pay the debt, and like it

Multilateral lending agencies and Anglo-American think tanks want to see Pronasol imposed continent-wide, as quickly as possible. On Feb. 10-13, the IADB and the UNDP sponsored a conference in Washington on "Social Reform and Poverty," which brought Ibero-American proponents of this approach together with their counterparts internationally.

Pronasol, whose Mexican director, Carlos Rojas, was one of the speakers, was a focus of attention at the two-day gathering. In his speech, Unicef director James Grant emphasized that "one of the keys to the success of social initiatives is the mobilization of civil society, such as has occurred in Mexico with Pronasol." With programs such as these, Grant said, both Ibero-America and the Caribbean have the opportunity to "assume leadership in the international fight against poverty."

On Feb. 6-7, the same two agencies hosted a private conference for congressmen, businessmen, and politicians in Lima, Peru, entitled "Monetary and Fiscal Legislation Policies and Alleviating Extreme Poverty."

In both cases, the message was the same: Ibero-American countries must pay their foreign debt and maintain policies of economic liberalization. If they do, the World Bank and IADB will help them set up a network of "intermediate" community-based and volunteer agencies to provide services in health, sanitation, and education. Non-governmental organizations, which are intended to replace the traditional institutions of the nation-state in the context of ever more limited national sovereignty, are to play a major role in these schemes.

Luminaries such as World Bank President Lewis Preston and IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus also demanded that budgets for Ibero-America's armed forces be drastically cut, supposedly to allow for increases in "social expenditures." In reality, the Anglo-American establishment demands the dismantling of the armed forces as an institution which has historically defended economic and territorial sovereignty.

As for the real nature of these anti-poverty programs, Preston said it all during his speech at the Feb. 10 conference in Washington. No one should get any ideas about major investments in infrastructure or health and education services, he warned. After all, "fiscal objectives" cannot be undermined. The emphasis must be entirely on "basic" needs; that is, the minimal investment possible to make people think someone is helping them, while making it impossible for them to ever leave their poverty behind.

Why is the Clinton administration so hot on natural gas?

by Anthony K. Wikrent

The policies are now in place for certain people in the Clinton administration to make hundreds of millions, perhaps even billions, of dollars, while masquerading as “good, environmentally minded” government officials attempting to implement “good, environmentally minded” policies. Most prominent among these are White House Chief of Staff Mack McLarty, Energy Secretary Hazel O’Leary, and U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor. Over the next four years, they will push the United States toward rapidly increasing use of “clean-burning” natural gas, especially for generation of electricity in small, deregulated power plants. In fact, if Trade Representative Kantor’s recent attempt to cajole European Community countries into allowing U.S. firms greater access to the European power generation market is any indication, this group sees the entire world, not just the United States, as ripe for the picking.

On the face of it, increasing the use of natural gas while decreasing the use of coal and oil, would seem sensible. Natural gas burns much “cleaner” than other fossil fuels, according to the standard of combustion cleanliness imposed by the environmentalist movement, meaning that there are fewer emissions of carbon by-product “greenhouse” gases from the use of natural gas.

For electric power generation, the past 10 years have seen technological spinoffs from the development of jet aerospace engines that have boosted the thermal efficiency of “combined cycle” power plants—in which the waste heat from a gas-fired turbine is used to run a steam turbine—to over 50%. This is the first time that power plants have been able to deliver more power than they waste.

If natural gas is used as a replacement for oil, the United States and other countries will obviously be able to curb their dependence on volatile, underdeveloped oil-exporting countries—or so the argument goes. The United States’ reserves of natural gas, supposedly, are practically limitless in comparison to its rapidly dwindling stock of crude oil. In September 1992, Oklahoma Gov. David Walters declared that U.S. national energy policy has been “stupid” because “we’ve had a domestically abundant, environmentally superior and economic source of energy,” while “almost two-thirds of the trade deficit is from oil imports.” Walters, a Democrat, is also chairman of the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, a group of 29 oil-, gas-, and coal-

producing states, and of the Southern States Energy Board, a division of the 16-state Southern Governors Association.

“If we became 25% more energy efficient,” Governor Walters told the editors of the *Journal of Commerce*, “and converted 30% of the transportation industry to gas, we would be completely off foreign oil.”

Hot air

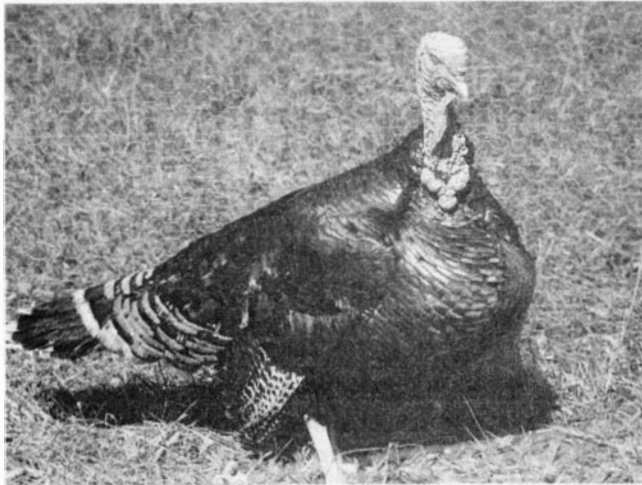
The realities are quite different:

- **Cleanliness:** The prime constituent of natural gas is methane, which is a more powerful greenhouse gas per molecule than carbon dioxide. Environmentalists are so perturbed by methane emissions, that some have even discussed fitting cows with a gadget to “catch” the methane in bovine flatulence, and in December 1992, an Australian doctor urged people not to eat turkey for Christmas, so that methane emitted by human flatulence would be curbed! One of the greatest technical obstacles to the development of natural gas-fueled vehicles is finding leak-proof ways of storing the gas in the vehicle, and of transferring gas from a refueling center to the vehicle.

- **U.S. reserves:** In June 1992, independent oil and gas consultant Dale Steffes noted in the *Journal of Commerce* that, contrary to the recent assumption by the U.S. Department of Energy that the United States has 1,200 trillion cubic feet of natural gas left, enough to last 60 years, actual proven gas reserves—which Steffes defined as gas that can be extracted with today’s technology at today’s prices—is only 150 tcf, or just eight years of supply.

- **Curbing oil dependence:** Industries and utilities account for less than one-third of U.S. petroleum consumption. In an October 1991 report, the Office of Technology Assessment (OTA) estimated that switching from oil to natural gas by industries would replace 297,000 barrels per day; switching by utilities would replace around 300,000 bpd after five years; switching in residential and commercial buildings could replace 478,000 bpd in five years (60% of commercial buildings use fuel oil for heating).

In the transportation sector—by far the largest consumer of oil in the U.S. economy, accounting for 63% of use in 1990—the OTA concluded that the cost of conversion could not be recovered in the lifetime of a private motor vehicle, and focused on the prospect of converting 240,000 vehicles in government and corporate fleets a year over five years.



One kind of "natural gas" the environmentalists don't approve of: the kind you get after dining on this fellow.

(These vehicles average 30,000 miles of use a year, three times the use of a private vehicle.) The figure of 1.2 million vehicles using natural gas at the end of that time represents a 40-fold increase in the number of vehicles using natural gas in the United States at present, and is nearly double the number of vehicles using natural gas worldwide. The natural gas used by these 1.2 million vehicles would replace 130,000 bpd of oil.

So, under the most optimistic estimate, increasing use of natural gas could replace 1.205 million bpd of oil after five years. That is only 7.1% of the 16.988 million bpd of oil used by the United States in 1990.

The difference in energy content between gasoline and natural gas—125,000 btu per gallon of gas, versus 56,600 btu per gallon of methanol derived from natural gas—makes it extremely difficult to engineer a motor vehicle run by natural gas that has the range, acceleration, and power of a vehicle that uses gasoline. This fact renders it extremely unlikely that there will be even limited acceptance of natural gas as a fuel for private vehicles until, as the OTA pointed out, the price of gasoline doubles or even triples. Might this be a major, unspoken motive behind the recent mooting of a fuel tax by the Clinton administration?

Thus, the most promising area for increasing the use of natural gas is in heating commercial buildings, and in generating electricity. By considering the changes in regulations that have been enacted in the past years by a Democratic Congress, and the business ties of certain people in the Clinton regime, it appears that the area that will most likely receive the most attention is that of electric power generation.

Power generation

The Public Utility Regulatory Policy Act (PURPA) of 1978 radically altered the market for power generation equipment by allowing the establishment of small, non-utility

power producers, which now account for one-third to one-half of the U.S. market. The carefully orchestrated hysteria against nuclear power, and increasingly militant consumerism that made it difficult, if not impossible, for large electric utilities to recover the capital cost of constructing new power plants, combined in the past 15 years to virtually eliminate any market for large-scale nuclear steam units able to produce 500 megawatts (MW) or more, and decimated the market for large fossil-fueled power plants.

What emerged in the stead of large-capacity power plants were smaller scale "combined cycle" units with primary turbines fired by natural gas, fuel oil, or pulverized coal gas, with the waste gases used to generate steam to power a secondary steam turbine. These gas turbines (also called combustion turbines) are able to produce at most 150 MW. Though a number of gas turbines may be used in a plant to achieve generation capacities similar to larger plants, this is a major shift from a decade ago, when large steam turbine generators supplied "baseload" electricity, and gas turbine generators were used only to meet peak power demands.

Now, the last step in the regulatory reshuffling in favor of these much smaller non-utility power producers (nupp) is nearly complete: forcing major utilities to open up their electric distribution grids to use by the nupps, so that the smaller plants can supply power to the highest bidder.

The case of General Electric

Just how much has the market changed? General Electric, by far the world's leading producer of combustion turbines, reported in February 1991 that non-utility power producers accounted for 42% of its new unit orders in 1990.

The Europeans were subjected to a tongue-lashing for closing out U.S. firms from the power generation market in Europe, by former General Electric lobbyist, now U.S. Trade Representative, Mickey Kantor. They have been warned by President Bill Clinton himself that the United States will not stand idly by while Europe challenges the U.S. lead in commercial aerospace. General Electric's world leadership in combustion turbines is based almost exclusively on its superior technology, which is derived from GE's work with aerospace jet engines. This was heavily funded by the U.S. federal government, through the Department of Defense.

GE's showcase combustion turbine is the MS7001F gas turbine, the first in the world to fire at 2,300°F in commercial operation. This is above the melting point of the turbine's metal components, the spectacular result of technical breakthroughs GE first achieved in high performance jet engines for the U.S. military. (By way of comparison, older combustion turbines operate at 2,050°F.) Among the technologies transferred from aerospace engines by GE are thermal barrier coatings utilizing high temperature ceramics, and directional solidification of the grain of turbine blade buckets, making the bucket much less likely to shear itself apart under extremely high temperatures. GE has also developed new methods for bonding different types of metals, for example, bond-

ing copper to titanium, to build generators able to operate at higher temperatures but with less loss of electricity.

In fact, in literature for its Power Systems group, GE boasts of the technology originally developed by its Aircraft Engine group, and how it has been applied to the development of combustion turbines for use by electric utilities and industries.

According to Robert McCoy Jr., of McCoy Power Reports*, General Electric has 20% of the world market for combustion turbines. If the various companies worldwide that are associated with GE—such as Hitachi and Toshiba in Japan; Nuovo Pignone in Italy; and John Brown in Britain—are included, then GE has 46% of the market. GE's next largest competitor is European Gas Turbines, with 14% of the market. EGT is 90% owned by the British-French combine GEC Alsthorn—and 10% owned by GE. Also with around 14% of the market is Westinghouse, and its associates, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and Fiat. In the fall of 1992, Westinghouse established a cooperative venture with Rolls Royce of Britain, desperately hoping to use Rolls Royce's expertise in aerospace engines to catch up with GE. In the rear, both with 10% of the world market, are Siemens of Germany and the Swiss-Swedish combine Asea Brown Boveri.

The Clinton team

How do individuals in the Clinton administration stand to benefit by increasing use of natural gas? Besides Kantor's previous position as a lobbyist for General Electric, consider the following:

- White House Chief of Staff **Mack McLarty** was president and chief executive of Arkla, Inc., a natural gas distributor that is the 47th-largest U.S. utility on the Fortune 500 list of service companies.

- Secretary of Energy **Hazel Reid Rollins O'Leary** was named president of NSP Gas Co., the new natural gas division of Northern States Power Co., just one week before Clinton named her as his choice to head the Energy Department. Previously, O'Leary was executive vice president for corporate affairs of Northern Power, which operates in Minneapolis. McLarty's Arkla is the parent company of Minnegasco, a natural gas utility that is also located in Minneapolis-St. Paul.

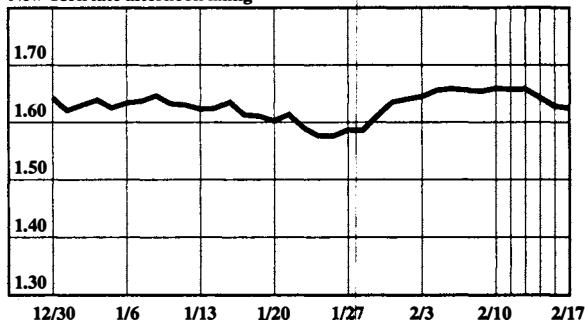
- Treasury Secretary **Lloyd Bentsen's** brother, Donald L. Bentsen, served on the board of Texas Commerce Bancshares with Charles Duncan and Kenneth L. Lay. Lay was the chairman and chief executive of Houston Natural Gas, and Duncan served on HNG's board. In 1985, Houston Natural Gas was merged with InterNorth, Inc., to create the largest natural gas pipeline system in the United States, which is today Enron Corp. At the time, Robert A. Feuer, then a vice president with E.F. Hutton, told the *Houston Post*, "It looks to me like someone's preparing to nail down gas supplies. Otherwise, why take on a company with a mountain of debt?"

* *McCoy Power Reports*, 46 Hillcrest Ave., Summit, NJ 07901. Telephone (908) 273-1849.

Currency Rates

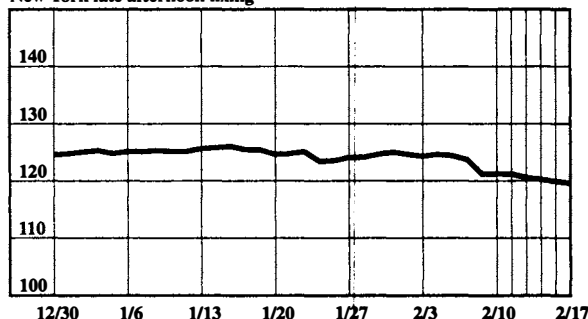
The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



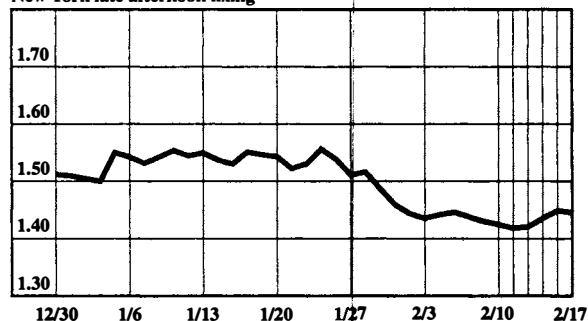
The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



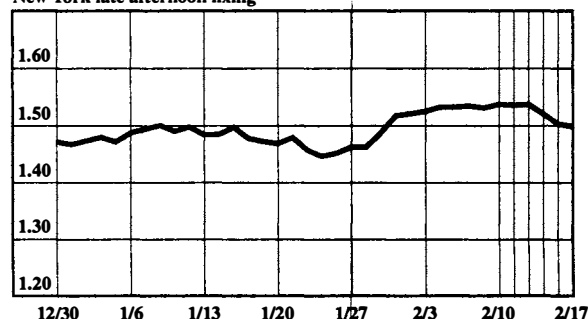
The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing



Chinese agriculture on a tightrope, threatens new wave of unrest

by Mary Burdman

China's agriculture is walking on a razor's edge, and the leadership of the Communist Party (CP) is fully aware of it. Since autumn of last year, the highest-level government officials have been warning repeatedly of the dangers the nation faces if agricultural production is allowed to go under. For all the international discussion of China's economic growth over the past years, it remains overwhelmingly a terribly impoverished agricultural economy, with 80% of its 1.2 billion people still living in the countryside. Although at this moment the situation is not as critical as it was leading into the 1988-89 economic crash in China, warnings of unrest in the countryside are coming regularly from China's own press and government. China's farmers (average *annual* per capita income is \$130) are not being paid for their grain, and are being taxed unbearably at the same time.

These warnings are to be taken seriously. China only emerged from the horrors of Maoism a bare 20 years ago. The famine of the Great Leap Forward in 1960, in which some 100 million people starved, is in the *living memory* of every Chinese over 40; during the Cultural Revolution, which only came to an end after 1976, such common foods as peanuts were a rare luxury, as one very well educated Chinese told me recently. One got about one kilo a year.

Last Nov. 26, the official Chinese *Farmer's Daily* warned the nation: "We should never forget the serious lessons we learned at a huge cost in the past. It has happened several times since 1949 that a weakened agriculture dragged the national economy down."

An even starker warning came in the editorial of China's official *People's Daily* on Dec. 9. China "must never neglect its number-one priority—agriculture," it said. Establishing a market economy is an "arduous and complicated process" and requires "a stable society," the paper stated. The agricultural portion of national output has decreased as industry and services have developed, leading to the "misunderstanding that agriculture is no longer a major factor in the economy. The weak foundation of China's agriculture is obvious and comprehensive farm production standards need to be raised." In addition, "difficulties in buying or selling farm products will occur occasionally and cause losses to farmers, and consequently affect *social stability*" (emphasis added).

Although Chinese agriculture is among the world's more productive on a per hectare basis, due to intensive methods,

productivity is far lower on a per capita basis. Chinese agriculture faces enormous problems. With one-fifth of the world's population, it has only one-twentieth of the world's arable land. After massive disruption of production under 25 years of Maoism, productivity was briefly restored immediately after Deng Xiaoping instituted his Bukharinite "New Economic Policy" after 1979. But after 1984, it fell again. Deng's reforms have failed to solve any real problems, and the situation is now rapidly worsening.

Another drop in grain production

National People's Congress Finance Committee Vice Chairman Dong Fureng told the Jan. 8 *China Daily* that China will "probably witness a drop in grain production in 1993, which will jeopardize further reform efforts and rapid economic growth." The State Statistical Bureau reported that grain output only went up 1.7% in 1992 over 1991, leading to another dire warning about grain production by the *People's Daily* on Jan. 4. On Dec. 31, the State Council met and issued 10 measures to boost "farmers' enthusiasm," including the words of Deng that "the economy in the 1990s may be hindered by agriculture." Dong reported that farmers' income "grew" by 5% last year, but the proliferation of billions of yuan worth of IOUs "have made that growth meaningless." At a conference in Beijing on Jan. 5, Prime Minister Li Peng reported that in some grain and cotton areas, incomes were actually reduced. The gap between farmers' and urban incomes is widening: Net income was \$314 in the cities and \$134 in the countryside. With domestic prices approaching those on the world market, the state will have enormous problems continuing state subsidies of grain production, Dong said.

Cheap and (relatively) abundant food, especially in the cities, is the foundation of Deng's "reforms" and the basis of continued power for the CP—along with massive social and political repression. To maintain food supplies, China is a net grain importer, and has been since 1979. It was only after the bumper harvest of 407 million tons in 1984—only equalled in the last three years—that China did not have to import grain for two years. But in the interim, China's population has grown by 15 million persons each year. Over 1984-89, per capita grain production in China had *dropped* by 20 kilos.

Although good harvests the last few years have averted immediate disaster, the problems caused by the reforms are now only undermining agriculture further. As happened in the late 1980s, China's farmers were not paid for their grain crop last year, leading to a crisis before the Chinese New Year festival on Jan. 23. It is an ancient tradition that all debts must be cleared by that time, but the government had to admit, beginning weeks beforehand, that this might not be possible. The *China Daily* reported on Dec. 8 that the state "simply does not have enough money" to pay for the grain purchased from farmers this year, and this situation "has greatly disturbed farmers in many rural areas." The Chinese government, which believes that "there is no stability without grain," is reluctant to relinquish control over grain prices and the purchase and distribution of grain, although prices have risen from the absurdly low levels of the Maoist years by some 140%. The result has been to further drain China's already bankrupt state.

Since the mid-1980s, the government has been "bogged down" with a shortage of funds, forcing state grain companies to "pay" farmers in IOUs instead of cash, or, worse, certificates of deposit from banks, which cannot be readily turned into cash, the *China Daily* reported. Now in some areas, 1992 is being called "the worst year yet." Farmers are only accepting IOUs in some areas, because there are other regions where the grain companies are simply refusing to buy any grain at all.

The Ministry of Commerce reports that the government needed \$11 billion to buy the autumn grain harvest, but at the end of October, the state grain companies had only \$1.95 billion available. Many of the special loans extended to local governments to buy grain, have been diverted to other uses, such as construction of economic development zones. The state grain companies, despite their subsidies, are in financial trouble. They must purchase all that the government orders, and at the same time sell grain only at fixed low prices.

The large harvests of recent years have created another problem. Most of the grain produced is of very low quality, and is difficult for the grain companies to get rid of. Much of their funds are now tied up in stockpiles of this low-quality rice. While the companies could not collect on some \$6 billion worth of grain they sold, the Ministry of Finance is also \$7.8 billion behind in subsidies owed to grain companies.

The State Council ordered that "all other work" should give way to the urgent problem of grain purchasing, and the People's Bank of China has decided to allocate \$6.4 billion in short-term loans to purchase grain.

While the People's Bank of China is studying the commercialization of the grain business, "it will be very difficult for reform to make much progress," a bank spokesman said. The income of China's 800 million farmers, which has stagnated for three years, is far too sensitive an issue for the government to make any substantial changes in the near future, the *China Daily* concluded.

Reports of unrest

Despite scrambling and dire threats to local authorities, the government was not able to pay the farmers their full earnings before the New Year festival, the Jan. 24 *London Observer* reported. Two top officials in Sichuan, China's most populous province, accused their subordinates of stealing the money intended to pay peasants for their grain. The peasants' traditional forms of resistance—non-compliance with government decrees and policies, abandoning the land, and the growth of secret societies and rural riots—have national and provincial leaders frightened.

The Ministry of Public Security has issued circulars describing more than 1,800 "underground groups" with up to 30,000 members each which "control prices and sales of land and farm products." The Ministry of State Security claims that Communist Party members even lead these groups in some areas.

In early October 1992, China's national banks and post offices issued circulars urging each locality to cash farmers' IOUs in seven days. Included are the money orders for earnings that peasants who leave their home villages looking for work, send back to their families. These IOUs and money orders "represent one disaster after another," the *Economic Daily* reported on Jan. 4. "The craze for establishing development zones is the main cause. . . . Provinces, municipalities, counties, townships and even villages set up development zones even if they have no funds—funds they should use to pay back the farmers. . . . For the sake of the Spring Festival, farmers' spring ploughing, and agricultural development, we should lose no time to cash all IOUs."

China's farmers have also been taxed ever more heavily in recent years. Average annual percapita income of farmers was expected to rise to 770 yuan (\$130) in 1992, and that is a 5% rise over 1991. Farmers' income had stagnated for three years. City workers in China average over 2,000 yuan in annual income (\$340) and have many more benefits, including health care and housing. The "richest" farmers, in Shanghai, earn 2,226 yuan (\$380) a year.

In addition, farmers are taxed outrageously. *China Daily* reported on Jan. 6 that farmers in some regions are so unhappy with the forced "donations" being extracted by local governments, that the situation "poses a potential threat to the development of the nation's agriculture." Farmers are also being "paid" with IOUs instead of cash when they sell their products to the state. Although the State Council had demanded that local "donations" be limited to 5% of their income, farmers often pay 9%. Farmers' "unhappiness" led to the State Council calling on local governments to stop the extortion. Although some provinces took measures, reporters in Hebei province found no changes, and Hunan and Henan provinces are investigating "serious" cases of extortion of funds from farmers. Taxes and "contributions" by farmers in 1991 had jumped over 10% over 1990, the *Economic Daily* reported.

Irradiation kills *E. coli*

Lives and money will be saved if the Agriculture Department and FDA approve irradiating beef.

The facts are now in on the recent outbreak of disease in the Pacific Northwest caused by *E. coli* bacteria (specifically, the strain *E. coli* 0157:H7), passing along the food chain from cattle, to frozen ground meat, to fast-food restaurant hamburgers. An estimated 40,000 potentially contaminated hamburgers were served before the problem was tackled. In Washington state, 400 people were hospitalized in serious condition, and two children died.

The best outcome of this disaster will be for the federal government to finally approve irradiating beef, and take similar measures long withheld because of public ignorance and because of the control of meat processing by a small cartel of food companies—Cargill, ConAgra, IBP, and others.

As it now appears, the situation arose last fall when tainted beef carcasses were processed and shipped out as bulk frozen meat products by the California-based Vons Companies, to, among others, the Jack-in-the-Box restaurant chain in Washington state, where hamburgers were prepared at temperatures below the point necessary to kill the bacteria.

The cases of illness grew daily over the first three weeks of January, until epidemiologists tracked down the cause and sources, and action was taken to withdraw all potentially tainted meat, and to prepare hamburgers safely.

Charges and lawsuits are flying between stricken customers and the companies involved. However, the question posed is: Why let this happen? Why not employ technologies

known for years?

No food supply can be sterile from beginning to end—with the exception of special situations such as space flights and antiseptic units in cancer-treatment centers. However, there are certain points in the food supply chain, where the application of science and technology will greatly diminish risks to health.

First look at the nature of the beast, and then at what should be done.

All healthy mammals carry strains of *E. coli* bacteria in the gut. However, one special strain of bacteria, *E. coli* 0157:H7, is not tolerated by humans without problems—sometimes fatal—though the strain is easily carried in the intestines of other mammals, especially cattle. This *E. coli* 0157:H7 strain was first identified 11 years ago, and causes bloody diarrhea, and sometimes permanent damage or death in the very young or old.

If, during the slaughtering or processing, the *E. coli* is transferred from the intestine to the meat cuts (an uncommon occurrence in standard processing), and the final product is not cooked adequately, the consumer stands to be infected. The *E. coli* 0157:H7 is not killed by freezing, and it can be carried in juice and milk products. Infection can also be spread from person to person, mostly by transfer of fecal matter because of lack of routine handwashing.

Only 11 states so far require reporting of cases of *E. coli* infection, but certain patterns of the incidence stand out.

Outbreaks of the illness are more prevalent in the summer, when more

people are outside cooking hamburgers. Outbreaks spread more easily in institutional situations such as children's and elderly centers, where personal hygiene may be haphazard.

Origin of the contamination may be more common where dairy herds are slaughtered. Dairy cows usually go into ground meat because they are too old and tough for steaks and choice cuts. Then, because ground meat is stirred up, the prevalence of the bacteria is enhanced throughout the meat; therefore, it must be cooked thoroughly to avoid possible infection. In contrast, when steaks are contaminated, it is from "the outside in," and high-temperature cooking that leaves the meat rare in the middle, may still pose small risk. Scientists cannot say how much or how little bacteria is dangerous, because it varies from person to person. But *E. coli* 0157:H7 is very virulent.

Food microbiologists advise that cooking meat to an internal temperature of 155°F is the safest practice. Federal law is 140°F. The Jack-in-the-Box restaurants in Washington were apparently following the lower guideline.

The principal precaution that should be taken nationwide is to irradiate ground beef. A very low dose of gamma rays from radioactive cobalt, or highly charged particle beams, will kill bacteria, and also any fungus and insects present. A model for such a process is the Vindicator plant in Florida.

Extensive research on food irradiation has been done since 1940. In 1963, irradiation was approved for wheat and flour, and since then on certain fruits and vegetables, and on chicken and pork.

The major food cartel companies monopolizing meat packing, Cargill, IBP, ConAgra and others, have refused to implement irradiation.

Edper begins to liquidate

Selling assets will buy the Bronfmans a little more time, but it will not save them.

The blowout of the Edper group of Canada's Edward and Peter Bronfman escalated sharply during the second week of February, with the sales of the group's large holdings in MacMillan Bloedel Ltd. and John Labatt Ltd., and the public expression of concern by Canadian regulators that Canada's banks and other financial institutions set aside sufficient reserves to cover their exposures to the various Edper companies.

The rush to sell assets indicates that Edper is having serious difficulty raising money to meet its debt payments and other expenses.

The Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions, Canada's financial services regulator, expressed its concern over the fate of Edper during the same week, by asking Canada's banks, trust companies, and insurance companies to provide it with full details of their exposure to companies in the Edper group.

The problems at Edper are worthy of such concern. Edper is Canada's largest corporate group, with 32 publicly held companies and 500 private companies which employ 100,000 people. With a nominal \$78 billion in assets, Edper is roughly five times the size of the defunct Olympia & York Developments. But that asset base is shrinking fast.

On Feb. 9, Noranda Forest Inc. agreed to sell its 49.3% stake in Canadian forestry giant MacMillan Bloedel to a group of investment firms for \$793 million. Noranda Forest is controlled by the huge Canadian natural resources company Noranda Inc., which is in turn controlled by Bras-

can, Edper's natural resources holding company.

The proceeds from the sale will be used to pay down some of Noranda's \$785 million in debt, and to pay stock dividends to Brascan.

On Feb. 12, Edper announced that Brascan would sell its 37% stake in John Labatt Inc. for \$775 million. Labatt is Canada's second largest brewer, and owns 90% of the Toronto Blue Jays baseball team.

The proceeds for the sale would be used to reduce Brascan's debt and would be available to invest in other Brascan affiliates, according to Brascan chairman Trevor Eyton.

Whereas a year ago, the Edper public companies accounted for some 10% of the market capitalization of the companies listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange, that figure is now down to 6%. During 1992, the value of the stock of bankrupt Edper real estate unit Bramalea fell by 90%, and stock in the Edper financial services company Royal Trustco fell by 65%. Similarly, the stock of Edper merchant bank Hees International Bancorp. dropped 47%, and the stock of Edper Enterprises, one of the group's top public holding companies, fell 46%.

Overall, the stock of Edper's public companies ended 1992 some 52% lower than their 1989 values, including a 90% drop at Bramalea (which filed for bankruptcy in December), an 88% drop at Trizec Corp., which currently owns 73% of Bramalea, and a 90% drop at Carena Developments, the Edper real estate holding company which controls Trizec. Royal Trustco dropped 86% during the period, and

its parent, Trilon Financial, dropped 83%. Trilon is in turn controlled by Hees International, which heads Edper's financial services division.

Sitting atop the trio of main public holding companies (Brascan, Hees International, and Carena Developments), is the public Edper Enterprises, which is 19%-owned by Edward Bronfman and family, and 74%-owned by the private Edper Holdings. Edper Holdings is owned 51% by Peter Bronfman and family, and 49% by the publicly held Pagurian Corp. Pagurian is controlled by Edper's non-family senior managers, including Jack Cockwell, whom many consider to be the architect of Edper's rise and fall.

During the 1970s and 1980s, Edper grew rapidly through a series of takeovers, with the assets of each acquisition being used to capture the next victim. Using a technique called cascade financing, a company at the top of the Edper pyramid would issue stock; it would buy perhaps half the stock itself, and sell the other half to the public. It would then invest the proceeds from the public sale in a similar but larger stock offering by one of its subsidiaries. This process would be repeated down the chain of companies, allowing Edper to control a large empire with a relatively small amount of its own money.

This process, which appeared to work so well during the speculative boom of the 1970s and 1980s, turned nasty when the bubble popped and the stock dividend flows upon which the companies at the top of the Edper looting scheme depended for their income, began to dry up.

By selling off operating companies like Labatt and MacMillan Bloedel, Edper is buying itself a little time. But this cannibalization is a self-defeating strategy, since liquidated assets pay no dividends.

Business Briefs

Labor

German union okays wage pact below inflation

The German Public Workers Union (OeTV) cut the first wage deal below inflation since 1982, agreeing to a 3% pay raise on Feb. 4. The Bundesbank, which lowered its key interest rates hours before the deal was struck, had demanded a substantial cut in real incomes as a precondition for a rate cut. The OeTV deal will affect 2.3 million workers, and will set the tone for all other wage negotiations this year.

The agreement came as unemployment in western Germany soared by more than 230,000 in January, bringing the jobless total in the country to 3.5 million, the highest level since unification in 1990. The rise was unusually sharp even for a winter month. Trade unions called the figures catastrophic, and the opposition Social Democrats drew parallels with the 1930s.

On Feb. 5, Otto Count Lambsdorff, the leader of the liberal Free Democratic Party, repeated his view that Germany was experiencing its deepest recession in postwar history: "There is no way we can talk ourselves out of it," he said.

The annual economic report of the government forecasts negative real income growth for 1993, that is, the increase in income will be below the inflation rate.

Poland

Parliament accepts budget austerity

The Polish Sejm (lower house of Parliament) budget and legislative committees decided to accept the government draft budget, in which the budget deficit is not to exceed \$5 billion. To achieve this, pay indexation for public sector employees will be suspended in 1993 while wage increases will be delayed until April and September. Also, the indexation rate of old age and disability pensions is to be decreased to the level of 91% of wages in the production sector.

The heads of the coalition parties agreed to support the government position except for the

50% value-added tax.

President Lech Walesa has threatened to dissolve the Sejm unless it passes his budget, seen by western creditors as a test of Poland's "fiscal discipline" (willingness to cut the budget against the interests of the population). The deadline is Feb. 20.

Neo-Liberalism

MSIA condemns Pronasol, demands end to meeting

The National Solidarity Program (Pronasol) of Mexico is a program of slave labor and genocide, the Ibero-American Solidarity Movement (MSIA) charged in a statement released in Mexico City on Feb. 5. The MSIA charged that Pronasol is a significant element in the North American Free Trade Agreement "designed to transform Mexico into an Auschwitz-style slave labor camp, modeled on what Adolf Hitler created in Nazi Germany."

The MSIA demanded the cancellation of an international conference scheduled for September in Oaxaca sponsored by Pronasol, and co-sponsored by the World Bank, the U.N., the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, and the "Harvard-dominated Mexican government."

"With this conference, the Anglo-American financial oligarchy plans to extend the Mexican model of genocide to the nations of Ibero-America, eastern Europe, and the rest of the world. In fact, other versions of Pronasol have already been set up in Argentina, Brazil, and other Ibero-American countries," the MSIA charged.

"Contrary to the propaganda put out by the conference's co-sponsors, Pronasol is not a more charitable alternative to savage capitalism. It is a World Bank program to extend neo-liberal economic policy," it said.

The MSIA pointed out that in Mexico, "in 1980, the foreign debt amounted to \$57 billion. Over 10 years, we paid \$95 billion (almost twice the original debt) but now we owe more than \$100 billion.

"However the Mexican government may try to dress up its statistics, the truth is that its austerity programs have thrown 40 million people into poverty, of whom 17 million are

barely surviving under conditions of extreme poverty. These programs have caused a 60% drop in purchasing power, a horrendous 50% unemployment rate, the generalized bankruptcy of agricultural producers, and of up to 30% of small and medium-sized businesses.

"This is bankers' usury, pure and simple! The results are seen in astounding governmental corruption, misery, cholera, and AIDS, as well as narco-terrorism financed and protected by the same Anglo-American oligarchy, as seen in the case of Shining Path in Peru."

'Technological Apartheid'

Dual-use embargo wrecks German industry

The embargo on "dual-use" (civilian and military uses) technology has dealt a catastrophic blow to the German machine tool industry, according to a report given to *EIR* by a senior representative of the German machine tool industry. "After the enormous international political pressure against German firms during the Gulf war, the government imposed the strictest export controls on machine tools and engineering equipment of any industrial nation. The key pusher behind this at the time was Foreign Minister [Hans-Dietrich] Genscher. The impact, combined with contraction of other export markets, has been devastating. There are 34 countries which are virtually forbidden by law to us since summer 1991."

The restrictions helped an apparent "boom" in exports of other countries, mostly the new Asian exporters of Taiwan and South Korea. "The smaller Asian producers suddenly bolted onto the world market in 1991," said the source, "and have taken an estimated 20% of traditional German machine tool export markets. German firms have lost huge numbers of orders because of imposition by the Bonn export law of endless red tape on exports. The Korean or Taiwanese suppliers simply guarantee the same quality, lower price, and immediate delivery."

The industry has lost 30% of production overall from its peak in 1990, and new orders are down by 45%. By the end of 1993, the industry estimates a loss of 20,000 jobs—20%

of total jobs. "The German machine tool sector is threatened with the same fate that destroyed the American machine tool industry some 20 years ago," he said.

Energy

Scientist envisions hydrogen economy

Prof. James Schwarz of the Syracuse University Laboratory for Advanced Storage Systems for Hydrogen, has reported a breakthrough that could lead directly to the "hydrogen economy," the Feb. 11 *Wall Street Journal* reported.

Hydrogen gas is considered the cleanest of potential fuels since it only generates water as a by-product, and it can replace the natural gas and gasoline fuels currently used in industry, homes, and cars. (The hydrogen can be generated by high-temperature fission or fusion reactors.)

The major problem with hydrogen, which Schwarz's breakthrough appears to overcome, is to obtain sufficient storage densities. He reports that molecularly engineered graphite (carbon) systems can store up to 52% of their weight in hydrogen. While his results are controversial, this efficiency would provide an electric car with a 300-mile travel range before refueling.

Asia

ECO sets integration goals for infrastructure

A foreign ministerial meeting on Feb. 8 of the 10-nation Economic Cooperation Organization set goals of railroad, truck, and air links by the end of the century, the *China Daily* reported. This was the first concrete agreement of the ECO since the former Soviet Central Asian republics of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, along with Afghanistan, joined founders Pakistan, Iran, and Turkey last year.

The ministers said that the plan "should

enable trucks to travel from one end of the region to the other at internationally acceptable standards," and should integrate national rail networks "to permit transportation by rail from one end of the region to the other"—European Turkey to the western border of China. The region covers 7.2 million square miles and has a population of 300 million. The plan calls for an ECO airline and expansion of current air links to ensure direct air connections between capitals and major cities at least once a week, and for a network of pipelines and power grids to meet energy requirements. Members agreed to work to eliminate tariff and non-tariff trade barriers, and to devise a uniform system of customs procedures.

Pakistani Foreign Ministry Secretary Mohammad Shararyar Khan said that the plan "is realistic" and that it envisaged connecting and improving existing national highways and building some new tracks to link railways. Plans for an ECO trade and development bank would be drawn up before the ECO summit next June in Istanbul, he added.

Environmentalism

Ozone hoaxster loses cool in face of Third World

At the American Association for the Advancement of Science annual convention in Boston the weekend of Feb. 13, F. Sherwood Rowland, the outgoing president of the AAAS, gave a speech trying to refute attacks on his CFC ozone depletion model. Without naming it, Anderson tried to poohpoo the influential book *The Holes in the Ozone Scare*, parts of which were printed in *EIR*.

The audience of 800 had all received an ironic leaflet using the arguments from the book. After the question period was canceled, the crowd became polarized when a member of the audience walked up to Rowland and asked, "Dr. Rowland, what do you have to say about the 40 million people in the Third World who are going to starve to death because of your ban on CFCs?" He went on, "Refrigeration experts have estimated that the CFC ban will lead to food spoilage that will cause 40 million brown, black, and yellow people to starve." Rowland reddened, and retreated.

Briefly

● **INDIAN SCIENTISTS** entered the economic debate on Feb. 2, saying that the economic reforms are pointless unless the state directs fresh investment into science and related fields. Science, technology, and higher education, they said, must be treated as crucial infrastructural elements of all future plans.

● **FORD MOTOR Co.** announced losses of \$7.4 billion for 1992, including \$7.5 billion written off to reflect changes in accounting procedures for reporting future pension fund and medical-benefit liabilities. Ford's operating loss for the year was \$502 million.

● **A PRITHVI** missile was successfully launched from India's Chandipar-on-sea test range in early February. The medium-range surface-to-surface missile is one of five under development in India's integrated guided missile development program. The U.S. has protested against any further testing of India's Agni missile.

● **GERMANY**, after meetings in Berlin on Feb. 7 with Russian Foreign Trade Minister Aleksandr Nechayev, has decided not to extend its Hermes credit guarantee for exports to Russia before more consultations on trade relations. Germany has been pushing firms to shift their traditional production for eastern markets to new clients in the West.

● **DRASTIC CUTS** in west European steel production have been agreed to in talks between producers and the European Commission in Brussels. By 1995, production will be reduced by 25-35%. The total work force in the European steel industry will be reduced by 50,000—half of these in Germany.

● **TAIWAN** plans to privatize Chinese Petroleum, a state oil company capitalized at \$1.5 billion; the Taiwan Power Co., the state-run electricity supplier with three nuclear plants (capitalized at \$7.7 billion); Taiwan Fertilizer Co., and Taiwan Salt Works.

Balkans: Deal with Russia heralds broader war ahead

by Umberto Pascali

“Now the Russians are again in the game officially, called back by the Anglo-Americans. Thank Warren Christopher. Now we are getting really scared. Do you know what it means to call back the Russians into the negotiations? Do you know what that means for us Bosnians? These are the people behind the Greater Serbians. A broader war could be closer than people think.” The Bosnian insider was commenting on the news that Reginald Bartholomew had arrived in Moscow on Feb 12.

Bartholomew, the new U.S. envoy to Bosnia nominated by Secretary of State Warren Christopher, is better known as the “destroyer of Lebanon” for the role he played in that country, where he was ambassador from 1983 to 1986. As a State Department official working on Bosnia put it, “Indeed Lebanon is our preferred example when we discussed Bosnia.” Lebanon, a prosperous, vibrant country, and an example of peaceful collaboration between Christians and Muslims, not unlike Bosnia, was pushed—through machinations involving above all Moscow, Washington, London, Israel—into one of the most destructive civil wars of this century. After ten years of chaos and genocide the country was split de facto between Israel and Syria. “After all,” the State Department official commented, “Lebanon was pacified at the end. Yes, it took ten years, but now they live in peace there. But Mr. Bartholomew was not chosen just because he had been in Lebanon. He is a tough negotiator and that’s what is needed to convince the three parties in Bosnia to find an agreement.”

As if to signal a firm agreement inside the Anglo-American elite, this was the same analysis pushed on Feb. 11 by Simon Jenkins, the political editor of the London *Times*. What is going on in Bosnia is “a classic civil war and one that has by no means achieved the point of exhaustion, where each side collapses under the authority of the nearest guarantor of order. That point has been achieved in Lebanon. The Syrian intervention was postponed by Israeli and then multinational attempts at ‘peacekeeping,’ a peace that left thousands dead. The Syrian army was guilty of atrocities that made the Serbs seem like angels. But it has brought a sort of peace to Lebanon, because Syria’s security requires it.”

Strategic map of the Croatian-Bosnian theater of war



The Serbian military strongholds shown on the map should be the targets for U.S. bombing missions that could end the war within 1-2 months, according to Croatian journalist Srečko Jurdana.

A Lebanese source told *EIR*: "Bartholomew was the destroyer of Lebanon. It was he more than anybody else who prepared the groundwork for handing Lebanon to the Syrians and it was under the Bartholomew tenure that the U.S. approved of a 'multinational force' to police Lebanon."

Prior to his Lebanon posting, Bartholomew was the State Department's special Cyprus coordinator in 1981-82. There

as well, the Anglo-Americans ran another atrocious social experiment on the Turkish and Greek inhabitants. Bartholomew's first major State Department posting was under Henry Kissinger in 1974, and he left State with Kissinger in 1977. In 1979 he came back while Cyrus Vance was secretary, and Warren Christopher undersecretary.

This is the man that Warren Christopher chose as U.S.

chief negotiator as he announced—on Feb. 10—his support for the Vance-Owen plan. A Bosnian source commented: “While many gullible people were expecting Clinton and Christopher to impose law and justice upon the British and Russians, any serious observers knew that Cyrus Vance of the Vance-Owen plan was the former boss of Christopher and that the two have been in communication all the time. Vance had boasted about his ‘influence’ on Christopher in the pages of the *New York Times*. His endorsement of Vance was no surprise. The second non-surprise was that Christopher called the Russians in. What we are going to get is a new and more dangerous form of Yalta.”

It was in fact in the Feb. 10 briefing on the “conflict in former Yugoslavia” that Christopher announced: “Earlier today, the President spoke with Yeltsin by phone to convey his personal request that both our nations work closely and cooperatively in this search for a peaceful resolution. He is also sending Ambassador Bartholomew to Moscow to discuss our approach before the ambassador returns to New York to participate in the negotiations.” It could not have been clearer: Before there are any negotiations, we will strike a formal and open agreement with Moscow.

One of the first to rejoice was the British “negotiator,” Lord David Owen, who finally felt free to say in an interview with the German magazine *Der Spiegel*, in the issue that appeared on Feb. 15, that the Russians “will appear on the scene more visible than before.” He revealed: “We have used their diplomatic connections and their experience for our cause, also in the past, though. Their ambassador attended all the talks in Geneva and New York. We have made clear to the Americans that in terms of the policy contents, the Russians were on our side.”

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd welcomed the American position because it “reinforces the Vance-Owen plan” and “relieves the Muslims of the belief that the United States will act to impose a settlement.” So the Bosnians will more easily have their backs put to the wall without their pre-election illusions of U.S. support.

Russians: Lift sanctions on Serbia

On Feb. 13, Russia—in a perfectly symmetrical maneuver—communicated to the U.N. Security Council that it had nominated its own high-level envoy, Deputy Foreign Minister Vitaly I. Churkin, the highest Russian decisionmaker for former Yugoslavia. Vance and Owen welcomed the Russian decision, while United Nations Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali asked Bartholomew and Churkin to come up with a preliminary solution to the war in Croatia by the end of March.

On Feb. 13 Bartholomew was in Moscow smiling to reporters after a 90-minute meeting with the Russian foreign minister, Andrei Kozyrev. The former envoy in Cyprus and Lebanon confided that the talks had been “very, very positive.” Positive indeed. The Russian legislative leaders made clear that they want the sanctions against Serbia lifted. Ko-

zyrev himself, showing a great familiarity with the art of diplomatic blackmail, made clear how much pressure he is under from the “hardliners” who accuse him of being too tough with the Serbian “Orthodox brothers.”

The latest news from Moscow is that the Russian Parliament explicitly demanded sanctions against Croatia or, if this is not done, lifting of the sanctions against Serbia—and this is final. A senior Bosnian journalist commented: “It is clear that they want to establish a non-European solution. Russia in particular is engaged in inheriting the position of the Soviet Union in all respects. For them, Bosnia must be an example to all the Muslim populations that were once part of the Soviet Empire. None of those Muslim countries should dare claim real independence—or else. In this—exclusion of Europe, i.e. Germany, from the game, and repression of Muslims—national-communist Russia wants to find a global partner in the Anglo-Americans.”

The brutality of the Serbian position has been shown lately by the Chetniks (the Serbian irregulars) in Bosnia, whose very existence depends on regular and continuous supplies from Serbia. The Chetniks, led by Radovan Karadzic, have cut off supplies to the whole of eastern Bosnia, whose population is going to be starved or killed by the winter and by disease. Even the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees is now saying that up to 200,000 people are facing death there. And, in a development that should shame the West, the first reports of cannibalism arrived on the desks of the media, in particular from the city of Tuzla. The Chetniks continue to obstruct the U.N. convoy; and the U.N. forces, which have an official mandate to get those convoys and supplies to the civilian population, keep backing down.

The Bosnian government, with the support of the people of Sarajevo, has taken the heroic decision to refuse any further supply for the capital city until the U.N. obeys its mandate and resupplies eastern Bosnia.

The first answer came from Lt. Gen. Philippe Morillon, commander of the U.N. forces in Bosnia, who was declared *persona non grata* by the government after the Serbian assassination of Deputy Prime Minister Hakiya Turajlic while under U.N. protection. “A decision to fast to death,” stated Morillon sarcastically, comparing it to the fasts of Mohandas Gandhi during the fight for the independence of India. But Gandhi, Morillon said, smiling, “never imposed his fasts on others, he did it alone.”

In the meantime most Balkan countries are preparing for imminent war. Serbian provocations in Kosova are escalating (see interview, p. 29). Most of those countries are rushing into military alliances, exactly as happened before World Wars I and II. Albania and Bulgaria signed their first agreement on Feb. 14. They underlined that they will do everything possible to help “contain” the war in Bosnia and to stop the fighting from spilling over into Makedonija and Kosova. Turkish President Turgut Özal is touring Bulgaria, Makedonija, and Albania.

Winter of death descends on Bosnia

by Konstantin George

Barring a shift in the policy of the western powers, 500,000 Bosnian Muslims, trapped in eastern Bosnia, face death by starvation this winter. These include some 300,000 “surviving,” if one dare use the word, in five east Bosnian cities and towns, surrounded since last April by Serbian forces in the cities of Gorazde and Srebrenica, each with about 100,000 trapped civilians, and the towns of Cerska, Zepa, and Zvornik, with a trapped population of about 100,000. The sixth pocket facing starvation is the besieged northeast Bosnian city of Tuzla. Tuzla, while technically not surrounded by the Serbian forces, has been cut off from all food shipments since the Jan. 24 outbreak of fighting in central Bosnia between Croatian and Muslim forces.

Based on available reports, the situation in these cities is like that of Leningrad during the Nazi blockade, at the height of the killer famine in early 1942. The parallels extend to the first reported cases (Feb. 17) of cannibalism among the famished in Tuzla. In Gorazde and Srebrenica, as an appeal by Gorazde Mayor Hadzi Efendic, dated Feb. 2, testified, the population had been placed on a ration of “100 grams of food per person per day.” The latest urgent appeal by Efendic was issued Feb. 16:

“This is perhaps the last time I’ll be able to appeal to the world. For one month, not one single gram of food has arrived. The people are starving to death. Most people are like they are in a coma. There’s literally no longer any food. We’ve had to close the food distribution places because there’s no more food. There is no more food for the public kitchens. Every day, people are dying here, mostly children and older people. The same situation is in Cerska and Srebrenica. We heard that food will come in a week. That is too long. We cannot wait one week. We can only hope that well-meaning people will bring food to Gorazde, either peacefully, or by force of arms.”

On Feb. 14, as a last act of desperation, the Bosnian government undertook the shutting down of food distribution in the capital, Sarajevo, and the proclamation of a hunger strike of the capital’s residents in solidarity with those starving in east Bosnia. The hunger strike is, as the London *Times* of Feb. 15 was forced to admit, “widely supported” by the inhabitants of the surrounded capital, who see the boycott of food aid as a “perfectly rational protest against the United Nations’ failure to deal with ethnic cleansing through starva-

tion of thousands of Muslims in the eastern part of Bosnia.” The *Times* noted that the people of Sarajevo “feel betrayed by the U.N., because Security Council resolutions authorizing the use of force in delivering relief aid were never put into practice on the ground.”

The U.N. response, announced Feb. 17, to the Sarajevo hunger strike, was to halt all shipments of food aid to Bosnia, both to eastern Bosnia and to Sarajevo. The U.N. even went so far as to recall its food aid convoys held up in eastern Bosnia by Serbian forces.

Toward the next debacle

Lyndon LaRouche, in an analysis reported in the *EIR Strategic Alert* of Feb. 15, foresees that in the near future there will be a Serbian equivalent of the Nazi *Kristallnacht* of 1938, some spectacular atrocity which will shock the entire world, and will catalyze an intervention against the Serbian Frankenstein. However, as LaRouche stressed, that intervention will bring about a situation even worse than the one it purportedly sought to correct. A widening of the Balkans war will soon follow, perhaps through a combined Greek-Serbian grab at Makedonija.

The problem is that Washington does not define an American intervention as a means of liberating the Serbian-occupied regions of Croatia and Bosnia, and then crushing the nazi-communist dictatorship in Belgrade. Washington has also refused to lift the criminal arms embargo against Croatia and Bosnia.

The U.S.—or rather Anglo-American—goal appears to be to intervene to police a line arbitrarily drawn by the great powers defining a Russian-Serb “sphere” and an American-NATO “sphere” in former Yugoslavia and surrounding Balkan regions. Such a goal has become evident in the feverish dispatch to Moscow of U.S. Special Envoy Reginald Bartholomew, on the weekend of Feb. 13-14. Russia reciprocated by naming Deputy Foreign Minister Vitaly Churkin as the Russian special envoy for “peace” in former Yugoslavia. Next, the U.S. dictated to Bosnia that it send a delegation to Moscow for humiliating “talks” with Serbia’s overt ally.

After the Moscow talks, a similar superpower-dictated humiliation was dealt to Croatia, which was forced to sit down at the U.N. with representatives of the renegade “government” of the “Serbian Republic of Krajina,” created by Belgrade in the Serbian-occupied part of Croatia. Even at the notorious 1938 Munich agreement, this was the one humiliation that Czech President Eduard Benes was spared: Konrad Henlein, Nazi leader of the Sudetenland, was not given a formal seat at the “talks” that dissolved the Czech Republic. This criminal farce occurred under the aegis of the next round of Bartholomew-Churkin talks in New York, on Feb. 18.

The “NATO-ization” of large parts of the Balkans is central to proposals submitted in early February by David Anderson, director of the Berlin Aspen Institute and former

U.S. Ambassador to Belgrade (1981-85). The proposals were covered in an opinion column he wrote for the German daily *Tageszeitung*. Anderson called for the stationing of NATO ground and air forces in Hungary and Slovenia, plus NATO forces in the Republic of Makedonija, all linked to a military intervention in Bosnia. The goal of this intervention, in Anderson's own words, "sounds brutal . . . and indeed it is brutal," but allegedly the "only" feasible solution, would be to police "forced exchanges of populations" and "territories." Ethnic cleansing from above!

Signalling that an intervention along these lines is being planned, on Feb. 15, U.S. Gen. John Shalikashvili, NATO Commander-in-Chief, arrived in the Hungarian capital of Budapest for two days of consultations.

As Lyndon LaRouche warned, the result of such an intervention with the wrong war goals will be that "a widening of the war in the Balkans will soon follow." As he was writing, the pieces were continuing to fall into place. Meetings and diplomacy were cementing the "classic" Balkan war axes, formed by Albania and Bulgaria prodded by Turkey on one side, and Greece, Romania, and Serbia on the other.

Greece's irrationally hostile stance against the Republic of Makedonija has deprived Athens of one possibility to break up this fatal geometry, by using Greece's geography and economic leverage to forge a stable Slavic Makedonijan neighbor.

On Feb. 15, Turkish President Turgut Özal began an unprecedented tour by a Turkish head of state of Bulgaria, Makedonija, Albania, and Croatia. Özal's trip was discussed with the Clinton administration during his prolonged early February stay in Washington. In Bulgaria, Özal reiterated demands that Bulgaria allow the Turkish Army to pass through Bulgarian territory to former Yugoslavia. In Skopje, the capital of Makedonija, Özal did not confine his attacks on Greece to the issue of recognizing the Slavic Makedonijan republic, but launched an inflammatory diatribe against alleged Greek mishandling of the 120,000 Turkish minority in western Thrace.

On Feb. 13, the Turkish President addressed a crowd of 10,000 in Istanbul, who were rallying to demand that the Turkish army intervene in the Balkans. Özal demanded an immediate end to the bloodshed in Bosnia, and called for international military intervention. Then there was a two-day meeting in the Albanian capital of Tirana between Albanian President Sali Berisha and Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zheliev, which led to the signing of a Bulgarian-Albanian Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation. It is not known whether this treaty contains any hidden military clauses. On the same weekend, Greek Foreign Minister Michael Papaconstantinou arrived in Bucharest for talks with Romanian President Ion Iliescu. The talks produced a Greek-Romanian joint declaration rejecting any form of military intervention in former Yugoslavia.

Croatian journalist: How appeasement of Serbia led to war

Srečko Jurdana is a Croatian journalist currently on tour in the United States. He visited political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche in Rochester, Minnesota on Feb. 8, and has been conducting lectures and private meetings in various cities, including Washington, D.C., where he has met with numerous congressional officials.

He was the founder and editor of the magazine Film, which was published in Zagreb between 1975 and 1980, and was seen as an opposition magazine by the post-Tito government. He worked as a film critic and cultural essayist for Radio Zagreb, and was constantly attacked during the early 1980s for being an anti-communist and ultra-conservative. By the middle of the 1980s he was unable to remain inside Yugoslavia, and therefore lived in Germany between 1985 and 1989. He went back to Zagreb in 1989 and began his present activity as a journalist. He has contributed frequently to the newspaper Vjesnik in Zagreb and Vecernji List. In recent months, he has been an eyewitness to some of the sieges and other military operations in former Yugoslavia. He was present at the siege of Vukovar in the fall of 1991, and he covered the war in central Bosnia in 1992.

The following speech was delivered to the Schiller Institute in Leesburg, Virginia on Feb. 10:

Let me give you a review of the principal events in the war against Croatia and Bosnia. In order to understand how this war might end, we must know what preceded it. In 1988 or 1989, one of the leading generals of the federal Yugoslav Army, Branko Mamula, who was minister of defense, visited London, and there he met with some key people who influenced British policy, among them, of course, Mr. Fitzroy Maclean, all Tito's friends during the course of World War II. At this meeting, Mr. Mamula said clearly, that the only way to stop the expansion of Germany would be through Yugoslavia. Yugoslavia is the principal obstacle to German influence. That is the intention of these people—and it didn't take much intelligence to predict that this was a clear indication of an imminent war in Yugoslavia.

It was also very clear how this war would start: a Serbian rebellion in the Croatian provinces, where Serbs make up a significant part of the population. According to some estimates, 20% is the limit, over which Serbs tend to show an inclination to rebel. The center of this was Knin, a Serbian

stronghold in Croatia. In 1989-90, people put first barricades on the roads in order to stop the traffic between the northern part and southern part of Croatia. This happened during the Mediterranean Games, drawing the attention of the world's media. Many tourists were on their way back home to Europe and had to pass through the barricades, and this was an opportunity for them to attract as much attention as they could.

At this time I wrote an article for *Vecernji List*, in which I rather sharply attacked the hesitation of [President Franjo] Tujman's cabinet. I said: It won't get you anywhere to do nothing. What you should do is to create a re-blockade of the Serbs, to encircle Knin and the places with barricades, with Croatia militia forces, and to establish a 20-kilometer cordon, a kind of no man's land, in between.

In this way, the connection with Serbia would be broken, but it wouldn't cause a direct confrontation between Croatians and Serbs. It would demonstrate Croatian strength toward the Serbs, a determination not to allow the rebellion, without direct confrontation. Instead of this, the Croatian government did nothing, waiting for something to happen next.

Very predictably, the next thing was Banja. These are all well-known places from World War II. The principal demand from the Serbian side after the general Serbian attack on Croatia became obvious, was that the territory of the Republic of Croatia must be reduced to the line Karlobag-Virovitica. Karlobag is on the Adriatic coast, and Virovitica is a small city near the Hungarian border. This line, according to Serbian pretensions, would be the border of reduced Croatia.

The rest of the territory—that is, western Slavonia and eastern Slavonia, the coastal and interior regions of Croatia—would become Greater Serbia. This was the principal aim of the war.

But the war did not come instantly; it was well planned a long time ago. And I will tell you how it was planned.

A long-term Serbian strategy

The federal Yugoslav Army, in its strategic plans, developed a so-called defensive line of very strong military facilities—barracks, underground storage facilities—and accumulated huge quantities of weapons, ammunition, and anything else that would be needed for a huge war, against anybody, exactly on this line. The principal barracks of the federal Yugoslav Army were lined up at Virovitica, Bjelovar, Petrinja, Karlovac, and Knin, of course. This area was covered with military facilities of the federal Yugoslav Army, on the pretext that this would be the main defensive line against a presupposed attack from the *Austrian* side! Very interesting. Very clever. The name of the game was to create a Serbian stronghold, for when the time would become ripe for a general Serbian attack on Croatia. This also means that the Serbs did not have any illusions about "Yugoslavia," whatsoever. They knew very well what "Yugoslavia" was.

So, it all started at Knin. In World War II, some of the most brutal Chetnik groups came from the region of Knin. They committed terrible war crimes against civilians in this area, the interior of Dalmatia, principally against Croatians, but also against Serbs who wouldn't cooperate with them. This was the Chetniks' so-called Dinara Division—Dinara is the name of a mountain here—which was led by an Orthodox priest, Momcilo Juic, who called himself a Chetnik duke. Momcilo Juic, now in his late 80s, is living in California. He has a big ranch at San Marcos, where he managed to build an Orthodox church. He has, in the meantime, 1989-90, initiated Mr. Vojislav Seselj [the present-day leader of the Chetniks] into the Chetnik order, and proclaimed him his successor, a duke. When Mr. Seselj returned to Serbia, to start the war brutality, he had the blessing of Momcilo Juic personally, which added to his charisma, so to speak.

In spite of many demands from the former Tito government, Momcilo Juic was never extradited to Yugoslavia as a war criminal, although he was generally recognized as this; unlike Andrija Artukovic, the former Croatian minister of justice in the Croatian independent state during World War II, who also lived in California, who was extradited and sentenced to death in a Zagreb court, and who died in prison there.

This was the history of Knin. It was quite natural that the modern rebellion would start here. But along the above-mentioned military line from Karlobag to Virovitica, the rebellion very quickly spread into Kordun and Banja, and western Slavonia. Those are exactly the places where the federal Yugoslav Army had strongholds, the strongest potential for warfare.

Croatian government does nothing

Now, when it was obvious that the war was imminent, the war was spreading against Croatia, the Croatian government was still hesitating, because strong pressure, parallel political activity from abroad, came along with the Serbian attacks. That is, the stronger the Serbian attacks were, the stronger were the British and French accusations against Croatia for its fascism, Ustasha crimes, and so on, in order to politically disarm Croatia, to deny it the right to defend itself. And when Croatia started to organize its defense, it was said, "No, Croatia is going to commit genocide against the Serbs; they are right, because you are Ustashas, you are connected to the Nazis," and so on. And so all these Serbian moves went on without any moves from the Croatian side.

The Serbs saw that they had in fact a free hand from the international community, from the British and French. They decided to hit very hard. So an organized attack started from Vojvodina, previously annexed to Serbia, over the Danube River.

This general attack on Croatia in eastern Slavonia, which was followed by the famous battle of Vukovar, could have been very simply prevented, if only the Croatian government



War correspondent Srečko Jurđana: The Serbs from the very beginning did not hide what they were up to. For the international community, there was no excuse.

had had some courage to do this. The Danube River is very wide here, very hard to cross—for an untrained federal army, almost impossible to cross. There are only two bridges here; these bridges could be mined; they could be blown up without any problem. In fact, the local people knew what was going to happen, and they made all the preparations, got explosives, everything was there on the spot, and they got on the telephone to Zagreb and said, “We have prepared everything, we can stop them, just give us a nod to blow these bridges up.” Zagreb gave the strictest orders *not* to do this, because it could *provoke* the Serbs to attack.

Finally, when the government started to contemplate the possibility of blowing the bridges up, the Serbs already had five divisions on the Croatian side. The battle of Vukovar had begun.

The battle of Vukovar

The attack on Vukovar began with the infamous killing of 15 Croatian policemen.

Serbs had first kidnapped two Croatian policemen from the police station at Vinkovci, near Vukovar. They had taken them to Borovo Selo, a suburb of Vukovar. After that they telephoned to Vinkovci and said, “If you want your men back, come to Borovo Selo and then we’ll negotiate.” The Croatians responded very naively. Fifteen men jumped into a bus and went to Borovo Selo to negotiate with the Serbs the return of their two colleagues. They were ambushed by a large group of Chetniks, shot below the knees in order to

make them helpless, and then they were massacred en masse, their eyes were dug out, and so on. This was the first slaughter in the war. After that, the man who led this ambush on the Serbian side, Vukasin Soskocanin, appeared on Novi Sad television, and admitted openly what had happened. He said: I killed six Croatians, and I’ll kill 600 more. The Serbs, from the very beginning, did not hide what they were up to. For the so-called international community, there was no excuse that they didn’t know what was going on. No! The Serbs were doing this from the very beginning, and they were openly saying so on television.

The battle of Vukovar had started. Let us analyze some of the most important events.

The battle of Vukovar lasted almost three months. It started in a very curious way. First there were some Serbian shellings from the other side of the Danube River, and the Croatian government decided to pull the children out of Vukovar and to move them to the Croatian islands, to Losinj. After a couple of weeks, they said, “The school year is about to begin, and anyway, the Serbs are not so mad as to attack the city, so we’ll bring the children back into the town.” They put them into buses and returned them to Vukovar. And at that very moment, when the children were getting off the buses in a central Vukovar square, the general shelling of Vukovar began, with this very square as a principal target. So these children had to be immediately evacuated to shelters and cellars, and they practically did not come up to the light of day until the fall of Vukovar.

That is another example of the naive behavior of the Croatian government concerning this war.

The course of the battle of Vukovar is well known. On the Croatian side some 1,800 men resisted bravely the general, all-out Serbian attack—armored units, tanks, artillery on a massive scale, aviation, anything that was at the Serbs’ disposal. Yet, they were losing.

First of all, the battlefield of Vukovar was very carefully, very cleverly, covered with mines. Croatians managed to surround Vukovar with minefields. So the Serbs suffered very heavy losses of tanks. Secondly, the defenders developed a well-known, but still very interesting, anti-tank tactic. In later phases of the battle, they were letting tanks come into the town, almost to the center of the town, where the streets are narrow. They destroyed the first and last one, and what remained in between, the column of tanks, was basically helpless, and almost all were destroyed. Still, the Serbs kept falling into the trap. “The road’s clear, let’s go in”—and 17 or 20 tanks came in, and then came the surprise. During the course of the battle, the Serbians lost some 350 tanks, according to very conservative estimates. Some estimate up to 600 tanks. Among soldiers, the casualties were 7-10,000, at least. Unfortunately, some of them were Croatians. How is that? Croatians were killed in the front lines of the federal Yugoslav Army. This is another example of the Croatian government’s naiveté.

Croatian hostages

Along with the general attack on Croatia, which was performed step by step, federal Army commanders played some politics also. They used some dirty tricks. They proclaimed a recruitment drive. "We are 'Yugoslavia.' So we are authorized to recruit soldiers, Yugoslavian citizens. Now your turn has come, you have to report and go to the Army." They told the Croatians, "Give your guys to the Army." What did Croatia do? People from the Croatian government went directly into the cities where the recruitment was going on, in order to persuade the men to go into the federal Army, *in order not to provoke repression*. The men knew what was going on; they didn't want to go there. But from the highest levels, they were told, "You are doing a favor to your country. You must think *politically*. We are trying not to spread the conflict." And immediately after they reported to the federal Army, they became Serbian hostages. Some of them were killed inside the barracks, because the Serbs treated them as enemies since they were Croatians. Many of them—not only Croatians, but also Muslims, Hungarians, Albanians, practically anybody who wasn't a Serb—were pushed into the front lines. They were pushed into trucks, transported to the battlefield, and told, "You go ahead, the enemy is in front of you and you have to fight him. It's basically practice; you don't have to be afraid." You must understand that these people were subjected to a complete information blockade. They didn't know what was actually going on.

I heard these stories from the people who fought at Vukovar. They told me, "We saw the groups of Yugoslav soldiers running toward us, so we killed them. They were enemies. We didn't know who was attacking us. Only later, when we checked their identities, did we discover that they were in fact non-Serbs, many of them Croatians."

But Serbs suffered terrible losses in the battle for Vukovar. My estimation then was that they were on the edge of complete defeat—not technically, but psychologically. I thought, "They're losing tanks, vehicles, artillery, weapons, people. They're losing everything, yet they're attacking on and on. They're losing generals, the most important officers. They're developing the Gallipoli syndrome! Regardless of losses, they have to take this town." It was something stronger than reason. I said to myself, "If we manage to break them here, they will never psychologically recover from it; they will never get the psychological strength to go on with the war." This thinking you could note also in the Croatian Army, which had managed to establish itself by then.

That was the end of October and the beginning of November 1991. A major breakthrough operation from the Croatian side started toward Vukovar from Vinkovci, in order to break the Serbian encirclement. The operation was a successful one. Croatian forces managed in a rather short time to get to the suburbs of Vukovar, to the point named Marinci, a small village near Vukovar. That was basically the Serbian defeat. When they got to Marinci, the Serbs knew they were losing,

they were finished. We needed perhaps one day or two to get into Vukovar—the major Croatian forces—and in Vukovar, to connect with the defending forces there, and it would all be over. The Serbian losses of 10,000 people, a couple of hundred tanks, and big airplanes, and so forth, would have been in vain.

Betrayal by the West

What happened there? An interesting thing. A telephone call from [European Community negotiator Lord] Carrington to Mr. Tudjman. He demanded an immediate interruption of this breakthrough operation. He said, "No! You are expanding the war. We want *peace*. We want a peaceful solution. You should let the Red Cross convoy enter Vukovar, not your army. Let the Red Cross convoy evacuate the wounded from the Vukovar hospital." It took some time, but basically Mr. Tudjman obeyed the demand of Mr. Carrington and Mr. Vance, and he ordered that the operation be interrupted. Croatian forces stopped on the road to Vukovar. The Serbs relaxed. They started to joke around. They wouldn't let the Red Cross convoy in. But after the fifth try, after the convoy evacuated 400 people from the Vukovar hospital and returned to Zagreb, in the process of allowing the Red Cross convoy into Vukovar, Serbian forces—there was a strict cease-fire then—went in immediately after it, and quickly linked up with the military headquarters in Vukovar. That was basically the fall of Vukovar.

There was another time that Serbia was facing complete defeat, and was saved only by intervention from outside. Croatians, without an army, without anything, had started spontaneously to attack Serbian military facilities in Croatia. It was amazing how quickly these barracks were taken. The Serbs did not have any organized defense of these barracks. This was in summer 1991. A general attack on Serbian military barracks started in Croatia. In some days, Croatians managed to get enormous quantities of weapons out of these barracks. Belgrade felt very threatened by this process, and another phone call came, from Mr. Vance and Mr. Carrington, to Mr. Tudjman, and they said, "No you can't attack barracks any more. We will impose a peaceful solution to this problem. If you go on with your attack, you will be sanctioned, you will not be recognized as a state." The attack on the barracks was, of course, interrupted, and the cease-fire in Igalo—on the Croatian-Montenegrin border, at Tito's famous villa—was signed by Mr. Kadijevic, Mr. Tudjman, Mr. Milosevic, and Mr. Vance—a cease-fire which implied immediate interruption of Croatian operations. The Serbs did not honor the cease-fire, but proceeded with the war, but in the negotiation process, they managed to save all the remaining weapons, which were enormous quantities of tanks, vehicles, missiles, guns, artillery, rockets, ammunition, anything from these barracks, and deployed them to critical points on the battlefield in Croatia and at strategic positions in Bosnia.

The road to Bosnia

So it was the weapons taken out of the Croatian barracks, taken out by the direct order of the famous tandem, that enabled the Serbs to conduct a general attack on Bosnia. Of course the Bosnian government, led by Mr. Izetbegovic, observed silently the placement of these weapons at strategic mountain positions, and, just as Tudjman had, declared that they have no quarrel with Serbs, they're honest Yugoslavs, they have good relations with the federal Army, and there is no reason for this Army to attack them. It *won't* attack them, because it is basically a Croatian-Serbian war, and the Muslims don't have anything to do with it.

But the Muslims *did* have something to do with it, since all of Bosnia was serving as a logistical base for the attack on Croatia. Croatia was attacked from points throughout Bosnia. Without Bosnia, the Serbs would not have been able to create this kind of general war. Yet, the interpretation of Mr. Izetbegovic was, "I have nothing to do with it." He was very well warned what Serbs might do to Muslims—not only by the obvious example of what was going on in Croatia, but from his own historical experience. During World War II, Muslims suffered terrible casualties from Serbs. They committed genocide against Muslims during World War II. This wasn't enough for the Muslims; they said, "No, this won't happen again. It's not possible in these times; this is over."

We know, of course, what happened, immediately after the Unprofor [U.N. "peacekeeping" forces] took over in Croatia. The coming of Unprofor was a precondition for a general Serbian attack on Bosnia, because Unprofor kept guard over the Serbian occupied territory in Croatia, so the Serbs had a free hand to reconcentrate and regroup their troops for an attack on Bosnia, and also to use tanks and artillery otherwise needed in Croatia, to be transferred to Bosnia and start the offensive that is now going on.

In my opinion, there were two crucial moments. One was the cease-fire at Igalo, which interrupted the attack on military facilities, and the other, the siege of Vukovar and the Red Cross convoy. At these moments, Croatia had a clear victory in its hands. The federal Yugoslav Army was much overestimated. It was weak, in fact. It was very strong in appearance—plenty of weapons, plenty of everything. But it was weak in structure, because many officers were not Serbs, many soldiers were not Serbs and could not be trusted. Pilots, particularly, were not Serbs. And the motives were not clear. Milosevic was after an all-out war against Croatia and others in order to create Greater Serbia. The general commanding structure still had some "Yugoslav" thoughts in their heads—Kadijevic and others. It wasn't clear whether they were really, exclusively for the Greater Serbia idea, or did they want, perhaps, some kind of Yugoslavia. Perhaps some "Titoism" remained in their heads. The situation was rather unclear at these moments.

Decisive action was needed

What was needed, then, was to react decisively. To attack the federal Army, not to give it the necessary time to transform itself into a Serbian Army, which would act only according to Milosevic's ideas. The Army was a mastodon. It appeared very strong, but was structurally very weak, very slow, and you had to attack it *swiftly*, not to give it time to accommodate to the war situation.

Unfortunately, the people who organized this war, Carington and others, knew this very well. They put strong pressure on Croatia to give this necessary time to the federal Army, to transform itself into a Serbian one. This happened, and when this transformation was finished, together with the successful pulling out of weapons from the Croatian barracks, then Serbia clearly had an advantage. But it could have been prevented from the very beginning.

The clear indication of a structural weakness of the Yugoslav Army was the removal of all former generals, of all former commanding cadres, the forced retirement of Mr. Kadijevic, Mr. Mamula, Mr. Blagoje Adzic, and other generals who perhaps were not quite adequately responding to Mr. Milosevic's views of how this war should be carried out. After they had done their duty, they were removed, and loyal Serbian officers replaced them. This is a pretty clear indication of the structural weakness of the Yugoslav Army. These generals were not trustworthy, for Milosevic.

Bosnian Croats, Muslims declare their solidarity

From a document issued in Ottawa on Feb. 3:

The Bosnia Hercegovina Information Center Executive Committee (BH Exec), comprised of Bosnian-Hercegovian Muslims and Croats, deems it necessary to issue the following statements to show the Canadian and world public the truth behind the events in Bosnia and Hercegovina. The truth is all the more necessary because of the labels, clichés and deliberate distorting of the facts promoted by the world political community and the communications media.

We Canadians and residents of Canada of a Croat or Muslim descent, representatives of the BH Exec and with the full support of the Bosnian and Hercegovian community of Ottawa-Carleton declare:

- that we have come together and formed this Committee to publicly show and denounce the existence of hatred between our two peoples.

Bosnians and Croatians must unite against Serbian aggression

In January, the Bosnia-Herzegovina Information Office in Ottawa, Canada decided to react to the attempt to provoke a confrontation between Catholics and Muslims in Bosnia and between Bosnia and Croatia. The center created an executive committee that included four Catholics and four Muslims (see box p. 24). Below is an interview with Steven Corkovic and Djenana Veledar Campara, two leading members of the Ottawa Executive Committee, conducted by Umberto Pascali on Feb. 10.

EIR: Your initiative coincided with the escalation of the propaganda on the so-called danger of Muslim fundamentalism in Bosnia. Recently, *EIR* published extensive quotes from a document prepared by Yossef Bodansky, the chief adviser of the Task Force on Terrorism and Unconventional

Warfare of the House Republican Research Committee. The document, officially written as background information for Republican congressmen, justifies the genocide against Bosnia as "Iran's European Springboard." It is a clear attempt to provoke a conflict between Catholics and Muslims, and Croatians and Bosnians, and an explosion.

Corkovic: Yes, as a Croatian I can answer that I was aware, we were well aware of this machination. There is nothing further from the truth. I am a Catholic, a Croatian, and I cannot remember any Croatian ever saying anything about "fundamentalism" in Bosnia. I do not think many of us even knew the word before.

Yes, we got together and we discussed this attempt to provoke a split and a conflict. We decided to fight it. We issued a statement, where we outlined our opposition. We

- that hundreds of years of our history provide a testimony of a peaceful and respectful coexistence of our peoples, a veritable example for the world community, opposite to the picture portrayed by the western politicians and media.

- that throughout our beloved country Bosnia-Herzegovina one could witness numerous mosques and Catholic churches standing side by side for centuries until the Serbian aggressor destroyed them both;

- that "hatred" together with "warring factions," "ethnic cleansing" and other labels have been intentionally promoted by the world political bodies to deceive the public and cover up the world political bodies' unimaginable unwillingness to put a stop to a genocidal aggression in the midst of "cultured" Europe; moreover the world political bodies have spread these deliberate "hate"-lies and cover-ups because their own Charters and Final Acts are overflowing with statements of resolute actions when confronted with genocidal atrocities;

- that "hatred" statements are promoted by the leaders of the highest "democratic" world body, the U.N. Security Council, whose five permanent members have all perpetrated massive slaughters of Muslims in their

recent histories.

One of the purposes of these lies and labels is to withhold legitimacy from the Bosnian government as anything more than a caretaker for refugees, to allow and help Serbs to continue and "prove" with overwhelming military supremacy and heavy artillery, with genocide over children, women and elderly, that the Bosnian government is not capable to keep the law and order among the "ethnic clashes," and finally to mask the heroism of Muslims and Croats, defenders of Sarajevo and many other cities and villages of Bosnia, defending their homes against a ruthless aggressor, taught by its leaders and their advisers-psychiatrists the "art" of Goebbels's *Schrecklichkeit* to achieve its goals.

In view of all this the BH Exec demands from the Canadian and World politicians and media:

To put an immediate stop to referring to legitimate Bosnian government armies as "warring factions," thus equating them with terrorist factions that, with the help of the Serbian-Yugoslavian Army, took arms against the sovran state of Bosnia-Herzegovina. . . . This equates the legitimate defenders of a sovran state with the genocidal perpetrators of *Schrecklichkeit*. . . .



Elke Fimmen of the German Schiller Institute addresses a rally in Zagreb, the Croatian capital, protesting the massacre in Sarajevo in May 1992. There were 5-6,000 people at the demonstration.

would like our initiative to have positive consequences here in Canada and the United States, and also in Bosnia and Croatia. If they were able to split us, then the Greater Serbians would not even need to fight us directly anymore. They could let us fight each other.

Veledar Campara: I agree completely. I knew from the beginning that this is just their excuse. The Greater Serbians have always pushed the idea that we Bosnians are radical fundamentalists. It is just an excuse so that they can pursue their plans.

Actually, it is not just trying to get rid of Muslims, but, as we can understand from other statements coming from other people besides the Serbians, there has been and there is a precise will to push these countries into war. They are not interested in peace in this part of Europe. If the U.N. and all the countries that are getting involved really wanted to stop the war, they could do it in a matter of days. They are using the excuse of fundamentalism just as a pretext to continue the war. We take this attempt very seriously and we know exactly what they did and what they are trying to do.

EIR: Mrs. Campara, you are the cousin of Bosnian Deputy

Prime Minister Hakija Turajlic, who was killed by Chetniks while under U.N. protection. To stop the U.N. armored vehicle transporting Mr. Turajlic, the Chetniks used the sickening pretext that the vehicle was transporting fundamentalist terrorists. Then the U.N. conducted an investigation, and at the end, U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali declared that Mr. Turajlic was de facto responsible for his own assassination because he had insulted one of the Chetniks who lost his nerve.

Veledar Campara: I do not know what to tell you. The U.N. leadership is blaming my cousin. They also say that he had received a Turkish delegation, and that the Serbians did not like that. It is worse than nonsense.

The Bosnia government is independent and sovereign and it receives any delegation from any government that wants to meet us. The U.N. does not say that the delegation was supposed to meet Turajlic in the Presidential Palace in Sarajevo, but because of the Serbian opposition—the U.N. had informed the Serbians—the meeting had to take place at the airport, and that made possible the Chetnik ambush of my cousin while he was coming back to Sarajevo. How can the U.N. decide who can visit our government? I ask: “Why the Turks, no; and President [François] Mitterrand, yes?” What’s the difference between Turkey and France? This is the line: I blame you, so you cannot blame me. Because they are responsible for that murder, and the U.N. must be held responsible to his wife and children.

The Bosnian government has rejected the results of the U.N. investigation and it is pursuing its own investigation, but I cannot say anything right now, probably very soon. . . .

EIR: An observer in Zagreb was telling me a few days ago that the Vance-Owen plan—and of course the update of that plan with Secretary of State Warren Christopher—can only be understood as a plot to stimulate more war, and to provoke bitterness in the Bosnians, and conflict between Bosnians and Croatsians.

Corkovic: I can’t understand how the whole world is buying this kind of a plan. We have a clear position. We had in Bosnia a democratic referendum where the Bosnian people declared they wanted a sovereign state, and therefore the Bosnia government has a clear mandate to establish a sovereign state, but they have never been given a chance. And now all of a sudden, there comes somebody like the U.N., to whom nobody clearly has given any mandate, especially not a mandate to divide a sovereign state . . . and they are brazenly and openly pushing against their own principles. It is unbelievable!

Veledar Campara: I would like to ask a few questions to the supporters of the Vance-Owen, and now Christopher, plan. One you have divided Bosnia into 10 separated provinces, or whatever you want to call them, does anybody think that a Muslim could circulate from one province to another,

crossing into a Serbian province? No! They would be killed, jailed, tortured—

Corkovic: This is an impractical plan and it does not have any purpose other than to create a state of total chaos and unrest, to create a region where you could have a war anytime you want.

Veledar Campara: The war will continue either way.

EIR: We have now this Christopher plan—

Veledar Campara: There is no difference. This reminds me of 1938-39, when Britain sacrificed Czechoslovakia thinking that Hitler would be satisfied. Now they think that Serbia will be satisfied if they can grab all these pieces and create Greater Serbia. But they won't because the leaders they have are real Nazis, and these Nazis will create other Nazis in other countries. This is even possible in Croatia and Bosnia, because there people are angry and nobody is talking about this. This is action and reaction. People are losing the idea of justice, they see the West ready to sacrifice a small country to Belgrade. They see the Greater Serbians threatening the whole world, and the whole world says, "Okay." This is what none of us can understand.

Corkovic: Even simple people can see that these criminals are not punished, justice is not done. Quite the opposite: It is rewarded. We have here in Ottawa a group of concentration camp survivors from Bosnia. They feel psychologically that they will never have peace until the criminals are brought to justice. They could never continue with their normal lives until that is done. And I am sure that the world community is aware of that, but it seems they do not care, they do not care about human beings.

EIR: This process of reaction you are talking about, the toleration of aggression, is working also in another way. The Greater Serbians are hoping that the more this process will go on, the more likely that the Russians—they call them "our Orthodox brothers"—at a certain point will intervene on their behalf. And there you have the recipe for World War III.

Corkovic: Exactly! That's why it is important to clearly identify who is at fault. As I always say, the U.N. and the other international bodies contemplate, in their charts and final acts, "resolute actions" against this kind of thing, against genocide and those who commit it. All the governments now say they are impotent to do anything, but their charts clearly state the opposite.

EIR: Vance said in an interview with the *New York Times* that nobody should approach the situation in former Yugoslavia from a moral standpoint. Your approach is the opposite: A moral standpoint is the only way. I think your example could reestablish a moment of sanity before more people, also in Croatia and Bosnia, are swallowed by the moral insanity fueled by the toleration of evil.

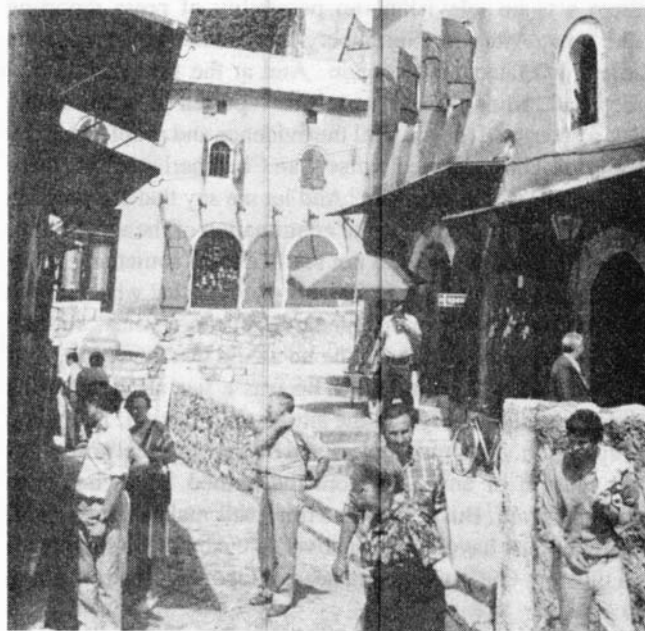
Corkovic: Yes. One could look at the case of . . . Boban

[the Croatian leader in Bosnia calling for a Croatian area independent from the Bosnian government—ed.]. Even if patriotism is understandable, Boban is making a bad situation worse by not stating clearly that what is he fighting for is Bosnia. Because [ethnic] Croats also voted for a sovereign Bosnia—and that position would help a lot. The position he is taking now is just creating more chaos and uncertainty in an area that certainly does not need it.

Yes, we in Ottawa want to be an example of collaboration. We must look to a two-year-old experience fighting together against the aggressor, and that's what both sides stated. Once they have fought together it is impossible to push Catholics and Muslims one against the other.

EIR: How do you see the role played by the Schiller Institute?

Corkovic: I came across the Schiller Institute when the war in Croatia started. I got involved quite a lot trying to inform the media, I thought that they did not understand because they did not have the facts. And I tried hard, but was getting nowhere. I couldn't understand why. Then I came across the Schiller Institute and I noticed their position was firm and clear from the start, they never changed, they have been consistent all the way. They stood for truth when truth was not fashionable. They were expressing what I and many others stood for. I was really surprised when Amelia Robinson, a great fighter for American civil rights, spoke on behalf of Croatia. I just couldn't believe it. So what the Schiller Institute did was a great help. Through their publications I also understood many of the machinations. . . .



Mostar, one of Bosnia's most picturesque cities, where Muslims and Catholics lived side by side for generations, in a view from 1985. Now it has been subjected to Serbian "ethnic cleansing."

EIR: Let me read for you a quote from an interview with Lyndon LaRouche yesterday. "We should say clearly what is the truth, that Vance and Owen, and Lord Carrington before, are worse criminals than Neville Chamberlain and Edouard Daladier at Munich in 1938. We should treat them with contempt. The U.S. government and the Europeans should simply say that whatever Boutros-Ghali and his crew think they are doing in setting up a U.N. world empire, we are not going to tolerate it."

Veledar Campara: I agreed completely. Actually, we must say that Warren Christopher took the opposite position. I have been saying for quite some time that when many countries realize what the U.N. is all about, they are going to pull out.

I want just to remind you about the expulsion of the Palestinians lately and how the U.N. dealt with it. But more in general, what have they done with the Palestinians? They have created terrorists out of them. Their lands were taken. The U.N. was supposed to protect them and go after these people who occupied their lands. But they did not do anything. This reminds me closely of the case of Bosnia. They want to create terrorists out of us. We are already like the Palestinians—we have no place to go back to, no home, no homeland. Actually, they came out with the story that the Palestinians are all terrorists because they fight for their land. You see? And that's what they are doing to us. So why does the U.N. exist? What did they do with Iraq, with Kuwait? Tell me that the situation couldn't be solved in a peaceful way. But they didn't even try. Yes, these people are worse than Chamberlain. I agree completely with Lyndon LaRouche.

Corkovic: I also cannot but agree completely with Mr. LaRouche, especially considering that before World War II there was no television, no possibility of press reporting like now. After the Nuremberg trial, these western powers solemnly stated: never again. And at the first opportunity they had, when the genocide was reported in detail on the TV screens and they had all the evidence and proof, what did they do? They behaved worse than Chamberlain. Yes, these people are worse than him. And let me say that the position of Warren Christopher is the continuation of the same thing.

Veledar Campara: I did not really expect something. During the presidential campaign, we thought that what Clinton was promising was propaganda to get more votes, but still we had some hope that maybe he would do something. And now we must say that either he was a liar all along or he did not really understand the situation in Bosnia, he had no preparation. You must understand how people feel now, after the illusion of any help from the United States has been crushed again. But at the same time, this makes things clear, and we must have an alternative. We cannot be stuck with an illusion. Our government needs a lot of help, we are going to give it.

Corkovic: Although we feel bad about the position taken by Christopher, we are not surprised. We will try our best, to do what we think is right.

Interview: Dr. Ibrahim Rugova

Serbian war machine is threat to Europe

The following is part of an exclusive interview given to Raynald Rouleau of Nouvelle Solidarité, by the President of Kosova, Dr. Ibrahim Rugova. The interview was conducted in French on Feb. 16 at the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. It has been translated and made available to EIR.

Q: In view of the inaction of the western countries like France, the United States, Canada, Germany, etc., in the face of this genocide by the Serbs, what would be the world impact if dictator Slobodan Milosevic decided to do to Kosova what his regime did to Bosnia?

Rugova: If they decide to attack Kosova, to open an armed front in Kosova, the impact would be much greater, because we are a little country with a great density of population, without any protection. We do not have any local police or defense forces, no self-defense. On the other hand, the Serbs already have a large number of troops stationed in Kosova. If something like that happens, it would be much more of a catastrophe than Bosnia or Croatia. Meanwhile, we have this continuing daily repression: weapons searches, arrests of [ethnic] Albanians, repression, imprisonment, etc.

Q: Why do you think that the western countries haven't done anything significant to stop this genocide in the Balkans? Are we reliving the era of Neville Chamberlain?

Rugova: There are many factors. Among other things, ex-Yugoslavia is a country that wasn't known. It was seen as one of the eastern European countries, but more moderate. Europe has learned slowly what was happening, what the problems were there in this ex-country. . . . The European Community, the United States, the international community must stop this war machine. Because if it continues, it will also destabilize Europe.

Q: This leads to my last question. Do you think that the present situation could lead to World War III?

Rugova: If this Serbian war machine continues, this National Communist [machine], it will also destabilize Russia. Because the opposition forces, hidden beneath the surface in Russia, will feed themselves with this Serbian nationalism and one day, do crazy things to the [former] Soviet Union.

People must not look on idly as another people is exterminated

Dr. Bujar Bukoshi, M.D., Ph.D., prime minister of the Republic of Kosova, was interviewed for EIR by Mark Burdman and Ortrun Cramer on Jan. 16. It has been translated from German.

EIR: To start out, could you give us a brief historical overview of the conflict in Kosova?

Bukoshi: Without having the historical background, it is impossible to understand certain developments today. Kosova is one of the most grievous wounds of former Yugoslavia, and one of Europe's greatest problems.

It all began when the London Conference of 1913 promised Kosova and other [ethnic] Albanian areas to Serbia, in order to block the progress of "pan-Germanism" into the Middle East. Following the Balkan Wars (1912-13), thanks to the Serbian occupation of Kosova, one-half of all Albanian territory and half of all Albanians ended up in the "Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes." This happened after the Albanians had liberated their territory in the course of battles against the Turks, an effort which left the Albanians so weakened that they were unable to hold out against the Allied-backed Serbian troops.

Without any exaggeration, Yugoslav policy toward the Albanians during the inter-war period deserves the description "genocide."

During World War II, a large portion of this Albanian territory was incorporated into the Albanian state. At the Bunjaj Conference, it was decided that following the war this region would be attached to Albania. But when the war ended, Kosova was put under martial law. Under the pretext of a threatened "counter-revolution," thousands of Albanians were liquidated. Without any plebiscite, Kosova was incorporated into the federal Yugoslavian state.

Up to 1966, the Albanians in Kosova were subjected to heavy police persecution, and approximately 400,000 Kosovans were expelled to Turkey. Serbia attempted to alter Kosova's ethnic structure, using brutal methods of colonization, assimilation, and expulsion of Albanians. But all these efforts failed. Albanians' resistance continued to grow, such that in 1968 Tito decided to grant Kosova considerable auton-

omy. For the first time, Albanians had some limited legal rights. According to the 1974 federal Constitution, Kosova had the de facto status of a republic; it had its own parliament, government, and other authorities which were independent of Serbia and were tied directly to the federation. But when [Slobodan] Milosevic came to power, all these rights were declared unconstitutional and were abolished by force. Kosova was annexed to Serbia.

Already back in 1981, the Albanians were demanding a republic with equal rights in the framework of the Yugoslav Federation. The 1981 student demonstrations were very convenient for the Serbian government; a state of emergency was declared, and that was the beginning of the end of Kosovan autonomy.

The repression became unbearable: Since 1981 we can count over 100 deaths, and many hundreds of injuries; over 650,000 Albanians were put on trial, arrested (with prison terms ranging from 30 days to 20 years), or mistreated. With their daily fare of terror, the Serbs hoped they could provoke an Albanian uprising. But so far, they have not succeeded.

Since July 5, 1990, when Serbia forcibly dissolved the Kosovan parliament, the Albanians, with the help of a whole slew of legal, democratic measures, were once again able to prove that they are capable of seeking peaceful pathways even in the most serious crisis situations, and of sticking to them despite the great sacrifices involved.

In late September 1991, the Kosovan parliament held a referendum, in which 87% of the population participated, resulting in a 99% vote in favor of an independent state. On Oct. 19, 1991, on the basis of this referendum, Kosova was declared a sovereign, independent state, and a transitional government was formed. On May 24, 1992, the first multi-party elections for parliament and President of the Republic of Kosova took place. But on June 23, 1992, the Serbian police used armed vehicles to prevent the seating of the newly elected Kosovan parliament.

EIR: What happened in 1981?

Bukoshi: The unrest, the student demonstrations in Kosova in 1981, were a welcome opportunity for the Serbian secret

service KOS and the Serbian ideologues, the Serbian Academy of Sciences, and the Serbian [communist] Central Committee. The demonstrations were crushed brutally, people were killed, and there was a wave of mass arrests and persecutions.

In addition, another powerful weapon of modern civilization was employed: the mass media. It was an indescribable offensive, especially coming from *Nin* in Belgrade, the literary paper *Kntizevne Novine*, and *Politika*, which can only be compared with the [German Nazi daily] *Völkischer Beobachter*. The aim was to demonize the Albanians so as to provide a pretext for the onslaught against Kosova. One member of the Serbian Academy of Sciences wrote more or less the following in an article: "We Serbians have a holy mission: We must civilize the Albanians!" This fascistoid propaganda was distributed year-in, year-out, as a preparation for further measures being prepared by the Serbian Central Committee. Before the actual war, came the war of words. This propaganda—evening after evening on the television, and 10-20 articles each day in the newspapers—was not without result. The Serbian population was ideologically indoctrinated and manipulated.

EIR: Is there a Serbian center for psychological warfare?

Bukoshi: The spiritual mentors of this campaign were the Serbian Academy of Sciences, and also, secretly, the Serbian Orthodox Church. Within the church there was also a moderate wing, but over time the extremists gained the upper hand. And behind all that were the state structures—the Central Committee, military circles, certain experts, and the Serbian secret service KOS.

The nub of the problem was the fact that the state—Serbia—yearns to dominate the others and to enlarge its own territory. Underlying this is the medieval ideology of reviving the kingdom of Czar Dusan Lasar. Belgrade considers Kosova to be the cradle of the Serbs, as the land of the Amselfeld [site of a battle in 1389 in which the Turks defeated the Serbs; now called Gracanica—ed.]. They've made up a myth about it—a myth that goes counter to reality and which asserts the rights of those who died there 500 years ago over and above the rights of those living there now. This medieval ultra-nationalism went together perfectly with communism. Wherever Serbs live, should also be part of Serbia's territory.

Various factors came on top of this: Yugoslavia was located between two political blocs. From the West it obtained credit and currency; from the Soviet Union came weapons, but also its ideology and mentality, which was transferred to Yugoslavia. Yugoslavia became a laboratory experiment, a mini-Soviet Union. And Serbia knew how to make clever use of this situation.

EIR: But Yugoslavia was also a leading member of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Bukoshi: In my opinion, Yugoslavia's role in the Non-

Aligned Movement was a fictional construct. The Americans, and the West as a whole, needed a mediator like Yugoslavia which would enable them to achieve certain aims in the Third World, while at the same time it would serve as a buffer against the Soviet Union. Tito had played his role brilliantly—a classic double role in the exchange of information between East and West. At the time, Istanbul was the center of espionage activities, comparable to Casablanca in earlier times. In this way, he secured the West's support, in the form of credit, technology. The impression given was of a country open to the world, cosmopolitan. Of course, there was a planned economy, and Tito was a dictator; but he knew how to compensate for that. It was a big put-on.

Serbia has adopted much of Tito's system—its economic potential, its diplomatic relations. And they continue to play this card: Serbia, the stabilizing factor among the peoples of the Balkans, which must continue to exist, because otherwise the dangerous fundamentalists would take power.

Yet another tactic is the threat that behind Serbia, is probably the Russians. They could even threaten to use nuclear weapons, which there's now no problem purchasing on the international arms market. And then comes the blackmail: If Serbia goes under, Europe will go under with it. The well-known author Milan Komnenic formulated it just that way.

EIR: It is our view that the war was encouraged by the United States, France, and England, in order to destabilize Germany. We remember well that immediately after the fall of the Berlin Wall, the press of these three countries warned about a "Fourth Reich." And now Karadzic and others are saying the same thing. What do you think about these geopolitical aims?

Bukoshi: The Serbs have always maintained that "pan-Germanism" in Europe must be halted, so that it does not expand all the way to the Bosphorus. In World War I, Serbia offered itself as a partner against pan-Germanism, and had the support of czarist Russia. Today it's the same opera, only the singers are new.

Germany is a serious country which is interested in peace in Europe. People are speculating with the "German mortgage" and the "old Nazis," and that is why German foreign policy is so completely paralyzed today. Germany does not dare do anything. In the parliament they are debating about their constitution [i.e., whether it allows German troops to participate in military actions abroad—ed.], but all this is basically only an alibi in order to do nothing. And yet all of Europe is at stake. Quite soon we could be calling it the "European powder-keg," instead of only the "Balkan powder-keg."

These developments are very dangerous. To put it in the language of the daily tabloids: It smells like World War III.

EIR: Do you believe that it will come to outside military action?

Bukoshi: Only when people realize that peace and security are endangered throughout Europe, will anything happen. As long as German or English television or French newspapers only scream about it, nothing will happen; hundreds could continue to die each day in Bosnia. It is, after all, part of man's nature to always take the path of least resistance.

EIR: Right, but there are also people who are putting up resistance and are fighting for the good. They're human beings, too.

Bukoshi: But that is only the one side; the other side is the system, the establishment. And the establishment has no sense of humor; you must follow specific rules. The foreign minister has to say this and that, and that's the end of it—all of Germany can go up in flames, but that's what he has to say. And then there is also the bureaucracy, a Babylon of international game-rules: Everything is programmed in. A functionary or a foreign minister who acted unconventionally would make himself a laughingstock. What about public opinion? Politics uses only that part of public opinion which it wants to.

We are living through a deep moral crisis. Somehow, the European has fallen down, and he must get back on his feet. This has long ceased to be just a question of policy, but of people's morality.

EIR: What is the greatest danger facing Kosova at this point?

Bukoshi: Perhaps a political solution will be found, though I don't believe that that will happen. But if Serbia actually leads aggression against Kosova, it will get really bad—perhaps worse than in Bosnia-Hercegovina. But Serbia can't kill 2 million people.

The Albanians have done everything, and have made great sacrifices, in order to avoid this catastrophe. But under the present circumstances, we Albanians are no longer an active factor; we don't hold any of the cards—we can only wait.

EIR: Do you believe that the Serbs will open a new front?

Bukoshi: I fear that Serbia will continue to intensify its repression in Serbia, and will then cook up a pretext in order to intervene militarily.

EIR: You have told the press that 40,000 Serbian troops are stationed in Kosova.

Bukoshi: We don't have access to accurate data. Right now it is probably more like 30,000. But according to our information, within a few hours Serbia could have 80,000 armed Serbs deployed into Kosova. That includes paramilitary units. All around just outside Kosova there are strong troop contingents which are very mobile and could come into Kosova within a few hours. They have artillery and bombers.

EIR: And the people from Serbian paramilitary gangster Arkan and Chetnik leader Vojislav Seselj are there.

Bukoshi: Yes, their units are provoking the population every day. Especially tragic are the Serbian civilians—Serbs who had lived side-by-side in tolerance with Albanians for centuries. There were never inter-ethnic conflicts between Albanians and Serbs. But now the Serbs are armed, indoctrinated, and manipulated by Serbian propaganda. Practically every Serbian household is an arms depot. In broad daylight you can see box after box of ammunition and arms from the regime. Or you can go to the police station to get weapons. We've documented this in detail. The civilian Serbs, worked up into a frenzy, are provoking the Albanians. The Serbian paramilitary units are doing the same, of course, along with the Serbian militia and the Serbian Army, which also includes Chetniks. But the most dangerous element is the civilian Serbs. The Serbian Army needs to wait for orders, and has a commander in Belgrade who must first give them; but at any moment, the civilian Serbs can provoke an incident which could set off an explosion.

EIR: Are you seeking to establish an independent state?

Bukoshi: Yes, we have declared Kosova as an independent state.

EIR: Allied with Albania?

Bukoshi: No. It would be unrealistic, dangerous, and politically unwise to call for joining with Albania at this time.

EIR: How do you evaluate the danger that the conflict will be internationalized?

Bukoshi: The problem of Kosova is already internationalized. The situation is extremely dangerous—on this, both intelligent and stupid politicians are at least in agreement. The population of Kosova, who are over 90% non-Serb, are living in a state of colonial oppression which is unique in Europe. The Albanians are completely oppressed—politically, socially, economically, educationally, culturally, and in their ability to speak out. A reign of state terror has been practiced, which has escalated in waves. Life has become unbearable for the Albanians. An estimated 20% of the Albanian population has already left Kosova. This is called "silent ethnic cleansing"—a euphemism for the expulsion of Albanians.

There will probably be further repression and mass expulsions of the Albanian people. This expulsion is already under way. Serbia has gone politically insane. In the Serbian mass media, public statements from the Serbian President and other leading Serbian politicians, parliamentarians, and intellectuals are repeated over and over, that the "holy soil" must be "cleansed" and must belong to Serbia alone. It will get very bad, unless effective action is taken "from the outside." People must not look on idly, as yet another European people is exterminated.

Brazil rebels against televised immorality

by Silvia Palacios

On Jan. 13, influential Cardinal Lucas Moreira Neves, the archbishop of Salvador (Bahía) and primate of Brazil, issued one of the most courageous and violent attacks that have ever been made against the imbecility fostered in the Brazilian people by Brazil's television programming.

In particular, he slammed the broadcasts of the O Globo chain, owned by communications magnate and loyal Anglo-American ally Roberto Marinho. The cardinal's powerful denunciations helped to channel the outrage the country has felt since last month's satanic assassination of Daniella Perez, a popular star in one of O Globo's most famous soap operas. Perez's assassins were fellow soap-opera star Guilherme de Padua and his wife.

The cardinal's courageous stance and moral authority served as much-needed oxygen for a people which urgently needs to free itself from the rot served up 24 hours a day by Brazilian television, whose programmed pornography, violence, and hedonism appeal to pure evil and target the most precious values of the nation-state, such as love of family and country.

Thousands of copies of the cardinal's article, *J'accuse!* which was published in *Jornal do Brasil* (see below) are now circulating among civic and political organizations, and within the Armed Forces. The editors of *Jornal*, as well as other newspapers, continue to receive thousands of letters praising the courageous stand of the influential cleric. Articles continue to appear daily in various newspapers referring to the now-famous article.

At the same time, an anonymous leaflet with an epitaph for O Globo director Roberto Marinho has begun to circulate throughout the country. Before this revolt, Marinho, along with other Ibero-American television impresarios, was considered "untouchable"; an all-powerful shaper of public opin-

ion who could decide the political fate of any public figure he chose; his most scandalous intervention was the manufacture of the multimillion-dollar candidacy of corrupt ex-President Fernando Collor de Mello.

Media moguls on the defensive

But his time has come, and now Marinho and company are on the defensive. During the last week of January, 120 executives of the O Globo network held an extraordinary meeting to reevaluate their programming, for the purpose of "moderating" the transmission of pornographic or extremely violent scenes, which most programs usually intensify on the eve of the degenerate Carnival of Rio de Janeiro. So far, not one voice has been raised in public defense of O Globo.

By unleashing a rebellion against the immoral power of television, Cardinal Lucas Moreira Neves has taken up the battle cry that St. Irenaeus, one of the Fathers of the Catholic Church, issued during his ferocious battle with the powerful gnostic-satanic movement of the fourth century: "When a beast hides in the undergrowth, from which it attacks and plunders, whoever clears away that undergrowth and reveals the beast eases the job of those who seek to trap it. . . . We are not content to unmask it; it is necessary to harass the beast on every flank."

J'accuse!

Dom Lucas Moreira Neves's article follows in a full translation from the Portuguese original:

From Emile Zola's public polemic I am only plagiarizing the title—and, if possible, the vehemence. Beyond that, I am not trying to revive the scandalous Dreyfus case. My *J'accuse* is against Brazilian television. And I launch my accusation both



"I accuse Brazilian television of corrupting minors through programs of the lowest moral caliber, through scenes and vocabulary used during the hours in which children are in front of the magic box"—Cardinal Moreira. These Brazilian street children often band together in gangs for mutual support, as a substitute for the families they don't have.

as a Brazilian concerned for my country and as a bishop responsible for a great number of the faithful.

I do not wish, in any way, to generalize. I am prepared to separate from my accusation the channel dedicated to education and culture and the programs which, on different channels, contribute to the growth and to the cultural and human elevation of the population. That said, and with Brazilian society in general and with parents and educators, and particularly pastors and religious leaders as my witness, I accuse Brazilian television of its many crimes.

I accuse it of systematically and deliberately failing to carry out the functions for which it obtained a concession from the government: to inform, to educate, to cultivate, to make aware, and to entertain. Instead of this, greedy only for its popularity ratings and its advertising income, it doesn't hesitate to appeal to man's basest instincts. Its most serious sin is in regard to education, which is the most fundamental need and demand of our country. With rare and laudable exceptions, Brazilian television not only fails to educate but, with a tinge of perversity, de-educates. Abusing its technical resources, its power of persuasion and of penetration into the homes of the entire country, it destroys what other pedagogical and educational efforts seek to build.

I accuse Brazilian television of dosing its clientele with two ingredients which, curiously, always go together: violence and pornography. The first is offered in movies for all ages. The second reigns in every genre: soap operas,

interviews, so-called comedies, advertising and propaganda clips. Some three years ago, in an article in *Jornal do Brasil*, editor and journalist Sérgio Lacerda charged that, with its flood of pornography, Brazilian television is creating a generation of voyeurs.

I accuse the television of our country of using complicated technology and equipment for the purpose of turning entire sectors of the population into imbeciles, into a generation of mental weaklings. The process becomes especially disturbing when, under the pretext of humor, television is transformed into an instrument of mis-education, where bad taste, idiocy, and ridicule are showered upon children and adolescents. Regarding humor in television, few have done as profound an analysis as Moacyr Werneck de Castro, who considers it a true regression to infancy, by means of "a repertoire of vulgarities" (*Humor na televisão, Jornal do Brasil, 7/6/91*).

I accuse Brazilian television of being destructive of the most genuine and inalienable moral values, be they personal or social, familial, ethical, religious and spiritual. Destructive not only because it makes fun of these [values], but because they are dissolved in the conscience of the television viewer. In their place are proposed the worst counter-values. In this sense, the daily business of demolishing the family and the highest of family values—love, fidelity, mutual respect, selflessness—is frightening. In their place we are offered libertinism and dissolution, adultery and incest.

I accuse Brazilian television of corrupting minors through programs of the lowest moral caliber, through scenes and vocabulary used during the hours in which children are in front of the magic box.

I accuse it of assaulting the most sacred thing of all, life. Not many days ago, in a rebroadcast of a dialogue between the announcer and a 20-year-old girl, thousands of spectators saw and heard the most explicit apology for abortion and incitement for the suppression of human life at birth.

I accuse it of disseminating, through different programs, ideas, beliefs, practices and rites linked to the strangest cults. It becomes, in this way, a vehicle for spreading magic, including black magic, Satanism, and rituals harmful to psychic balance.

I accuse television of infiltrating into its programming and inducing in television viewers—including youth and adolescents—a concept of life lacking in any ethics: a triumph of malice, theft, easy money, fraud. In this sense, Brazil's soap operas merit a separate analysis from the psychosocial, moral, and religious point of view. When was the last time that a Brazilian soap opera addressed themes like the street

children who have no roof over their heads, or work; the marginalized, in general? Which soap opera has proposed noble ideas of service to one's fellow man and of building a better community? Instead of this, the soap operas offer an impoverished population the attractively packaged adventures of a decomposing bourgeoisie as a model and ideal.

Finally, I accuse Brazilian television of instigating violence: "Brazilian television will have to seek within itself the causes of the violence which it unleashed, and of which it was victim" (Editorial *Estrelas cadentes*, *Jornal do Brasil*, 1/6/93). "It has already been pointed out that the growth of the television monopoly coincides with the growth of violence in the country, and we'll never get to the crux of the issue as long as television itself refuses to accept its responsibility" (Editorial *Limites da dor*, *Jornal do Brasil*, 1/8/93). It cannot look for an alibi when that violence produces bitter fruit. Who killed a young actress a few days ago? It would be ingenuous not to send Brazilian television to the dock of the accused. The 8 o'clock soap opera. And—I feel I must say it—specifically the soap opera *De cuerpo y alma* ("With Body and Soul").

In memory of Daniella Perez

The following "Epitaph for the Director of Globo Organizations, Roberto Marinho" has been circulating anonymously in Brazil, and reflects the vehemence of the popular rage now turning against the media:

Roberto Marinho

Damn you

For the immense good
you might have done, but didn't.

Damn you

for the sea of filth, pus, and blood
you have poured over these poor generations,
invading and profaning
the sanctity of their homes
and the intimacy of their consciences!

All those whom you dragged into hell,
in this and in the other life,
through the poison of your programs
shall await you at the entrance of the abyss.
The unconsolable tears

of countless mothers.
The belated shame
of so many lost youth.

The irremediable putrefaction
of countless bodies and souls,

Go with you,
reprobate,
to the final damnation you deserve!

Now go!

Disinfect the world
of your nauseating slaughter,
of your sordid cynicism,
of your cheerful depravity,
and your satanic hatred for
all that is beautiful, great and pure
in the human heart!

"It were better that you had not been born!"
(PITY!
God's mercy is far greater than all your crimes!)

* * *

The same thing could be written on the graves of Bloch (TV Manchete and Edições Bloch), CIVITA (Editora Abril), Silvio Santos, and others.

Shining Path, State Dept. assault Peru

by Valerie Rush

Last September's capture of Shining Path chieftain Abimael Guzmán by Peruvian security forces, and the subsequent arrests of large numbers of his followers, including most of the organization's leadership, should have marked the beginning of the end of that synthetic narco-terrorist monstrosity. And yet, thanks to the deliberate sabotage of the U.S. State Department, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and the international human rights lobby, Shining Path is still sowing terror and devastation in impoverished Peru, which is forced to deploy its shrunken resources in continuing warfare with the narco-terrorists while fending off an escalating pressure campaign from Washington.

Setting the priorities

The immediate wartime tasks facing the Alberto Fujimori administration in the aftermath of Guzmán's arrest were essentially two: 1) to mop up the logistical and political support apparatus sustaining Shining Path, including its "fifth columnists" in the press, legal arena, and "human rights" lobby; and 2) to decree a unilateral break with the IMF, thereby putting an end to IMF-dictated austerity which has devastated the nation and which is destroying the very institutions, including the military, which are critical to the task of defeating Shining Path.

As 1992 came to a close, President Fujimori was showing signs of understanding that he had to move on these two fronts. He sacked Finance Minister and IMF ally Carlos Bologna, and hinted that a new economic direction was under consideration. He simultaneously launched a series of hard-line initiatives, including proposing a bill before the new Congress making "apology for terrorism" by the press a punishable crime. Shining Path's stable of "defense lawyers," including Guzmán's personal lawyer Alfredo Crespo, was busted when evidence was uncovered proving that they were directly involved in terrorist activity. Crespo was recently sentenced to a life term alongside his boss.

The crippled Shining Path nonetheless gathered its remaining cadre for a show of force, targetting Peru's Jan. 29 municipal elections, which were being looked to by President Fujimori as a demonstration to the international community that his policies stemmed from the people's will. Shining Path called one of its so-called "armed strikes" for Jan. 28 and 29, promising death to anyone who ventured out to either work or vote. In the weeks leading up to the elections, Shin-

ing Path murdered over 17 mayoral candidates across Peru. Another 100 candidates quit the race after receiving death threats, and many others were forced to take nightly refuge on military bases. A series of bombings and assaults against such American companies as American Airlines, Coca-Cola, and IBM were carried out.

And yet Peru's voters were not to be daunted. A deployment in Lima of 100,000 police and military succeeded in allowing the elections to be held in relative calm. Exemplary of the voters' optimism is that in Huamanaga, Ayacucho, the birthplace of Shining Path, more than a score of electoral slates were presented where in 1989 there had been only three.

State Department intervention

And that's when Washington went into action—yet again—to defend Shining Path's networks, in the name of "preserving democracy." According to an Agence France Presse news report, the U.S. State Department sent a communiqué to President Fujimori on Jan. 25 demanding that he guarantee freedom of the press and abstain from "intimidating" or "restricting" the communications media. In particular, it expressed concern over the President's announcement that Peru's intelligence service would be monitoring press reports to prevent use of the media on behalf of terrorism. Fujimori responded in a Jan. 31 television interview that while the Peruvian press can, and does, "say anything it wants," he would not tolerate "the free circulation of newspapers such as [Shining Path's] *El Diario* or *Cambio*," the newspaper of Peru's other narco-terrorist group, the MRTA.

Joining Clinton's State Department in this unabashed defense of Shining Path's propagandists was the so-called human rights organization Americas Watch, whose Feb. 5 report charged that the Fujimori government was "eroding" freedom of the press by seeking to jail journalists. Americas Watch is especially upset that "vague charges of apology for terrorism" were being used to persecute "political opponents, human rights defenders, and lawyers defending prisoners accused of belonging to Shining Path." This, after Shining Path's lawyers had been caught red-handed serving as the couriers for Guzmán's orders to the terrorist liquidation squads!

At the same time, explicit warnings are emanating from the Clinton administration that renewal or resumption of anti-drug aid to Peru will be "conditioned" on a human rights policy considered acceptable to Washington. Similarly, continued adherence to the IMF's free-market austerity dictates is the "condition" for a release of credit from the international financial agencies. Under this kind of pressure, the Fujimori administration has done some backpedalling, including at least temporary abandonment of his "apology for terrorism" crime bill and death penalty proposal, and a pledge from Fujimori that Peru would continue to play by the IMF's rules—for now.

Multinational force violates OAS charter

by Ana M. Phau

Military officers from a number of countries in Ibero-America are now being trained at Fort Benning, Georgia, to operate as a multinational military force in Central America under the sponsorship of the Organization of American States. This action, the first ever of its kind, is in violation of the Charter of the OAS, but corresponds to Washington's long-standing policy of using such supranational forces to impose limited sovereignty and debt collection throughout the Third World.

This illegal training operation is occurring as a national uproar has exploded in Venezuela over what Venezuelan nationalist Air Force Gen. Francisco Visconti Osorio, leader of the Nov. 27 civil-military insurrection against President Carlos Andrés Pérez, told *EIR* in an exclusive interview published in our last issue: that Washington's official policy is the demilitarization of Ibero-America and the establishment

of a supranational OAS military force. This policy, charged Visconti, is supported by the Venezuelan government and Foreign Minister Gen. Fernando Ochoa Antich, in particular.

Documents obtained by *EIR* show that in September 1991, the Nicaraguan government requested OAS assistance in training its army to remove mines left over from the Sandinista-Contra war. In response, OAS Secretary General João Baena Soares asked the Inter-American Defense Board (IDB), by charter an independent *advisory* body to the OAS, to draw up a plan for the operation, and to put together a list of qualified military officers from each of the area's countries who would be trained to carry it out. Since then, Honduras, Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Guatemala have requested similar assistance.

Although most countries went along with the illegal proposal, three delegations, including that of Mexico, protested strongly. "The Inter-American Defense Board has no authority to carry out this kind of operation, since its consultative character does not allow for operational or logistical activities," read an official Mexican government document. Mexico will not participate because its view is that "the IDB has no authority to carry out this kind of operation; nor does the OAS secretary general have the authority to ask for it."

The creation of such multilateral military forces under the OAS and the IDB is expected to be "legalized" *ex post facto* in June, when the OAS General Assembly meets in Managua, Nicaragua. It is known that the U.S. government,



These Salvadoran soldiers undergoing combat training at Ft. Benning, Georgia in 1982, would have deployed under their national command at home. Today, U.S. policy is to obliterate national militaries and replace them with illegal, supranational forces.

with support from the Argentine and Venezuelan governments, and hardly any opposition, will move to reform the OAS Charter and formalize the IDB as a supranational OAS military force. Back in April 1991, U.S. ambassador to the OAS Luigi Einaudi was explicit: "It is clearly time that we translate the democratic solidarity that we have achieved in the hemisphere into a new definition and role for the military," adding that the concept of sovereignty had to be modified, even if this "sends many people away reeling, looking for the protective veil of non-intervention."

Significantly, the OAS Central American operation has been blacked out of the U.S. and Ibero-American press, clearly because its patrons are nervous about a nationalist backlash against it. For example, William Perry, Kissinger's pal and Georgetown University Latin American "expert," warned the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee on Feb. 3 about the danger of "the emergence of new messianic ultra-nationalist political forces below the nominally democratic surface" in Ibero-America.

Visconti widely covered

What Kissinger et al. fear is the kind of uproar going on in Venezuela over the recent remarks of General Visconti, which over the first two weeks of February were covered by at least seven Venezuelan newspapers. "Imperialism's Plan to Convert Ibero-America's Armies into Police Forces, Charges Visconti," was the banner headline of *Ultimas Noticias* on Feb. 16. "Nationalist Resistance Is Growing in Latin America," was the headline in the widely read daily *El Carabobeño* on Feb. 11. *El Universal*, *El Nacional*, and other newspapers have also covered Visconti's charges.

The policy battle began on Feb. 3 when the Venezuelan daily *El Nuevo País* published an interview with Visconti where he accused Venezuelan Foreign Minister Fernando Ochoa Antich of supporting a supranational plan to eliminate the military in Ibero-America. In the interview, Visconti attacked President Pérez for serving as a toady for the International Monetary Fund and this plot.

By Feb. 5, Ochoa Antich had to publicly deny the existence of such a plan. Meanwhile, *EIR* issued a press release on the Visconti interview in Lima on Jan. 29, quoting the general that the ongoing campaign to destroy the armed forces of Ibero-America "is very delicate . . . because sovereignty in our countries will be limited. . . . Even more delicate is the following: with the reduction of our armed forces . . . the budgets of our armed forces will go to finance the supranational armed forces led by the OAS."

A six-page bulletin documenting the existence of the plot, starting with the plans drawn up in 1982 to transform the U.N. into the center of the "new world order," was then issued by Visconti in response to Ochoa's denial of such a plan. Visconti there calls for a full investigation of his government's sell-out policy. The Pérez government has yet to respond.

New world order's crimes in Armenia

by Hovhanes Galajian

This article was received by fax from Armenia on Feb. 17, after 25 days during which it was impossible to make a telephone connection with Yerevan due to the electricity blackout. It has been translated from Russian. The full original title is "Consequences of the Criminal Policy of the Apologists of the New World Order, in the Transcaucasus: the Destruction of Armenia's Economy." The author is with the Union of Constitutional Rights of Armenia.

The winter of 1992-1993 has turned out to be extraordinarily grave in Armenia. The reason is an almost total transport and energy blockade.

It is not surprising, that all transport and energy arteries have been cut from the Azerbaijani side, since that state is waging an expansionist war against Armenia, with the goal of annexation of parts of its territory and annihilation or deportation of the population of these territories. Supply lines that cross the territory of Georgia, meanwhile, do not function reliably, because of the inter-ethnic and civil wars there. It is extremely difficult to use supply routes that cross Turkey, in view of the unacceptable conditionalities demanded by that country, which amount to acquiescence to Azerbaijan's expansionist ambitions.

As for the import of fuels and raw materials from Iran, this is quite problematic because of the intense pressure from the U.S. on Armenian authorities; the aim of this Transcaucasus policy of the apologists of the new world order is, on the one hand, the isolation of Iran and Europe from each other by means of ruining Iran's economy, and also the creation of a constant factor of instability in countries which might serve in the future as a link between Iran and Europe—Armenia and Georgia. On the other hand, this policy helps isolate Russia from the Middle East region.

In addition, these forces are abetting the buildup of Turkey's position in the region and the integration of the Turkic states of the Middle East and Western Asia into a single economic and political system, which could lead in the future to the emergence of a gigantic Turkic empire from the Mediterranean Sea to the Great Wall of China. This would create a permanent hotbed of tension and the danger of military conflicts for powers such as Russia and China, as well as for the European Community.

The prospect of such a course of events could only suit those forces who are behind the insane idea of a new world

order, insofar as this will lead to the total isolation of Europe, Russia, and China from the regions of the Middle East and Western Asia, thereby isolating them from the corresponding energy and raw materials markets. The consequences of this criminal policy are very serious in Armenia.

Since November 1992, industrial production has almost completely stopped, so that power could be used for residential buildings and basic services. But not even this extreme measure could provide for uninterrupted electricity supplies. For most of each day, there is no electricity because of the chronic shortage of fuel.

Fuel shortages led to the complete shutdown of transport. Even ambulances and police cars often cannot get to the scene of an accident. Since there is no fuel for the garbage trucks, there is a pile-up of garbage in the cities, which threatens to breed epidemics.

The blockade is also causing serious difficulties with the food supply to the population. Because of an acute shortage of flour, bread ration cards, at the level of 250 grams [slightly over half a pound] of bread for each person, were introduced as early as the fall of 1992. Considering the chronic shortage

of other foodstuffs, this quantity is clearly inadequate.

These problems all became acutely worse on Jan. 23, when the only natural gas pipeline supplying Armenia was blown up by sabotage. Consequently all thermal electric power stations halted production.

The electric power generated by hydroelectric power stations suffices only for the needs of the army, which is in combat against the Azerbaijani aggressor, and for a few official buildings. Due to the lack of electricity, the telephone system is practically shut down.

It has become extremely cold in residential buildings, since in the absence of heating fuel, electricity was the only source of residential heat. In order not to freeze to death, the population of Yerevan and other cities has had to cut down the trees on the streets, city parks, and squares for firewood. People are using anything that will burn for fuel. The complete lack of gas and electricity has made it extremely problematic to bake bread. Even hospitals and clinics cannot function normally.

So far, the Armenian people have found the strength within themselves to defend the country and to bear the monstrous hardships of the blockade.

Declaration in support of Armenia and Karabakh

The statement which follows was issued by the International Civil Rights Movement-Solidarity from its headquarters in Wiesbaden, Germany:

Feb. 20, 1993 marks the fifth anniversary of the decision by the Armenian regional council of Nagorno-Karabakh to declare the independence of Karabakh from Azerbaijan, and its entry into the structure of the Republic of Armenia. The decision was taken as the only possible response by an Armenian population that had become the victim of Azerbaijan's policy of "creeping ethnic cleansing." Azerbaijan's policy goal, analogous to that of Serbia against Albanian-inhabited Kosova, was and remains the forcible expulsion of the Armenian population, and the resettlement of Azeris in their vacated towns and villages. Karabakh itself had always been, both under Czarism and in the first years of Bolshevik rule, an integral part of Armenia. Its detachment was an arbitrary decree by Lenin and Stalin in 1921.

The Azerbaijan war of aggression and total economic blockade against Armenia and Karabakh has been conducted with the full support of the western powers, notably the United States and Britain, directing NATO ally Tur-

key as the overt military backer of Azerbaijan. Immense human suffering, thousands killed on both sides, and hundreds of thousands of refugees on both sides, have been the toll of the war, designed to establish an ethnically "pure" "Greater Azerbaijan," a NATO-Turkish satrap in the Transcaucasus. . . .

With the same urgency with which we have called for decisive international action to stop the genocide in the Balkans, the International Civil Rights Movement-Solidarity demands now, on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the date on which Armenia said "No" to Nazi "ethnic cleansing," that the people, leaders, and governments of the western world arise to take drastic actions to stop the ongoing genocide winter in Armenia and Karabakh, and end the war on the basis of the *status quo ante* before Azerbaijan began its war of aggression. In the Balkans, if Serbian aggression is not stopped, then a future Balkan-wide war is inevitable, creating the conditions for a world war. The same terrible threat is endemic in the Armenia-Azerbaijan war. The Anglo-American leadership sees this war as "only" the opening to a series of wars on the territory of the former Soviet Union, wars intended to promote their geopolitical goal of convulsing all of Eurasia in continual destabilization, chaos, and slaughter.

The International Civil Rights Movement-Solidarity demands an international mobilization to stop the genocide in Bosnia and in Armenia, to finally, once and for all, overturn the geopolitical axioms that have caused these wars, before it is too late for all of us.

Mumcu assassination destabilizes Turkey

by Joseph Brewda

The assassination of prominent Turkish investigative journalist Ugur Mumcu on Jan. 24 has had a major effect on the region. Not only has Turkey been internally destabilized, but Iran has also been blamed. Mumcu, who was considered one of the leading secular voices in the country, was killed instantly by a bomb placed in his car as he left his home in Ankara for his newspaper *Cumhuriyet*. Within hours, callers to the media, identifying themselves as representing two previously unknown Islamic organizations, claimed responsibility for the murder. Four days later, purported Islamic assailants also allegedly attempted to kill Jak Kamhi, the head of the Turkish branch of B'nai B'rith, the Jewish masonic organization. A similar bomb killed the Israeli embassy's security chief last March, also allegedly planted by an Islamic group.

Mumcu was well known throughout Turkey and Europe for his articles on the Kurdish separatist movement, the Iranian revolution, and the narcotics trade. A leading critic of Turkey's involvement in the 1991 war on Iraq, Mumcu was reportedly investigating the relationship between the Kurdish Workers Party terrorist organization (the PKK) and U.S. intelligence at the time of his death. In his last known interview, with the Italian magazine *Il Sabato* in December, Mumcu reiterated an assertion with which he had long been associated: that the 1981 attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II by the Turkish national, Mehmet Ali Agca, was jointly sponsored by the U.S. and Soviet secret services, and not, as many have it, merely by either one side or the other.

Was Iran responsible . . .

Within two days of the killing, Turkish authorities detained at least 16 people said to be members of a Iranian-linked "Islamic movement" which they said was probably responsible for the killing. Partially as a result of such claims, Mumcu's funeral, attended by 500,000 people, became an anti-Iranian demonstration. "Down With Fascism," "Turkey Will Not Be Another Iran," and "Down With *Sharia*," were the slogans. Hundreds of thousands of people participated in similar demonstrations in several cities throughout the country.

Speaking at a news conference on Feb. 4, Turkish Interior Minister Ismet Sezgin asserted that his ministry's investiga-

tions had determined that the group which killed Mumcu had also killed other journalists and security officials over recent years. "The perpetrators of the murders," he asserted, "have connections with Iran." Although careful not to accuse the Iranian government directly of responsibility, he added that the group had received military and theoretical training at an installation near Teheran. This, he said, "is food for thought." On the same day, Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel's council of ministers met to review the findings. Demirel had earlier publicly cautioned against claims that Iran was responsible. "We realize that certain incidents might have been staged simply to hurt our relations," he said.

The Iranian government has protested Sezgin's statements as "political propaganda" and denied the accusations. Iranian officials, speaking confidentially, have added: "Mumcu was killed when our interior minister was in Ankara on a state visit, following months of deteriorating relations. What country would do this under these circumstances?"

. . . or the United States?

According to well-placed Turkish officials, the assassins of Mumcu were trained in Iran, as has been claimed, but, these sources also emphasize, "the orders for the murder came from the United States." Reportedly, the murder was orchestrated out of a special operations section of U.S. intelligence based in Cairo, Egypt. The group employed in the murder was jointly controlled by U.S. and Iranian intelligence, it is said. Some Turkish sources have also reported that a special NATO intelligence unit based in "Poised Hammer" headquarters in Diyarbakir, the center of Turkey's Kurdish region, may have been involved. Poised Hammer is the Anglo-American-led force allegedly involved in protecting the Kurds of northern Iraq.

The murder, according to this analysis, had three main objectives. First, it was intended to destabilize Turkey and worsen Turkish relations with Iran, which it has accomplished. "It is no secret," one figure in the region reported, "that the U.S. would like to see a Turkish-Iranian war." Such a war would further the disintegration of the region, and help prepare a North-South, Christian-Muslim conflict—which has long been Anglo-American policy, and which will presumably remain U.S. policy despite the change in administration.

The second objective was simply to be a show of force, to display American (and British) capabilities within Turkey. "We can do anything we want to do, so you'd better comply with our demands," was the intended message.

And the third was to eliminate Mumcu, whose investigations, and role as a mouthpiece for a section of the Turkish elite, have hindered U.S. operations in the region. Mumcu's investigations into the origin of the Khomeini revolution, narcotics smuggling, and terrorism tended to show that such purported adversaries as the United States and Iran may have some strange alliances.

Foreign tinkering continues, as Afghan imbroglio reaches a new watershed

by Susan Maitra and Ramtanu Maitra

A temporary cease-fire between the Hizb-i-Islami, led by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, and the Kabul government under President Burhanuddin Rabbani, head of the Jamiat-e-Islami, was signed on Feb. 14 to facilitate negotiation of a permanent truce. From all accounts, the truce is a temporary one, and there are already reports of extensive looting being carried out during the truce period. Meanwhile, there are rumors that foreign commandos have landed in Pakistan, near the Afghanistan borders, with a specific mission to carry out selective assassinations of Mujahideen leaders.

The temporary truce came about following a Saudi Arabian-Pakistani initiative to assemble the Afghan Mujahideen leaders at the Saudi capital Riyadh to work out a negotiated peaceful settlement. Lt. Gen. Hamid Gul (ret.), former Pakistani Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) chief and noted architect of the "Afghan Jihad" (holy war) against the invading Soviet Army and the pro-Soviet Communist regimes in Kabul, was in Kabul recently, ostensibly in order to invite the warring factions to Pakistan's capital Islamabad for preliminary talks. He was accompanied by some Arabs and Afghan war veterans, and met with President Rabbani.

Foreign commandos

While General Gul was in Kabul, the chief of Pakistan's Jamaat-e-Islami, Qazi Hussain Ahmed, who is pro-Hekmatyar, alleged that 60-odd commandos had landed to liquidate Afghan Mujahideen leaders and sought clarification on the issue from Islamabad. Although Pakistan's new Chief of Army Staff Gen. Abdul Waheed Kakkar refuted the allegation, calling it "totally incorrect," the English-language daily *The News* has quoted a high-ranking Pakistani official saying that "the power-hungry Mujahideen leaders would not hesitate to eliminate their rivals in the game." There is no indication, however, that the official was referring to foreign commandos.

The "rumor" nonetheless received extensive coverage in the wake of a bomb explosion in Gardez, capital of Paktia province, on Feb. 12, which claimed the lives of the Paktia province governor and the Logar province deputy gover-

nor—both allies of President Rabbani. These were the first top Afghan Mujahideen leaders to be killed since the start of the 14-year-long resistance against the pro-Soviet regime in Kabul. Meanwhile, Hekmatyar seconded the Jamaat allegation, and said that the foreign commandos are heading towards Charsyab, the headquarters of the Hizb-i-Islami.

Another news item which has raised observers' curiosity appeared in the Islamabad-based English daily *The Muslim* Feb. 6. The report said that American diplomats, including the ambassador, have begun extensive travelling throughout the length and breadth of Pakistan, visiting leaders of various political and religious parties. It was also pointed out that this was the first instance of its kind in Pakistan, where American diplomats were on an unannounced mission to meet with people at the political level from Khyber Pass in the north to Karachi in the south.

Whatever may be the motive behind these unannounced visits and rumors about foreign commandos, it hardly enhances Pakistan's credibility with the Afghan Mujahideen. Moreover, the situation in Kabul, as well as the northern part of Afghanistan, has come to such a pass that it would be naive to assume that the same old attempts at a "quick fix" by the same old outsiders has any future. Kabul has been undergoing intense rocket and mortar shelling since the beginning of the year when the controversial Shoor-e-Hal-O Aqd was held, which gave President Rabbani yet another two-year term. Afghanistan's capital has practically no fresh water or power supply available to its citizens, and food prices have soared to an unprecedented high, bringing foodstocks to a dangerously low level.

The Saudi initiative

The latest rush of peace efforts followed a five-point formula proposed by Saudi Arabia. The formula called for cessation of hostilities immediately, respect for Afghanistan's territorial integrity, discouragement of all moves to divide up the country, involvement of all parties in Afghanistan for a peaceful negotiated settlement and recognition of the composition of the Shoor-e-Hal-O Aqd, and formation of the Kabul government through

a process of consensus among the warring factions. Prince Fahd bin Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, governor of Tabuk, came to Pakistan with the proposal in mid-January. Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif visited Riyadh, and subsequently Pakistani Foreign Secretary M. Shahryar Khan went to Teheran to seek Iran's approval.

The Saudi initiative, which has been solidly backed by Pakistan, but so far had only won lukewarm support from Iran, was triggered by the fast-deteriorating and seemingly irreversible process unleashed in Kabul. Riyadh had earlier backed the Hizb-i-Islami to the hilt, when the Afghan Mujahideen were fighting the Soviets and Soviet-sponsored regimes in Kabul, but, of late, it has shown signs of uneasiness over the shifting stances of Hekmatyar. The sham of a Shoora, in which only 1,350-odd Afghan leaders showed up and almost 25% of those present did not vote, gave President Rabbani the two-year term he was looking for. But, the process has drawn untold wrath from five of the nine major Sunni Afghan Mujahideen groups. Of the five, the most vocal and most militant is that of Hekmatyar. Hekmatyar has been shelling the Afghan capital incessantly, since then, killing thousands and turning the city into a rubble heap. The Kabul government, on the other hand, under a tenuous alliance of ethnic Uzbek and Tajik Afghans, has tried to isolate the Pushtoons completely, but has failed in this effort. What perhaps worries the Saudis most is the recently formed alliance between Hekmatyar and the Teheran-dictated Hizb-i-Wahadat, a group of Shia Mujahideen.

On the ground, the situation has evolved according to the worst fears of nationalist Afghans. Since the fall of the pro-Soviet Afghan President Dr. Najibullah almost eight months ago, Afghanistan has practically divided itself up into unaccounted parts. Small local rulers in the Pushtoon-dominated areas of the east and southeast are collecting taxes wherever they can, and are receiving financial and military help from outsiders. Despite all this, however, it is among the Pushtoons that some still aspire to keep Afghanistan undivided.

Unstable equations

The most intense pressure for the division of Afghanistan has come from the north, where Gen. Rashid Dostum, an Uzbek Afghan based in Mazar-e Sharif, controls a powerful and well-equipped militia. Having benefitted from his close association with former pro-Soviet communists, including former Afghan President Babrak Karmal, General Dostum began his political movement, Junbashe Milli, with the sole purpose of separating northern Afghanistan from the Pushtoon-dominated areas. He has threatened to topple the Kabul government if his movement is not given recognition. When Hekmatyar increased the pressure by stepping up rocket and mortar shelling into Kabul, President Rabbani, an ethnic Tajik, made General Dostum the deputy defense minister under Ahmed Shah Massoud, President Rabbani's strong-

man in the Jamiat-e-Islami and a fellow Tajik-Afghan. It was evident that if General Dostum had joined Hekmatyar, or made himself unavailable to defend Kabul, the Kabul government would collapse.

But, the Tajik-Uzbek equation, which plays such a significant role in shaping policies in Afghanistan, is not a firm equation either. The influx of at least 60,000 pro-Iran Tajiks into Afghanistan, and Russia's deeper involvement in Tajikistan's internal affairs, may tilt the balance in the near future. It is evident, at least for now, that Teheran is quite content at the way things are shaping up. The cool reaction of Iran to the Saudi proposal is noteworthy even though there are indications that the Iranians are otherwise willing to improve their relations with Saudi Arabia.

Like Afghanistan, Pakistan has worked itself into a no-win situation. The long umbilical cord between the Jamaat of Pakistan and Hizb is under strain, and Islamabad has reasons to be concerned about it. At least three top Mujahideen leaders have accused Islamabad of allowing the Jamaat to interfere in Afghanistan's affairs through supplying arms and training to Mujahideens. Qazi Hussain Ahmed has himself noted that the Afghan jihad is over, and what is going on now is the fratricidal war. Hekmatyar's growing mistrust of Islamabad's future intention was made clear in January, when the Pakistani embassy staff had to leave Kabul under an intense rocket shelling by the Hizb.

But, it would also be naive to assume that pressures from outside, or even the five-point peace formula, will make any serious impact on the Mujahideen leaders. Iran, a potential Islamic ally of Pakistan, has made it clear on a number of occasions that it does not see eye to eye with Pakistan on the Afghan issue. Observers note that the Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani made it a point, while visiting Pakistan last September, to emphasize that Teheran abhors the power plan in Afghanistan. What he was referring to is Pakistan's continuing honeymoon with Hekmatyar. That Teheran's views on this have not changed was made clear by the ultra-radical daily *The Salam*, which said recently that Iran is in a position to play its role in Afghanistan. The daily also criticized Saudi Arabia for furthering U.S. interests. Iran had told Islamabad more than once that it was for the Afghans to decide whether President Najibullah should be associated with any power-sharing in Kabul after the end of Soviet occupation, but Islamabad adopted a contrary policy and worked through Hekmatyar to oust Najibullah.

Now, it is evident to the Saudis that the situation in Kabul is slipping through their fingers. Perhaps, it is for this reason why Lt. Gen. Hamid Gul, as the ISI chief and a staunch backer of Hekmatyar, has been sent to Kabul to convey to President Rabbani Pakistan's hardened stance against Hekmatyar. Maybe it is a simple ruse, and perhaps the ground is being laid for a new process to emerge—a process of elimination of Mujahideen leaders through assassins' bullets.

Pope in Africa, seeks dialogue with Islam

The following story was compiled from reports from the Vatican Information Service.

On his way to Benin Feb. 3, for his tenth pastoral visit to Africa, Pope John Paul II spoke with some of the 50 reporters who accompanied him on the trip. One topic touched on was the motives for dialogue with Islam:

"I would say that for me, the motives are, above all, religious. We should start here, because both Christians and Muslims are monotheistic. . . . St. Paul says, and so do the latter, that Abraham is the father of our faith, our earthly father. Then we are dealing with the same God of Abraham, but there is a problem. Between Abraham and the later development of the monotheistic revelation . . . up to Jesus' revelation, that is, the revelation of God's Son . . . which is the revelation which reaches furthest into God's intimate life. . . . The deepest and most important change . . . regarding God's revelation is the coming of Christ. Thus, the monotheism of Islam looks toward pre-Christian monotheism, and this is a big problem. . . .

"The historical, political problem is a little secondary, but is important especially for us westerners who are under the influence of Christ's statement about God and Caesar. For them, on the other hand, Caesar means the state, always subjected to the Islamic religion. And it is also the subject and the means to propagate, to maintain, and to safeguard faith. We have remained as poor fishermen and no more . . . and we must evangelize like this. Jesus told the Twelve: Go to the whole world, do not limit yourselves to only one people or one ethnic group, but go to the whole world."

The pope was asked whether his trip to Sudan would be exploited by the leaders there. "There is always a risk. . . . For me the thing seems . . . providentially linked to a small figure of a slave named Josephine Bakhita, a Sudanese slave who was beatified—perhaps a scandal for many—together with Escriva de Balaguer, the same day, the same celebration and thanks to that, had an extraordinary audience of 300,000 people, who also came for her beatification and they applauded above all the words which spoke of her."

'Roll up your sleeves together'

On Feb. 4 he met with representatives of Benin's Muslim community and said the two must work together in the search

for peace and the elimination of poverty. Later he met with representatives of the traditional African religion Voodoo, and told them the Catholic Church is favorable to dialogue. He stressed: "Benin, to develop itself, needs the participation of all its children and no one must withdraw into himself. Christians, members of this traditional religion, and Muslims are all called to roll up their sleeves to work together for the good of their country." On Feb. 8 the pope spoke with members of the diplomatic corps in Uganda. He urged the international community to "spare no effort to ensure immediate relief to the victims of war, famine, and displacement" in Africa.

"My thoughts turn to the next stage of my pilgrimage, which will take me to Sudan. Conditions do not allow a full pastoral visit to the Catholic community in that country. Nevertheless in visiting the capital city I wish to raise my voice in support of peace and justice for all the Sudanese people and to comfort my brothers and sisters in the faith, so many of whom are affected by the conflict going on in the south."

'Quest for nationhood'

"That dispute is largely the result of the quest for nationhood in a country where there are great differences between north and south—racial, cultural, linguistic, and religious differences which cannot be ignored and which must be taken into account." He stressed that "sincere dialogue" is the only way to achieve real justice and added: "I pray that in some way my visit may contribute to such a dialogue."

"African problems must have African solutions," he declared, adding that Africa could "never accept a new colonialism" or subjugation in the guise of assistance. For Africa to be truly effective, "it must reflect a relationship not of subjection but of interdependence." He said that the "foundation and guiding principle of this vast enterprise" is "the transcendent worth of every human person" which leaves "no place" for exploitation, discrimination, and "schemes which seek to fabricate national unity by forcing minorities to assimilate the culture or religion of the majority."

Upon his arrival Feb. 10 at Khartoum's airport, the pope was greeted by civil and religious authorities whom he reminded that "justice and peace are the necessary premises of development and progress. . . . Individuals, families, and groups must be enabled to contribute to their own advancement, and that therefore society must become more democratic, more respectful of legitimate difference, more stable through the rule of law, reflecting universally recognized human rights. . . . All the Church asks for is the freedom to pursue her religious and humanitarian mission. This freedom is her right, for it is everyone's duty, the duty of individuals and the state, to respect the conscience of every human being. . . ."

In his meeting later with priests and other religious fig-

ures, he said, "I am well aware of the sad circumstances of your country, tormented by a civil war that has brought untold misery, suffering, and death to the Sudanese people, especially in the South. The life of your communities is deeply affected by the breakdown in the good relations that should exist between Christians and Muslims. . . . Still in this part of Africa, I see clearly a particular reproduction of the mystery of Calvary in the lives of the majority of the Christian people. . . ."

Dignity of human person, unity of human race

The pope paid a courtesy visit to President Omar Hassan Ahmed el Bashir, and said he came to offer "the message of reconciliation and hope which is at the heart of Catholicism." He said he hopes that seeking a constitutional formula "will make it possible to overcome contradictions and struggles, with proper respect paid to the specific characteristics of each community." He stressed two principles: "First, the inalienable dignity of every human person, irrespective of racial, ethnic, cultural or national origin, or religious belief, means that when people coalesce in groups they have a right to enjoy a collective identity. Second, the fundamental unity of the human race . . . requires that no group should consider itself superior to another. In such perspectives, the freedom of individuals and communities to profess and practice their religion is an essential element for peaceful human coexistence. Freedom of conscience and freedom to seek the truth and to act according to one's personal religious beliefs are so fundamentally human, that any effort to restrict them almost inevitably leads to bitter conflict."

At a meeting at the apostolic nunciature in Khartoum Feb. 10 with leaders of the various religions, he voiced hope that "all the citizens of the Sudan, irrespective of the difference between them, will live in harmony and in mutual cooperation for the common good. . . . Here in Sudan I cannot fail to emphasize once more the Catholic Church's high regard for the followers of Islam. Sudanese Catholics recognize that their Muslim neighbors prize the moral life and worship of the One God. . . . They acknowledge that there are very solid reasons for greater mutual understanding and they are eager to work with you to restore peace and prosperity to the nation."

At a mass celebrated for 100,000 faithful near Green Square, the pope held up Sudan's Blessed Bakhita as a model, saying she is "one of the people to whom the lesson of the Cross brought incomparable strength amid all kinds of sufferings." He added, "The immense suffering of millions of innocent victims impels me to voice my solidarity with the weak and defenseless, who cry out to God for help, for justice, for respect of their God-given dignity as human beings, for their basic human rights, for the freedom to believe and practice their faith without fear or discrimination. . . I earnestly hope that my voice will reach you, brothers and sisters of the South."

Profile: Dr. Jovan Raskovic

New light on Serbia's Nazi psychiatric mafia

by Mark Burdman

Leading European publications have begun to provide written confirmation of *EIR's* contention that the Serbian war of aggression has been conducted as a form of psycho-social engineering, with Serbian psychiatrists playing a leading role in the conduct and strategy of the war, including the implementation of such policies as "ethnic cleansing" and mass rapes of Bosnian women. This subject was the feature of the cover story of the Feb. 12 *EIR*, entitled "The Tavistock Psychiatrists Behind the Rape of Bosnia."

The most widely known case of the Serbian psycho-mafia is Radovan Karadzic, leader of the Bosnian Serbs and a psychiatrist trained in group therapy techniques. Less well-known, is the seminal role of the late Dr. Jovan Raskovic, a senior psychiatrist at the neuropsychiatric clinic at Sibenik who founded the Serbian Democratic Party of Croatia in the period preceding the outbreak of war in the summer of 1990. It was Raskovic's party which initiated the slaughter against Croatia, beginning with staged provocations in August 1990 that were carried out in full coordination with the Milosevic regime in Belgrade. Raskovic was a political-psychiatric inspiration for Karadzic.

In its Feb. 11 edition, the French weekly *L'Express* published a feature entitled "The Brains of Purification," focusing on Raskovic as "the theoretician of Serb ideology." *L'Express* claimed that Raskovic's activities were "much more perverse" than even the abuses of psychiatry under Stalin. In the latter case, the psychiatrists were only "the instruments of power," but in Raskovic's case, it was psychiatry that shaped the ideology, with "the psychiatrist intervening directly on events by making himself a political man."

L'Express echoed *EIR's* characterization of the Serbian psycho-mafia's ideas as Nazi-like, writing that Raskovic's Freudian-modelled theories "evoke the apology for race superiority of Hitler's *Mein Kampf*, [and] the theories of Darwin on natural selection."

It quoted from his 1986 book *Luda Zemlja (Crazy Nation)*, in which Raskovic put forward a "psychiatric" justification for Serbian rule over the other peoples of former Yugoslavia: "The Croats, feminized by the Catholic religion,

suffer from a castration complex that submits them to a total incapacity to exercise the slightest authority. Humiliation that they compensate for by their great culture. As to the Muslims of Bosnia-Herzegovina and neighboring regions, they are victims, as Freud might have said, of anal frustrations which incite them to amass wealth and to seek refuge in fanatic attitudes. Finally, the Serbs, Orthodox, an oedipal people which tends to liberate itself from the authority of the father." This "resistance," according to Raskovic, embodies the courage of warriors, making them the only people "capable of exercising real authority over the other peoples of Yugoslavia."

The book's preface was written by Dobrica Cosic, currently president of the rump "Yugoslavia" (actually Serbia-Montenegro) and earlier the senior ideologue in the Serbian Academy of Arts and Sciences. In 1986, Cosic authored his famous "Memorandum" for the Serbian Academy, elaborating how the "Yugoslav" identity of the past years should be replaced by a "Greater Serbian" identity. *L'Express* quoted Cosic from the preface: "Thanks to the metaphysical communication that [Raskovic] established with the Serbs, he awakened this people that had been put to sleep by the Tito regime. He led it to reclaim its identity."

'I prepared this war'

According to European sources, Raskovic's theories became "popularized" when he began to be featured in the Serbian media, which portrayed him as the number-one psychiatrist and scientist of his time, and as the natural leader of the Serbs in the years to come. As *L'Express* quoted Raskovic himself telling the Belgrade-based television chain "Yutel" in January 1992, six months after the launching of the full-scale armed offensive in Croatia: "I feel myself responsible because I prepared this war, although it was not a matter of military preparations. Had I not provoked this emotional tension inside the Serbian people, nothing would have happened. My party and myself lit the fuse of Serbian nationalism, not only in Croatia, but everywhere else, in Bosnia-Herzegovina notably. We guided this people, by giving it its identity." (Some months later, Raskovic died of a heart attack.)

L'Express commented that Raskovic and fellow psychiatrist Radovan Karadzic must bear the responsibility for having created and circulated the ideology that "banalizes hate by giving it a professed scientific basis. The rapes and the massacres committed in the name of 'ethnic cleansing' flow from this sinister logic, which [Raskovic] did not bring with him to the grave."

A government of psychiatrists and patients

Complementary information received by *EIR* from European researchers indicates that Raskovic developed his psychiatric theories in practice, in his work at the neuropsychiatric clinic in Sibenik. According to a former colleague of

his, now a bitter opponent, Raskovic practiced electroshock therapy and other "sadistic" psychotherapeutic techniques, while claiming to be a proponent of the existentialist school of "anti-psychiatry."

Raskovic regularly recruited his own patients to his Greater Serbian political goals. According to the cited former colleague of Raskovic, the three party leaders who brought the Serbian Democratic Party into war in Croatia were former patients of Raskovic at Sibenik! One of these, Milan Martic, is presently the interior minister of the self-proclaimed "Serb Republic of Krajina," who has deployed a network of underlings to run the rape camps in areas under Serbian control.

Informed sources further report that Raskovic was the political recruiter of Radovan Karadzic. Asked in a May 1990 interview whom he looked to as his philosophical model, Karadzic answered, "Above all, Jovan Raskovic." It was on the model of Raskovic's Serbian Democratic Party, that Karadzic set up his own "Serbian Democratic Party" in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The sources also report that Serbian dictator Slobodan Milosevic was once the psychiatric patient of Karadzic!

One well-informed Balkan insider told *EIR*: "The Serbian regime, actually, is a combination of psychiatrists and patients."

Et tu, Owen?

Other bits and pieces of the story have begun to appear elsewhere in Europe. In its edition for Feb. 15, the German weekly *Der Spiegel* pointed the finger at two other key protagonists from the inner Milosevic circle, Svetozar Stojanovic and Mihailo Markovic. As *EIR* documented, Stojanovic and Markovic are two of the key figures in shaping an ideological-philosophical-psychological rationalization for Serbian brutality.

Der Spiegel revealed that Stojanovic returned to Belgrade one year ago from the United States and, since that time, has taken control of Serbian propaganda against Germany and the Islamic countries. Anti-Milosevic Serbs with whom *Spiegel's* correspondents spoke, further assert that Stojanovic is, nonetheless, a relative moderate in comparison to Markovic, who had formerly been a senior figure in the left-radical "Praxis" group. It was Markovic, these Serbs report, who was the first leading Serbian figure to welcome the August 1991 putsch in Moscow.

Another curious fact has been pointed to by the German doctors' publication *Deutsche Arzteblatt*, which notes that not only Karadzic, but also Britain's Lord Owen, is a trained psychiatrist. The magazine's reference about Owen might shed some additional light on the former British foreign secretary's antics in Geneva, where he has worked with former U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance to concoct the plan for carving up Bosnia and rewarding Serbian mass murder and aggression.

Is Isi Leibler becoming a liability?

His shady dealings are proving embarrassing for Israel. Part 3 of a report by an EIR Investigative Team.

Despite the wide spectrum of shady dealings perpetrated by the Leibler brothers, Isi Leibler, as co-chairman of the World Jewish Congress, and Mark Leibler, as head of the Zionist Federation of Australia (ZFA), have been at the forefront of the Zionist lobby in Australia, and, in Isi's case, in Asia. Isi Leibler, as reported in the first article in this series (see *EIR*, Feb. 5 and Feb. 12), has even gone so far as to openly carry out diplomatic activities in the region on behalf of the government of Israel. While the mantle of Zionism helps protect the Leibler brothers from scrutiny, Isi Leibler's diplomatic forays on Israel's behalf have also helped open up new avenues for financial exploitation.

But the gig might be up. The Australian *Jewish News* reported in its January edition that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin "wants Australian Jewish community organizations to drop the quasi-diplomatic role they have adopted in Australian-Israeli affairs of state. He has told Executive Council of Australia Jewry president Isi Leibler that, while he appreciates the Australian Jewish community's past efforts, government-to-government relations should be left to Israel's embassy. . . . Mr. Rabin's approach adds a further dimension to the question of how Mr. Isi Leibler and Zionist Federation of Australia president Mark Leibler will develop their working relationship in their dealings with the Australian government and to what extent they will scale back their quasi-diplomatic public relations activities."

In fact, the Leiblers are largely responsible for the fact that a Zionist lobby in Australia even exists. In their efforts since the early 1970s, they have worked in concert mostly with Zionist lobby organizations in the United States, not Israel. In these cases as well, the Zionist lobby organizations have operated as covers for suspicious financial dealings believed to center around the dope trade. This puts them in the company of:

- Kenneth Bialkin, chairman of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) from 1982-86. A Wall Street attorney, Bialkin's most notorious client is Robert Vesco, the head of the international drug combine operating out of Cuba. Bialkin is known to have made the financial and other arrangements to set up his client Robert Vesco in business with Colombian cocaine cartel leader Carlos Lehder Rivas. The ADL's bank, from earliest days until now, was Sterling National Bank in New York, set up by organized crime boss Meyer Lansky's

chief lieutenant, Frank Erickson.

- Edgar Bronfman, head of the Anti-Defamation New York Appeal and an ADL national commissioner. Bronfman is also co-chairman, with Isi Leibler, of the World Jewish Congress (WJC). Chief executive of Seagram's, Bronfman is the heir to the vast organized crime empire established by his grandfather during Prohibition, when the "Bronfman gang," as they were then known, supplied the liquor, then prohibited in the United States, to Meyer Lansky and his associates. Many decades later, grandson Edgar had an exclusive contract to supply booze to the East German communist party, whose chief, Erich Honecker, honored him with the country's highest civilian honor just weeks before the Berlin Wall fell in 1989. Bronfman had promised the communist boss that he would use all his political muscle to stop the reunification of Germany, which he dubbed a "sellout of socialism."

Another institution that the Leiblers maintain ties to is the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC). In 1974, Leibler pushed for the establishment of the Australian-Israel Publications Office, which later became the *Australia-Israel Review* magazine. According to one of the magazine's main columnists, Michael Danby, "We model ourselves on AIPAC, the legendary Jewish lobby in Washington which is an American organization." The first head of Australian-Israel Publications was Sam Lipski, a well-known newspaper columnist and a member of the Smorgon family of Melbourne. The Smorgon family was worth a reported \$700 million, and members were clients of Mark Leibler. Lipski would later become vice president of Leibler's Australian Institute of Jewish Affairs (AIJA).

In the United States, AIPAC maintains a choke-hold on the U.S. Congress. Particularly feared is its "policy unit," which maintains dossiers on tens of thousands of political activists, many of them Jewish. Many of these Jewish activists, who disagree with AIPAC for one reason or another, have been treated to the same violence and vicious smearing by AIPAC that is meted out to Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) officials.

LaRouche is their number-one target

The Leiblers' activities as an arm of the international Zionist lobby has made American statesman Lyndon

LaRouche their number-one target in Australia, along with the Citizens Electoral Councils, which are organizing around LaRouche's ideas to clean up the international drug trade and reorganize the world economy for development, not "free market" looting.

The *modus operandi* is standard: Anyone who opposes the Leiblers' nefarious activities is branded an "anti-Semitic Nazi." In December, the Leiblers set into motion an array of slanders against LaRouche in Australia. In the wide-circulation *Sydney Sunday Telegraph* of Dec. 20, Don Chipp, founder of the Australia Democrat Party, hysterically pointed to LaRouche's growing influence in Australia. After discussing the appearance of neo-Nazism in Europe, Chipp got to his real point: "The significance to Australians of these developments is not limited to a concern about the rebirth of Nazism in Europe and its effect on world peace. Respected Jewish leaders have alleged the existence [in Australia] of a foreign-funded, U.S.-based extremist right-wing organization led by erstwhile presidential candidate and recent jail inmate Lyndon LaRouche. His group reportedly has raised more than \$200 million for its activities and is planning an international conference in Melbourne next March."

According to Chipp, "The Jewish community has asked the government to refuse entry" to the "sad (but dangerous) misanthrope, LaRouche." In his hysteria, Chipp neglected to mention that LaRouche remains a political prisoner incarcerated in a U.S. federal jail!

The same line against LaRouche appeared in the Australian *Jewish News* of Nov. 27: "LaRouche and his followers seem to be in step with the ugly recrudescence of the right-wing extremist neo-Nazism which has recently manifested itself in Germany."

Thuggery, lies, and provocation have been the standard Leibler tools since he began building up the Australian Zionist lobby in the early 1970s.

Early efforts

In September 1974, Isi Leibler, then the head of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, issued a call for a dramatic step-up in pro-Israel activity by Australia's Jewish community. Alarmed at the pro-Palestinian sentiment on university campuses and in the Labor Party, Leibler called for the creation of new, pro-Israel publications such as the Australia-Israel Publications Office.

Said Leibler, "I maintain that our principal task must be to generate an awareness within our own Jewish community of the threats confronting us and above all creating well-informed cadres of Jews who will contribute the desperately needed manpower to neutralize these anti-Jewish forces on a grass roots level."

Through deployment of agents provocateurs, thug tactics, manipulation of public opinion, and secret collaboration with elements of domestic and foreign intelligence agencies, Leibler set out to reshape Australia's political landscape.

On May 30, 1974, the *Melbourne Age* reported on some of his dirty tricks. "A Jewish intelligence organization operating in Melbourne has compiled . . . files on about 200 people and organizations connected with anti-Semitism and right-wing extremist movements." The *Age* went on to say that the group was called "Research Services," and reported to Leibler personally, as president of the Victorian Jewish Board of Deputies. The *Age* further reported that Research Services "liaise [sic] with Jewish intelligence organizations overseas" and that "the group liases with State and Commonwealth police."

The presence of the Mossad in Australia is notorious, and even the subject of newspaper articles, as in *The Sun* on May 24, 1977. "Mossad agents have been responsible for the Australian government banning visits of PLO delegates—even those sponsored by the United Nations. . . . Mossad advises Australian security of a PLO agent's secret visit here—if it suits them to do so—only after their own surveillance of his activities."

Political clout

In 1983, Isi moved to set up a "research arm" of the WJC for Australia, the Australian Institute of Jewish Affairs, which, says its literature, "is a research-based organization modeled on the internationally renowned Institute of Jewish Affairs in London."

In November 1984, Dr. Paul Gardner, then chairman of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation Commission (ADC), returned from visiting the ADL in the United States to declare: "I do not believe anti-Semitism will ever die out. Centuries from now we will need an ADC to combat it." The ADC began to distribute ADL literature to schools and ethnic groups. In 1992, Gardner would become a board member of Isi Leibler's AIJA.

This apparatus developed immense political clout. Bob Hawke, prime minister from 1983-91, was widely acknowledged as a puppet of Sir Peter Abeles—who, as the AIJA virtually admitted in the course of an article slandering LaRouche, had been investigated for organized crime links—and of others in the Zionist lobby, especially Leibler. Leibler in 1978 had negotiated with Hawke, then head of the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU), a joint venture between the ACTU and Jetset Tours called ACTU Jetset Travel.

In May 1988, WJC President Edgar Bronfman, on his first official visit to Australia, gave Hawke the AIJA's first Human Rights Award. When Mark Leibler opened a lobbying office for the ZFA in 1989 in Canberra, Prime Minister Hawke showed up. Later, when Arnold Bloch Leibler held a reception to open its new offices, Gov. Gen. Bill Hayden and Second Commissioner of Taxation Brian Nolan graced the premises. To cap it off, when President George Bush visited Australia briefly in late 1991-early 1992, he met personally with Mark Leibler—a stunning coup for Leibler—



A joint demonstration between the Schiller Institute and the Citizens Electoral Councils in 1992 in Melbourne. Lyndon LaRouche's growing influence in Australia has terrified the Leiblers into a hectic campaign of "anti-Semitic" name-calling.

and issued a statement of gratitude for Mark's work repealing the U.N. "Zionism is racism" resolution.

One intelligence operation in which Isi Leibler played a key role was the establishment in Australia of the Special Investigations Unit of the attorney general's office, modeled on the Office of Special Investigations (OSI) in the U.S. Department of Justice, to hunt "Nazi war criminals." As in the United States, the idea was to use spurious investigations in order to attack anti-communist or politically independent ethnic groups. As part of his propagandizing for the Australian unit, Leibler authored the foreword to a 1989 book, *Sanctuary: Nazi Fugitives in Australia*, by Mark Aarons, a member of the clan often called "the royal family of the Communist Party of Australia." Aarons had taken "long service leave" in Yugoslavia several years before and returned to direct a two-part series on the Australian Broadcasting Corp. on alleged Nazi war criminals.

The KGB-provided evidence used in the few cases which came to trial was proven to be forged, or in some cases the prosecution collapsed for lack of evidence. Though the "Nazi-hunting" unit, which failed to convict even one "Nazi war criminal," has lapsed, the terror operation against independent political forces continues under the rubric of "racial vilification" laws passed in several states, and introduced into the federal parliament in late 1992.

Agents provocateurs

In 1974, Isi Leibler called for the creation of "well informed cadres of Jews who will neutralize" Leibler's opponents. Two of these cadre are David Greason and Michael Danby. Their careers trace the right-left zigzags of the Zionist

lobby's agents provocateurs.

Already in his early teens, the British-born Greason was active in the virulently anti-Semitic League of Rights. However, unconfirmed reports place him as a columnist for the Australian *Jewish News* in the late 1970s, after which he went off in the early 1980s to found the neo-Nazi National Action Party, some of whose supporters have been instigators of violent incidents. Shortly after that venture, he popped up as a member of the extreme-left International Socialists organization, having undergone a Damascus-road conversion from anti-Semitism. In the late 1980s, he worked as an adviser to the deputy leader of the opposition party in Papua New Guinea, and was also employed for a time as a columnist for the *South China Morning Post* of Hong Kong. He also wrote for two of Australia's major papers, the *Sydney Morning-Herald* and the *Age* of Melbourne. Also in the 1980s, Greason joined the Scientology organization, when it was under investigation by the Australian police. By the early 1990s, Greason was working as a "senior contributing editor" for the Australian version of *Playboy* magazine, a pillar of the drug-pornography lobby.

In the late 1980s, Greason began a series of written attacks against the LaRouche movement, including in Britain's *Searchlight* magazine, a notorious front for British intelligence which has close ties to the former East German intelligence service, the Stasi. These efforts culminated with his 17-page slander piece in Isi Leibler's *Without Prejudice* magazine in November 1992. There Greason attacked LaRouche as a neo-Nazi and anti-Semitic, yet at the same time he wrote an article for a leftist publication, which opened, "LaRouche often brags about his connections with the Zionist bandit

state of Israel," and concluded, "Progressive masses from around the world must recognize this U.S.-Zionist dagger [the LaRouche movement] at the heart of our movement. We must strike fear into their hearts for daring to degrade our noble cause."

Danby has earned a reputation for his scribblings in Leibler's *Australia-Israel Review*. According to *Axis*, the newspaper of the Australian Union of Students, of May 24, 1976, "The president of the Students Representative Council at Melbourne University has been acting as an informer for the Commonwealth Police. The president, Michael Danby, has admitted to having five contacts with the police since February." Among other things, Danby provided a profile of a PLO-connected student who was then applying to study at Melbourne University, a profile used to deny the student entry into Australia. He also reported to the police on a planned student mobilization against the visit to Australia of one of the Rockefeller family.

Danby joined the Labor Party during or after his university days, and though a Labor Party member, held numerous secret meetings with leading figures in the Liberal Party to plan a purge of Labor's pro-Palestinian left wing. One such meeting took place in the headquarters of Western Mining Corp., an anti-union, pro-free trade outfit which is a major financier of the Liberals.

Danby maintained some intelligence ties in other directions. In the late 1980s, his wife worked in the library of the U.S. consulate in Melbourne, while Danby himself organized intimate Friday night soirees at the consulate where Australians could come and rub shoulders with the leading lights of America's neo-conservative movement, such as longtime CIA official Vernon Walters. Reflective of these connections, Danby spent time in the United States on a State Department scholarship.

Investigation of whom?

The November issue of *Without Prejudice* featured a 17-page diatribe against LaRouche as "anti-Semitic" and "extreme right wing." The article complained that a major purpose of what they called LaRouche's "intelligence network" in Australia, is to "spy on . . . Melbourne Jewish community figure Isi Leibler and businessman Sir Peter Abeles." It further contended that the major purpose of the rapidly expanding LaRouche movement in Australia is to conduct espionage, and that this "makes a thorough investigation of this group, and its plans for Australia, imperative."

A preliminary look at the Leiblers, in fact, points to the opposite conclusion. The evidence of the Leiblers' reportedly corrupt dealings on behalf of foreign governments in Australia, and their tax-evasion schemes from which they and their friends have earned considerable pecuniary reward, more than merit a parliamentary investigation of the Leiblers and company.

S.E. Asia cements Subcontinental ties

by Lydia Cherry

The nations of South Asia (the Indian subcontinent) and the Southeast Asian countries have historically operated very much in their respective orbits. However, now there is an effort to narrow the gap. Much of the rapid-fire economic and military diplomacy involves new-found ties between India and the various countries that make up the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)—in particular with Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore, and Malaysia, but not exclusively so. At the time of this writing, Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamad is in Pakistan, having just come from Bangladesh, discussing the ASEAN consensus that there is a desperate need for "greater unity and cooperation" between the Asian regional groupings.

India, Malaysia sign defense pact

In the first week of February, much press attention was given to the signing of a memorandum of understanding by India and Malaysia involving military cooperation. The agreement was signed during Indian Defense Minister Sharad Pawar's four-day official visit to Malaysia, the first ever by an Indian defense minister. All-India Radio Network quoted Malaysian Defense Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak saying that India and Malaysia can in the future think of joint development of parts, logistical support, and in-country servicing of common equipment and aircraft of the two countries. Najib added that the new memorandum provides the basic umbrella of political commitment. Najib added that Malaysia viewed the MOU as an effort to enhance cooperation in technical training and logistics support for, in particular, the Royal Malaysian Air Force. Indian press also reported that Malaysia announced it was willing to share its expertise in countering insurgency, while India would assist Malaysia in the transformation of a largely counterinsurgency force into a modern conventional army.

Indian Defense Minister Sharad Pawar also offered to train Malaysian pilots on the Russian-built MiG-29 jet fighters which Malaysia may buy from Russia, the Indian press reported. Malaysia is considering buying 30 MiG-29s from the Russians, which have been offered at US\$24 million each, and has been looking to India to provide parts and service for the fighters.

(The United States had offered Malaysia F-16 and F/A-18 Hornet fighters, but Malaysian defense officials say their

prices are almost double that of the MiG-29.)

Press coverage from the Indian side has been upbeat, describing the agreement as a milestone, not only in New Delhi's relations with Kuala Lumpur but with the entire ASEAN group. Indian commentator T. G. Nallamuthu noted on Feb. 3: "Though India's eastern sentinel, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, are just a stone's throw away from Malaysia and Indonesia and not far from Thailand and Singapore, we have been keeping a safe distance from each other, also in defense." He added, however, that "India has now started looking east."

In the Cold War days, a significant distance was maintained between the U.S.-linked Southeast Asian countries and Japan on the one side, and India on the other. But the ball game has changed, Indian sources insist, for numerous reasons:

1) From the standpoint of strategy, Southeast Asia strongly hopes that China will not become adventurous. However, were that to happen, the countries of Southeast Asia would benefit greatly from having India as a close ally.

2) India has construction and infrastructural capabilities that could benefit Southeast Asia. There is also the factor that some of the Southeast Asian countries have not been able to keep up the fast pace of Japanese technological development. Here, India represents a middle level of available technology, that in some cases has been phased out in Japan.

3) Though still heavily dependent on the Arab world for oil, India has wearied of the political complexity of the Arab world and is drawn to the more economically oriented ASEAN diplomacy.

4) The Southeast Asian countries with predominantly Muslim populations have been careful not to create any more problems for India than it already has in the Hindu-Muslim conflict that is being fueled by Britain and other western countries.

On Feb. 10, India commenced a four-day naval exercise with the Singapore Navy. India is also expected to hold a naval exercise, the first of its kind, together with Thailand and Malaysia sometime in the spring or early fall. Similarly, a naval exercise, the second, has been scheduled with Indonesia for later this year.

In early February, India also sent high-level diplomats to Indonesia and Thailand to upgrade relations and to propose enhancing trade and industrial cooperation. The Bangkok press reported on Feb. 9 that India has proposed the expansion of fishing cooperation between the two countries; cooperation in Southeast Asian and Buddhist studies between Thai and Indian academics; and has communicated that India wishes to increase trade and investment cooperation.

The India-Pakistan rub

Within a week and a half of the announcement of the signing of the memorandum of understanding with India,

Prime Minister Mahathir was in Islamabad, Pakistan, and to no great surprise was grilled by journalists about the "military pact with India." According to the Bernama wire service, Mahathir countered the query by going into the specifics of why his country needed to purchase component and spare parts from India—that some of these are available only in India. For example, he noted that the Allouete helicopters are no longer manufactured by France, and in fact the license to produce spare parts for such weapons has been given to India. He mentioned that Malaysia had always welcomed Indian and Pakistani military officers to attend courses in the defense college in Malaysia, and that he hoped officers from both countries would continue to come. Referencing the Pakistan Aeronautical Complex that he visited the day before, he noted that the complex was very similar to the Airod complex in Kuala Lumpur, and suggested that the two facilities could cooperate so as not to duplicate their activities. He added that Malaysia would like to use Pakistan's air, sea, and road links as a gateway with the Central Asian republics.

In Pakistan, Mahathir apparently was also asked about what can be done when there is a Muslim minority in an Asian country that is being discriminated against. According to Bernama, his response was that his country stood for the rights of the minority to be treated fairly, but not for the group in question to secede.

Three regional organizations

In his banquet speech in Islamabad on Feb. 14, Prime Minister Mahathir suggested that in the upcoming period there must be close collaboration between the three Asian regional organizations—ASEAN; the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), recently joined by the Central Asian nations of the former Soviet Union; and the South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC), which groups the nations on the subcontinent—to stabilize and develop Asia as a whole. He proposed that such collaboration could enhance the economies of these regions. Discussing ECO, he noted that the inclusion of seven more countries of central Asia has created an important economic nexus that will be crucial in guaranteeing the future development and stability of the Central and South Asian regions.

In Bangladesh, Mahathir enunciated the ASEAN position on the need for the United Nations to be restructured and the veto powers of the Security Council members terminated. "The veto powers of the five Security Council members must go. As long as such power is there, the U.N. shall not be able to wipe off its autocratic face," he said, speaking at a news conference in Dhaka.

In both Pakistan and India, sources say, there is much discussion and a fair amount of consensus that the Security Council should be scrapped and that the U.N. General Assembly be the basis for making decisions.

Religious war in Colombia

President Gaviria has launched a war on the Catholic Church designed to de-Christianize Colombia.

With every intention of eliminating Christian morality and replacing it with a "lay ethic," the César Gaviria government—with the help of institutions recently created under the new masonic constitution of 1991—has launched war against the Catholic Church in Colombia. The church is simultaneously under violent attack by narco-terrorists who continue to operate with impunity.

Priests, seminarians, and church collaborators in the southern departments of Sucre and Bolívar were forced to abandon their parishes in early February in the face of threats against their lives by terrorists of the Simón Bolívar Guerrilla Coordinating Group. In the department of Huila, the pews and confessionals of the church in one town were burned on Feb. 10.

The legal assault entered a new phase on Feb. 5, when the Constitutional Court—a creation of Gaviria's new Constitution—declared that the Concordat, the international treaty that has guided relations between the Vatican and the Colombian government for more than a century, is now null and void. The ruling not only determined that more than one-half of the international agreement is unconstitutional, but also established a new doctrine that prohibits the Catholic Church from, among other things, proselytizing among Indians or blacks, founding or running primary, secondary, or university-level centers of education, and having a military vicar's office.

The court defended this prohibi-

tion by claiming that Gaviria's Constitution orders the state to protect "the ethnic and cultural diversity of the Colombian nation," and that if the church participates in the education of youth, it is violating "freedom of worship."

Reactions to the court's decision have been varied. Several legal experts have expressed concern because it is one of the rare times that Colombia has unilaterally declared an international treaty unconstitutional. If this precedent were applied to existing treaties with Nicaragua or Venezuela, it could revive dangerous territorial conflicts. Others, such as Carlos Corsi Otorola, senator for the Lay Movement for Colombia, insist that the court decision "directly violates the human rights of Catholics and discriminates against Colombians who profess our faith, making them second-class citizens by not being able—among other things—to establish schools nor offer moral nor religious teaching."

"It is a lie to maintain that the Indians and black communities are atheist or pagan," insisted Msgr. Darío Castrillón, bishop of Bucaramanga. "I, personally, have baptized broad segments of these populations," and they have expressed support for the church. Polls show that 92% of all Colombians are Catholic.

Although the reactions of the bishops have been measured, mouthpieces for the country's ruling elite are threatening to denounce the church for provoking religious war. Enrique Santos Calderón, stockhold-

er in the daily *El Tiempo* and member of the Santos family, which has long believed that it owns Colombia, demanded in a Feb. 14 column that the church should not be "belligerent" or threaten to form a Catholic party, since it would then be accused of "inflaming" the population and provoking a war of "religious passions."

Although President Gaviria has publicly expressed his desire for relations between the Vatican and the Colombian government to be guided by a concordat, his real intentions can be understood with a look at history. Gaviria considers himself a member of the so-called Radical Olympus, which was a political party of the last century, made up of usurious bankers and merchants who took that name because they believed themselves to be gods like those of Mount Olympus.

The Radical Olympians sponsored the physical elimination of priests and believers and the expropriation of church property, to prevent the country from remaining Catholic. At the same time, they took up the banner of free trade and the free market, and physically eliminated groups of proto-industrial artisans which existed in the country then.

Gaviria's constitution is identical to those which were imposed by the Radicals in 1853, 1858, and 1863. Those constitutions, not surprisingly, led to 70 civil wars in a short period of time, until Rafael Nuñez succeeded in defeating the Radical Olympians both politically and militarily. Together with Miguel Antonio Caro, Nuñez wrote the Constitution of 1886 and signed the Concordat with the Church.

Today, the Radical Olympus thinks it has finally defeated Nuñez. As the daily *El Espectador* editorialized Feb. 8, "The radical liberals, in their happily secular Olympus, have won the battle 100 years later."

Kissinger in Mexico

Is Henry the K offering to clean up the Salinas government's image in time for the 1994 elections?

In a terse communiqué issued Feb. 9 by the Interior Ministry, it was revealed that Henry Kissinger had just met with the head of that ministry, Patrocinio González Garrido. What immediately drew one's attention was the fact that Kissinger had advanced his traditional visit to Acapulco where, for more than a decade, he has revelled in the pagan celebrations of Carnival preceding Lent.

In statements to the television news show *24 Horas*, Kissinger declared from Acapulco that his visit was as traditional as all the preceding years' visits, and that he was spending his time in writing and research. Researching whom? was the question asked by political cartoonists and newspaper columnists. There is, in fact, little doubt that what Kissinger is investigating is the 1994 Mexican presidential succession.

Despite the brevity of the government communiqué, Minister González Garrido ended up revealing the agenda he had discussed with Henry Kissinger, in an extensive interview with the official daily *El Nacional*, published Feb. 11. Asked if he could guarantee clean elections in 1994, González Garrido answered: "No, what the Interior Ministry can guarantee is that we will, as government, make every effort to make our part in the process transparent, clean, impartial. . . ." The impossibility of truly clean elections is attributed by González Garrido to "the behavior of political parties and of the citizenry, [which] we cannot guarantee."

In other words, the government

will not allow any questioning of "electoral purity," as occurred in 1988 when Carlos Salinas de Gortari stole the presidency with a minority of votes and faced furious challenges from the other political parties, which claimed a victory for National Democratic Front candidate Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas.

The conflict was "resolved" by George Bush and his "Spirit of Houston" meeting with Salinas de Gortari, which granted Salinas virtual recognition as Mexico's President-elect. Ever since then, it has been an established fact that Mexico's electoral results would be certified in Washington.

The other matter presumably discussed with Kissinger was what the minister called "speculation" over relations between the state and the ruling PRI party. González Garrido claimed in his interview with *El Nacional* that "this is what we hope to be able to clean up, to clarify, because we are very worried—as we have said—that people are convinced that the PRI is at an [electoral] advantage in relation to the other parties. . . ."

Clean up? Clarify? To whom? At least twice in the space of a month, the U.S.-based Inter-American Dialogue, which has substantial influence over the new Clinton administration, has insisted that the Mexican government must do away with electoral fraud and show full respect for human rights. It is naturally presumed that this will be the line of the Clinton government toward Mexico, to be used to pressure Mexico into continuing to make all the economic and political

concessions that Wall Street considers convenient. Did Kissinger perhaps offer to "help" clean up the Mexican government's image in the eyes of the White House?

The third matter of importance which González Garrido touched upon in his *El Nacional* interview is the concern that "some parties are receiving financing from drug money laundering at the regional and local levels. . . . To avoid these problems, what we must do is make the financing of the parties transparent."

To the average Mexican, González Garrido's statements are incredibly cynical, since it is a known fact that it is the PRI administration, at the national and local levels, which coexists in a vast network of mutual complicity with drug traffickers. One of the more glaring examples is the 1985 case of the El Bufalo ranch and of the assassination of U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agent Enrique Camarena, whose investigations had touched upon PRI banker Arcadio Valenzuela and former Interior Ministry Manuel Bartlett.

More recently, we have the case of Sostenes Valenzuela Miller, the former mayor of Ciudad Obregón, Sonora and a former state prosecutor, who is today a fugitive from Mexican justice living in Tucson, Arizona. There are also the cases of the recent governments of Sinaloa, Chihuahua, and Tamaulipas, among others.

It is from such sources as these that the illegal financing of opposition parties comes. Clearly, Interior Minister González Garrido is not planning to conduct an investigation of his own party and government. Quite the contrary. The Mexican government, through González, is announcing that it will use the accusation of "drug trafficker" and "money launderer" against any enemy, real or potential, who crosses its path.

International Intelligence

Big shakeup in China's Armed Forces

The leadership of the Chinese People's Liberation Army has just been put through the biggest reorganization since it was founded, with over 300 of the highest-level officers retired, promoted, or transferred to other military districts, the Swiss daily *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* reported on Jan. 27.

The shuffle involved the General Staff, its political and logistical departments, the powerful Commission for Science, Technology, and Industry, the commanders of the Navy, Air Force, and Artillery, the leaders of the seven Military Districts, as well as the National Defense University and Academy of Military Science.

The reorganization was carried out in the wake of the demotion of President Yang Shangkun and especially his clansman Yang Baibing after the 14th Communist Party Congress last October, the newspaper reported. All the known Yang followers were systematically retired or demoted, on the initiative of Deng Xiaoping, who wanted the Yangs out in order to reshape China's peasant army into a technologically modern force.

Older officers from areas which are less technologically advanced were also retired, and officers from the more modernized areas were promoted.

Dutch Parliament approves euthanasia

The Dutch parliament on Feb. 9 legalized the same euthanasia policies that the Nazis used to exterminate hundreds of thousands of mentally or physically ill patients deemed to have a life "not worth living."

The Netherlands has condoned killing by doctors, but, it was officially a criminal offense, carrying a maximum 12-year jail sentence, for doctors to perform it without the consent of the victim.

The new law allows doctors to give lethal injections under "tightly controlled conditions." They are guaranteed virtual immu-

nity from prosecution if they follow a 28-point checklist showing that patients are terminally ill, in unbearable pain, and have repeatedly asked to die. These rules don't mean much, however. Under the old law, surveys of doctors found that thousands of patients were killed *without* their consent; thousands more were denied life-saving treatment, even though they checked into hospitals or requested medical treatment; and thousands of other patients were starved to death without their consent. Dutch physicians admitted to making medical decisions that hastened the end of life in 38% of all deaths.

The new law, which takes effect in early 1994, requires doctors to report every case of euthanasia. Justice Minister Ernst Hirsch-Ballin says the law will now bring euthanasia into the open to be "regulated."

Since physician-inflicted death has been accepted by the Dutch courts since 1973, proponents have continually lobbied for killing broader and broader groups of individuals, from chronically ill children to handicapped newborns to mentally ill patients who suffer "mental" pain.

Chinese democratic groups in exile merge

The two largest Chinese democratic groups in exile merged at the end of January, at a conference in Washington. The Chinese Alliance of Democracy (CAD) and the Federation for Democratic China (FDC) decided to unite to continue their fight for human rights in China.

The CAD was the first exile group to be formed, after the 1979 Democracy Wall movement was brought down by the government, while the FDC was primarily organized by students, union leaders, and scholars from the Tiananmen Square protest in the spring of 1989.

Participants at the conference told *EIR* that they were hopeful that the newly elected leadership will work for radical changes in the Chinese political system, despite the fact that the communist government sent agents in to disrupt the conference. The grouping

that was defeated advocated "peaceful evolution" and gradual changes that would leave communist rule intact.

Bangkok paper: U.N. failed in Cambodia

The United Nations should concede that it has failed in Cambodia, editorialized the Bangkok daily *The Nation* on Feb. 4. Titled "Time for the U.N. to Concede Its Khmer Peace Plan Has Failed," the editorial concluded that "the partitioning of Cambodia now seems inevitable."

"Look at what's happened now by virtue of accommodating the Khmer Rouge," the paper wrote. "Firstly, the United Nations has given a certain degree of legitimacy to the existence of the guerrilla group by not forcibly disarming its troops and allowing them to take part in the elections. This by itself is a clear contravention of the Paris Peace Agreement. Secondly, Phnom Penh government troops, by virtue of the fact that one-third of them have been disarmed and put into U.N.-controlled cantonments, are virtually sitting ducks for the Khmer Rouge in its bid to seize as much territory as possible in Cambodia."

The editorial concluded that time is running out for Cambodia and it is time that the U.N. "swallow its pride and accept the fact that the peace accords agreed upon in October 1991 are not working."

Top Serbian general blames Germany, Vatican

General Zhitovota Panic, the chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the so-called Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia (S.R.Y.), blamed Germany and the Vatican for the war in the Balkans, in an interview with the newspaper of the Russian military, *Krasnaya Zvezda*, early in February. When asked why the West was supposedly "one-sided" in enforcing sanctions against Serbia, he replied: "If we were to speak about Germany, it has always been an enemy of the united and strong Yugoslavia. And . . .

none other than Germany, jointly with the Vatican, were the initiators of the acute aggravation of nationalism and separatism in Croatia and Slovenia.”

Panic added, “It was in conformity with their scenario that the collapse of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia began.” He also claimed that the United States viewed the collapse of Yugoslavia as the collapse of its communist system and as a state which “failed to become compatible with the new world order.”

“God forbid,” warned Panic, “but if a possible military intervention on the part of the West and of certain Islamic states follows, we will have to regard it as a flagrant act of armed aggression against Serbs and Montenegrins, against Slavs in general. In that case, in line with the decision of the S.R.Y. leaders, the Army will make use of its entire potential. We are prepared to make the greatest possible sacrifices in the interests of the defense of the independence and sovereignty of the S.R.Y., the territory of Serbia and Montenegro.”

War in Balkans 'a western catastrophe'

A commentary in the major Danish daily *Jyllands-Posten* on Feb. 9 attacked the bankruptcy of western policy in the Balkan war, and called for giving immediate air support to Bosnia. Vienna correspondent Per Nyholm's article was titled “Balkans—a Western Catastrophe.”

“The drama in the Balkans which has lasted for almost two years, has been a catastrophe both for the nations directly involved and for the West,” he wrote. “Croatia and Bosnia lie in ruins, smashed to pieces by Serbia, which itself is peering into the abyss of national bankruptcy. At the same time, important western and international institutions are falling apart, because they are not effectively handling the southern Slavic conflict. . . .”

All of the promises made by the West to Bosnia and Croatia “seem like sick reading. Not one of them has been upheld. They were just as empty as the reprisals with which

the western politicians threatened the Serbs, without scaring anyone other than themselves.

“On the western side, people like [Serbian leaders] Milosevic and Karadzic are branded as war criminals, who ought to stand before an international tribunal. At the same time, we negotiate with them as if they were honorable men. . . .”

“One thing for sure is that the Serbians will not behave correctly. They never do. . . . [European negotiator Lord] Owen clutches his abortion of a peace—and threatens the Muslims with Security Council sanctions. This is a capitulation unparalleled since Munich 1938. And as such will they be remembered, Vance and Owen . . . as Munich-politicians.

“Serbia is not Germany before World War II—or the Soviet Union after World War II. Serbia is a nation of 10 million people and an army which has known better days, an impoverished, demoralized, and aggressive nation with no friends worth mentioning, but nonetheless a nation which has chased the West into a mousehole. If our free institutions cannot stop this mixed bag of communists, fascists, war hysterics, and real gangsters who control Belgrade and now threaten to start a war from the Alps to the Aegean Sea, then we are in danger.”

Turkey: 'Back us against Islamic fundamentalism'

The West should support the role of Turkey as a “bulwark against Islamic fundamentalism,” in economic as well as in military terms, declared Turkish Economics Minister Tansu Ciller in a speech in Bonn, Germany on Feb. 8.

The minister portrayed Turkey as a frontline state against the spreading westward of radical and aggressive Islamic currents, as witnessed in the Caucasian tinderbox, and said that the Turkish government had already spent \$2 billion for economic initiatives and cultural programs aiming at the neutralization of this threat. More was required, and the West, especially Germany, should contribute much more to assist the Turks, he said.

Briefly

● **THE WEST** must make Russia a partner in all important policy decisions, said Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the former German foreign minister, in an interview with the daily *Stuttgarter Zeitung* published Feb. 12. He mentioned specifically the crisis in the Balkans and other problems that affect the security of Europe, the Group of Seven talks on economic matters, and the extension to the east of the European Community,

● **THE ARGENTINE** daily *La Nación* reported a demonstration at the White House on Jan. 27 by supporters of Lyndon LaRouche, under the headline, “A Political Prisoner in the Superpower?” The newspaper, which is linked to the Army, mentioned that among 1,000 dignitaries who had signed a petition to President Clinton demanding LaRouche's freedom, was former Argentine President Arturo Frondizi.

● **JORDANIAN** Prime Minister Shafrif Zeid Bin Shaker called for an end to the embargo against Iraq, and told parliament that Jordan would spare no effort in backing Iraq with diplomacy. “We have to intensify our efforts to break Iraq's isolation and we are sincerely seeking that,” he said on Feb. 7.

● **ALGERIA'S** military junta extended the state of emergency indefinitely. Although the move was expected, the extension of emergency rule underscores the inability of the government to put down the militant Islamic opposition after a year of military rule. The country's economic crisis is a major factor in the continuing unrest.

● **THE IRAQI** newspaper *Al-Iraqi* serialized *EIR's* book *George Bush: The Unauthorized Biography*, by Anton Chaitkin and Webster G. Tarpley. The book appeared in 12 installments, ending on U.S. election day, Nov. 3, 1992.

It is time to rediscover Renaissance perspective

by Warren A.J. Hamerman

The Heritage of Giotto's Geometry: Art and Science on the Eve of the Scientific Revolution

by Samuel Y. Edgerton, Jr.,
Cornell University Press, Ithaca, N.Y., 1991
319 pages, hardbound, \$39.95

The greatest disproof of the Enlightenment's assertion that Christianity, science, and art are incompatible—an assertion fallen to the level of cynical slogans among cultural relativists, modernists, and the “political correctness” mafia today—is the creative discovery and application of Renaissance perspective from Giotto through Leonardo and Raphael. Renaissance perspective, the happy child of classical geometry and Christian theology, has the proven power to inspire and transform individual human beings through their interaction with beauty.

According to one of the world's leading Renaissance art historians, the Christian artist-scientist has become one of the prime targets of the political correctness crowd:

“In the current debate about critical theory and methodology there is increasing insistence that linear perspective and chiaroscuro be understood only as artificial symbols with a linguistic-like sign system expressing the peculiar values of Western civilization. Radical supporters of this latest relativism (‘multiculturalists,’ as they now like to call themselves) argue that during the renaissance, upper-class patrons championed linear perspective because it affirmed their exclusive political power. Single-viewpoint perspective, after all, encourages the ‘male gaze,’ thus voyeurism and the denigration

of women, police-state surveillance, and imperialist ‘marginalizing of the other.’ ”

The hoax of those who reject Christian civilization as the product of “dead white European males,” is that they overlook the fact that the two greatest shapers of Christian culture were two converts—St. Paul, an Asian Jew, and St. Augustine, an African, born in what is today Algeria.

Why do the champions of primitivism and disorder so tremble at the achievement of Renaissance perspective?

First and foremost, it is because it brings man closer to the God. Just as God creates “all that is seen and unseen” out of the void and emptiness, so the artist-scientist can create a believable receding space, where created figures interact and dialogue in what was once only an empty, blank plane. Through perspective man perceives created space in approximation of the “vision of God.” *Perspectiva*, from the Latin *perspicere* means “to see through.”

Secondly, it is universal. While the discovery and application of Renaissance perspective is not part of the art of China, Islam, or other cultures, pictures created with it can be read and understood by men and women of every race and creed. The great discoveries of western civilization, to be sure, are inconceivable without the rich cultural inputs from other cultures, yet the fact remains, that it was on the European Christian artistic palette that the different paints mixed.

Thirdly, the perspective “revolution” in painting, sculpture, and architecture begun in the time of Giotto (1300) and completed in 15th-century Florence, based on the rediscovery of Euclidean geometry, Archimedean optics, etc., demonstrated that there was no contradiction between Classical learning and Christian humanism.

Johannes Kepler later expressed the underlying theological significance of man's truth-seeking through geometry in

the following way (as quoted by Edgerton):

"The Creator, the true first cause of geometry . . . as Plato says, always geometrizes. . . . [His] laws lie within the power of understanding of the human mind; God wanted us to perceive them when He created us in His image in order that we may take part in His own thoughts."

Renaissance painters were the first to challenge the fixed assumptions of the celestial spheres. Artist-scientists from Giotto's frescoes in the Basilica in Assisi through Raphael's incomparable, spherically curved perspective in the theological *Disputa* fresco in the Vatican demonstrated that all space, heavenly and earthly, is perceived as obeying the same physical properties and geometric rules. Furthermore, the founders of modern science later born in the late 16th century—William Gilbert, Tycho Brahe, Johannes Kepler, among others—were among the first Europeans to be exposed to the illustrated scientific text.

By the mid-15th century Renaissance artists considered the mastery of geometry and optics as essential to their training. The two most important scientific instruments which are our inheritance from the principles of Renaissance perspective were the microscope and the telescope.

Thus, it is in the study and application of perspective, where the aesthetic aspects of geometry and optics are emphasized, that the discoverer and viewer achieve a complete union overcoming the false dichotomies between art and science, and faith and reason.

Franciscan optics

There is ancient literary evidence that "backdrops" and sets in perspective were first employed by the stage designer for Aeschylus (525-456 B.C.). Euclid's *Optica* had presented the first geometric constructions of the visual ray and cone of vision, yet optical "perspective" is quite a different matter from "pictorial perspective." Certainly, the writings on geometry and optics from Euclid (ca. 300 B.C.), Archimedes (282-212 B.C.), through Ptolemy in the second century A.D., demonstrate man's attempts to conceptualize and explore the way in which three-dimensional space is projected onto a two-dimensional surface. Ptolemy's *Geographica*, for instance, presented a projection of the spherical form of the Earth onto a two-dimensional surface. This is the earliest known linear perspective construction of the globe. Yet the surviving art and illuminations from the Middle Ages display primitive difficulties in depicting a convincing geometrization of pictorial space.

So the situation remained through the 13th century when the followers of St. Francis of Assisi at the time of Dante (himself likely a member of the lay or Third Order Franciscans), discovered the power of art for making mysterious and complex Christian religious conceptions more readily accessible. Around 1300 Dante called perspective the "handmaiden of geometry."

The Franciscan story begins with Roger Bacon (1214-

94), an English Franciscan friar, who adapted the optics of Euclid and Ptolemy to the Christian idea of how God spreads His divine grace through the universe. Bacon believed that the Christian effort to retake the Holy Land from the Saracens had collapsed in 1254 because of insufficient mastery by the Christians of optics and geometry. In 1267 Bacon sent his *Opus majus* to Pope Clement IV, writing:

"Oh, how the ineffable beauty of the divine wisdom would shine and infinite benefit would overflow, if these matters relating to geometry, which are contained in Scripture, should be placed before our eyes in corporeal figurations! For thus the evil of the world would be destroyed by a deluge of grace."

The fusing of geometry and picture making first took root in the art adorning the new basilica being built to honor St. Francis at Assisi. The frescoes depicted the dramatic episodes of St. Francis's life as well as stories from the Old and New Testament. In 1288 Girolamo of Ascoli, the Minister General of the Franciscan Order, was elected pope (Nicholas IV).

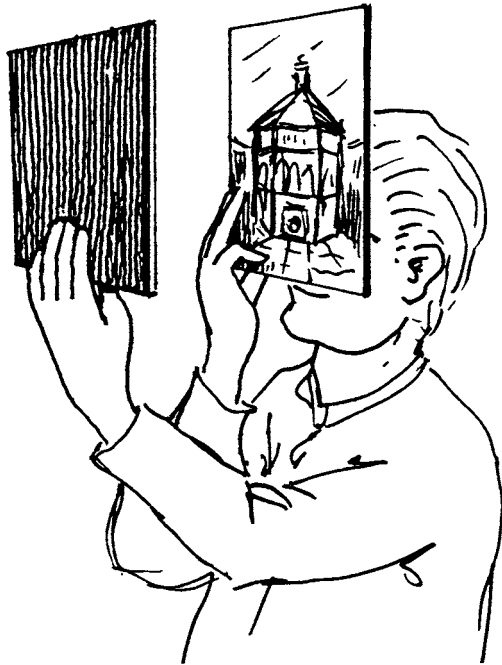
Then in 1306 the great artist of the Franciscans, Giotto (1266-1337), a student of another Franciscan-linked painter Cimabue (active ca. 1272-1302), painted 38 Biblical frescoes in the Scrovegni (Arena) Chapel in Padua. Giotto makes a revolution in the concept of space by showing people actually within landscape and architecture settings, not just in front of them as if they were painted backdrops.

Above the frescoes in the Upper Church in Assisi, the Franciscan artists painted in imaginary framing borders and architectural modillions in convincing perspective. Within the frames the figurative scenes of St. Francis's life were depicted for the first time in perspective—crowd scenes, dialogues, and interaction among figures in complex architectural spaces.

At the Arena Chapel in Padua (a city which was, by the way, the greatest European center of the Franciscan order after Assisi) Giotto created one perspective masterpiece after another. In an Annunciation scene spanning both sides of the triumphal arch before the apse in true divergent perspective, the two depicted buildings in which the Virgin Mary and Gabriel kneel are overlapped below by a painted frame, creating the illusion that these structures are outside, beyond the wall of the Arena Chapel. It was only through being able to place the interacting figures on a "perspective" floorplan that Giotto was able to depict such tender interactions among a number of figures as in the Lamentation or the Epiphany.

Only a few years after the death of Giotto, in 1348, the Black Death erupted. Despite the fact that Giotto had trained a new generation of artists, under the conditions of a holocaust of disease, mass deaths, and cultural pessimism, there were no fundamental developments in the art and science of perspective.

When the subsequent generation recovered around the turn of the 15th century, as the following contemporary ac-



Brunelleschi viewing the mirror reflection of his first perspective picture, of the Florentine baptistry; from the sketch in Samuel Edgerton's book.

count documents, the impact of Cimabue and Giotto was viewed as the birth of what became known as the Florentine Renaissance; or as Filippo Villani wrote ca. 1400 in *De origine civitatis Florentiae et eiusdem famosis civibus (On the Origin of the City of Florence and on Its Famous Citizens)*:

“After Cimabue, with the road now laid on fresh foundations, Giotto . . . restored painting to its pristine dignity and high reputation. For pictures formed by his brush follow nature’s outlines so closely that they seem to the observer to live and breathe.”

Also in 1400, the first copy of Ptolemy’s *Geographica* arrived in Florence, with its projection of the sphere onto two dimensions.

Brunelleschi and Florentine perspective

There are various versions to the timing and history of the extraordinary breakthrough achieved by Filippo Brunelleschi in perspective.

One version is that in the year 1424, Paolo dal Pozzo Toscanelli (1397-1482), the great mathematician, cosmographer, and physician who later reportedly made the map used by Columbus on his 1492 voyage to America, returned from Padua to Florence. He is said to have written several books on perspective, now lost. Toscanelli had been a schoolmate of Nicolaus of Cusa at the University of Padua and his lifelong friend and collaborator. Cusa dedicated his work on the *Mathematical Complements to Theology* to him. Toscanelli,

according to early biographers, became the mathematics teacher and adviser of Brunelleschi. In collaboration with Toscanelli, the great architect Brunelleschi (1377-1446), best known for his magnificent, octagonally ribbed dome over Florence Cathedral, demonstrated the geometric-optical principles of perspective by painting a true facsimile of the Florentine Baptistry, in true scale and perspective as seen from the door of the cathedral across the piazza. The viewer stood in the door of the cathedral, held a mirror at arm’s length, and looked through a peephole in the back of the painted Baptistry panel into the mirror. In the mirror he saw the Baptistry exactly as if he were looking at it directly. The top of the panel was silvered so that the reflections of actual moving clouds moved above the imaginary baptistry. Other scholars argue that Brunelleschi executed his Baptistry panel as early as 1413 based upon a document of that year which specifically mentions Brunelleschi’s interest in *prespettivo* (sic).

In either version, the year, 1425, is given as the founding year of Renaissance perspective in Art. Using the rules and principles of pictorial perspective worked out and demonstrated by Brunelleschi, two of his students—the artist Masaccio and the sculptor Donatello—implemented his approach. In that year Masaccio painted the Trinity fresco in the Church of Santa Maria Novella using a magnificent single-point perspective. The Holy Trinity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (depicted as a dove) are placed in a realistic architectural space. Below the Trinity is a skeleton which has the inscription, “Where you are now, I once was; where I am now, you will soon be.” The centric point of the perspective, below the feet of Christ, is at the exact eye level of the average Florentine citizen of the time, thereby working to pull the viewer into the painting.

Obviously, the subject of man’s relation to the Trinity was not irrelevant to the artist-scientist since these were the very years in Florence that a faction was growing, shortly to succeed in the Council of Florence, in reunifying the Eastern and Western Churches around St. Augustine’s emphasis on the notion that became embodied in the *Filioque* section of the Nicene creed. “Filioque,” Latin for “and from the Son,” refers to the conception that the Holy Spirit proceeds both from the Father *and from the Son*. As understood in Christianity, this idea was associated with the fact that man was imitating Christ through his contributions to his fellow man, particularly through his artistic creations and scientific discoveries.

During the roughly one century which followed the 1425 “founding year” of Renaissance perspective, the masterpieces which culminated in the achievements of Leonardo and Raphael unfolded. In this century, various treatises and manuals on perspective were written.

In 1434 in his famous work dedicated to Brunelleschi, *Della Pittura*, Leon Battista Alberti summarized the rules and principles of perspective as then known. He described the panel or canvas plane as a “window” through which the

artist sees into the entire space he creates by following certain geometric rules: "First of all, on the surface I am going to paint, I draw a rectangle of whatever size I want, which I regard as an open window through which the subject to be painted is seen."

The great painter Piero della Francesca (1410/20-92) published works "On the Perspective of Painting" and in 1485 a book on the five regular solids, an illustrated commentary on the *Five Regular Solids* which Plato had demonstrated fit in a sphere. Piero constructed elaborate perspective drawings of these complex faceted figures and their semi-regular variants.

In 1509 Fra Luca Pacioli (1445-1517), a Franciscan brother in Milan, published *The Divine Proportion* with woodcut illustrations based on original drawings by Leonardo da Vinci illustrating the way in which the regular and semi-regular solids behave in geometric space.

However, the most advanced writings on perspective were not published at all, but only privately circulated. These were the famous *Notebooks* of Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519). In his notebooks *On Perspective for Painters* Leonardo developed the idea that there are three different interrelated types of perspective:

1) Linear perspective, or the perspective of diminution, which was the system developed by Brunelleschi, Alberti, and others, to create a geometry of receding space on the plane; by exact geometric laws the figure grew smaller as it was located further back in the space.

2) Perspective of color, or the fact that hues closer to the foreground of the painting were brighter and fuller than the hues in the distance;

3) Perspective of form, of the fact that as figures receded they were more geometrical in shape with less detail.

Not only did Leonardo devise this threefold nature of perspective. He showed that the continuous space which receded into the picture was divided at regular intervals just as the continuous "glissando" tones in an octave interval, are divided into the notes of a musical scale. Thus, Leonardo explored the common laws of harmonics that govern the visual and musical "scale."

Leonardo also discovered the perspective of "curvature" to correct certain anomalies in linear perspective. For instance, the outer and inner columns in a row are necessarily distorted if they are projected onto a fixed centric line on the plane. If, however, the perspective lines are projected onto a circle and then onto the plane the correct scale is created.

Based upon his learning the "secrets" of perspective from the Italians, in the 16th century the German artist Albrecht Dürer published his famous *Painter's Manual* and *Books on Human Proportion*.

The artist-engineer

If Christian civilization is to be revived, it must rediscover the central conception of the interrelationship among

art, science, technology, and economic development. During the Renaissance men such as Brunelleschi and Leonardo da Vinci were the most accomplished of a new class of "artist-engineers" who used their skill in geometry and the arts to lead technology projects for civilian and military purposes, from moving rivers, to weaponry and fortifications; from great architectural achievements to the invention of labor-saving machines.

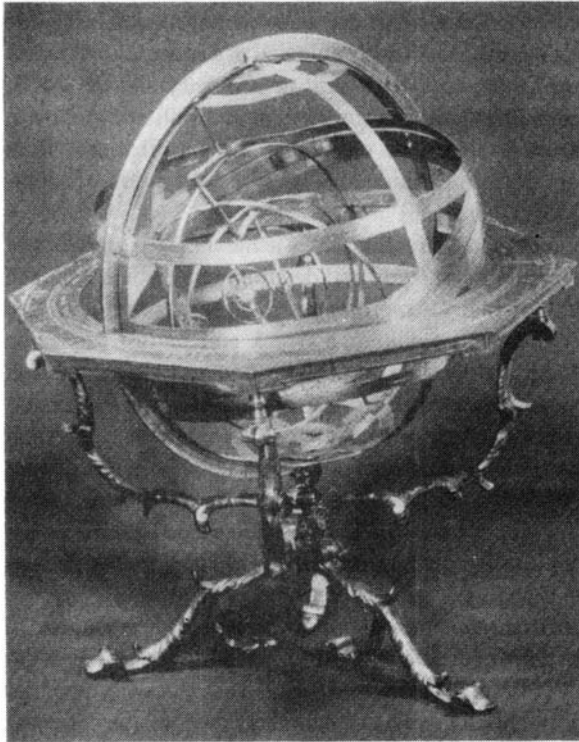
Leonardo and Brunelleschi's achievements grew out of several centuries of study and development, which included the study of many Arab manuscripts. As early as the 12th century, heretofore unknown Greek and Latin treatises on mechanics, architecture, aqueducts, and military technologies began to circulate in European courts. After the 13th century a tradition developed among court engineers to test their ideas by drawing diagrams of military and civilian machines on paper. Through the use of perspective, the Renaissance artist-engineers were able to transform crude squashed view sketches into the modern precise "exploded" views of engineering drawing.

The two critical men in this development were Mariano di Jacopo, called Taccola (1381-1483) and Francisco di Giorgio Martini (1439-1501), both of Siena. Taccola, whose mentor was Brunelleschi, was to become known as the "Sienese Archimedes" through his two texts "On Engines" and "On Machines" which were accompanied by 200 of his own drawings. He devised ways of showing the three-dimensional interior mechanics of complex pumps and machines with perspective foreshortening and chiaroscuro. *Chiaroscuro* is an Italian term that means "light/dark." Francesco di Giorgio wrote and illustrated the inner workings of fortifications, hydraulics, military weaponry, gearing, and jacking for hauling, lifting, and milling, and many pumping devices. Leonardo da Vinci's famous engineering drawings on these subjects represented, of course, a qualitative advance in these areas, because he was brilliantly able to elucidate the way in which power is transferred through the various mechanisms of his labor-saving machines and inventions.

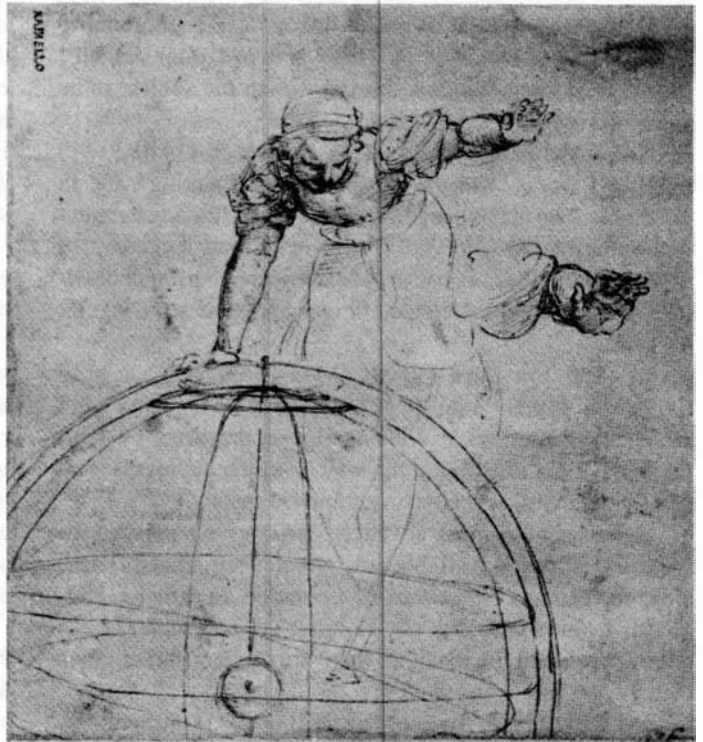
Negative spherical curvature of heavenly space

Even more crucial to the survival of Christian civilization than practical engineering technology, was the way in which Renaissance artist-scientists were able to represent the geometrization of the supernatural and heavenly space. Artist-scientists such as the Dominicans Fra Filippo Lippi and Fra Angelico were able to portray the most divine moments such as the Annunciation with such tenderness and universality that they became accessible to the crudest viewer. In his *Notebooks* Leonardo asks his reader to judge which is more powerful—the words of Christ written as text on the wall of a chapel or an image of Christ's life artfully depicted on the wall of the next chapel.

No artist-scientist better solved this challenge than Raphael Sanzio of Urbino, who in 1509 at the age of 26 came



An armillary sphere, used in the Renaissance for charting the heavens and for navigation.



Raphael Sanzio: Astronomy, detail of a sketch for the ceiling of the Stanza della Segnatura.

to Rome and was given the assignment of Pope Julius II (Giuliano della Rovere) to fresco the walls of the new papal quarters. The first of the rooms is the famous Stanza della Segnatura, the “Signature Room,” a private library where the pope wished to keep his own collection of books in low cupboards, and subsequently used for the signing of important documents.

During the very months that Raphael was painting the Stanza frescoes, Luca Pacioli’s *On Divine Proportion* was published.

The frescoed walls of the Signature Room glorify the themes of Truth, Good, and Beauty. Facing one another are the *School of Athens* and the *Disputà* or *Discussion on the Blessed Sacrament*, representing natural Truth and revealed Christian Truth. Each of these two masterpieces creates a perspective such that the viewer is looking from the centerpoint of a sphere to the inner surface of a spherical quadrant. On the other walls the concept of Beauty, inspired by poetry, is depicted in *Mount Parnassus* facing the Good in the *Theological and Cardinal Virtues* and in *Law*, both ecclesiastical and civil. The ceiling decorations echo the same concepts.

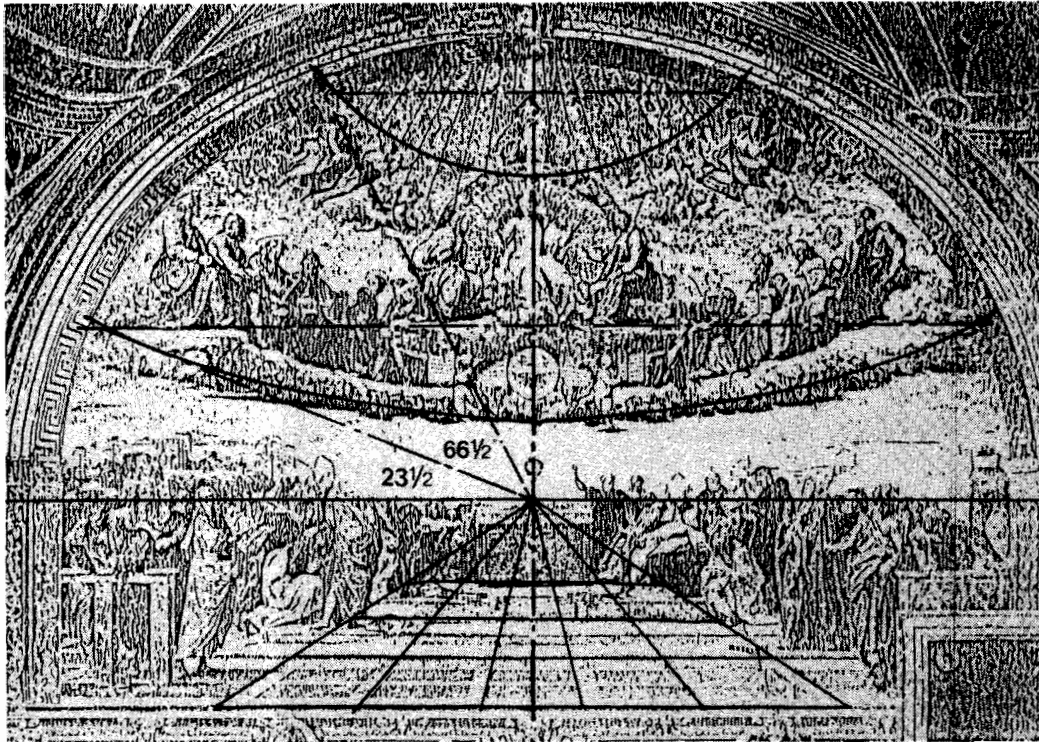
In his book Samuel Edgerton devotes an entire thrilling chapter to the perspective geometry of Raphael’s initial fresco on Theology, the *Disputà*, and related works, which demonstrates that the artist created a geometry as if it were the inside of an armillary sphere. From the time of Ptolemy, the

armillary sphere placed the zodiac constellations and was used for understanding the geometry of the cosmos. Edgerton proposes that the artist decided to lay out the *Disputà* along the curves where the metal rings forming the hollow sphere would be.

There are a record number of preparatory drawings, 45 in all, for this fresco. Raphael creates a perspective of negative curvature on the inside surface of a spherical quadrant. The viewer stands with his feet at the center of the sphere as he looks up and outward onto receding curved inner surface. From his earliest sketches, Raphael had the solution of arraying his figures in three symmetrical parallel horizontal tiers of curving clouds with open sky space between.

Along the points where the framing meridians of the armillary sphere intersected the long curves of the Arctic Circle and the Tropic of Cancer, Raphael placed, respectively, the heads of six angels flying on either side of God the Father (the “horizon” of which passes above his halo) and the upper side of the cloud-bank dais on which the prophets, apostles, and martyrs were to sit below.

In the painting he shows the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit descending in a series of repeated circles. At the base of this heavenly radius there is an altar on which Jesus Christ presents himself as on earth through human history in the transubstantiated form of the Eucharist. The circular Host is displayed in a monstrance. Raphael places the centric van-



Compositional diagram of Raphael's Disputa.

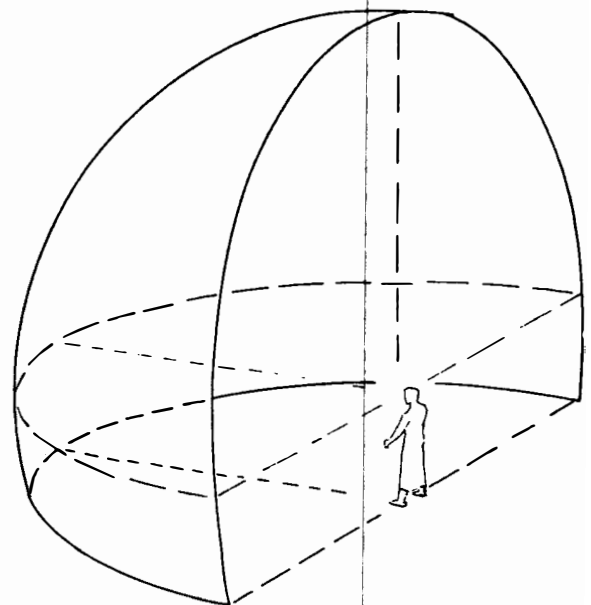
ishing point at the precise point where the main equator horizon crosses the stem of the monstrance. The centric vanishing point on the main horizon is of course the point which governs the entire perspective of the depicted architecture. According to one of the basic principles of Florentine Renaissance perspective, Raphael calculated this vanishing point to be at the same height as the intended viewer. Alberti, in fact, had written in his 1434 Treatise:

"The suitable position for this centric [vanishing] point is no higher from the base line than the height of the man to be represented in the painting, for in this way both the viewers and the objects in the painting will seem to be on the same plane."

Edgerton comments: "Despite the fact that the base line of the fresco is considerably above the floor of the Stanza della Segnatura, we are able to conceive ourselves standing in the fictive foreground of the picture, on the extended gridded pavement just half way between two males in togas gesturing toward the altar at right and left. Once 'within' the painting, we see immediately the eyes of these figures, like ours, are exactly level with the vanishing point. Moreover, Raphael intended this point, the radial center of the entire picture, to signify that God is the center of the universe; he descends from heaven to the circular earth, appearing to humankind in the form of the circular Host."

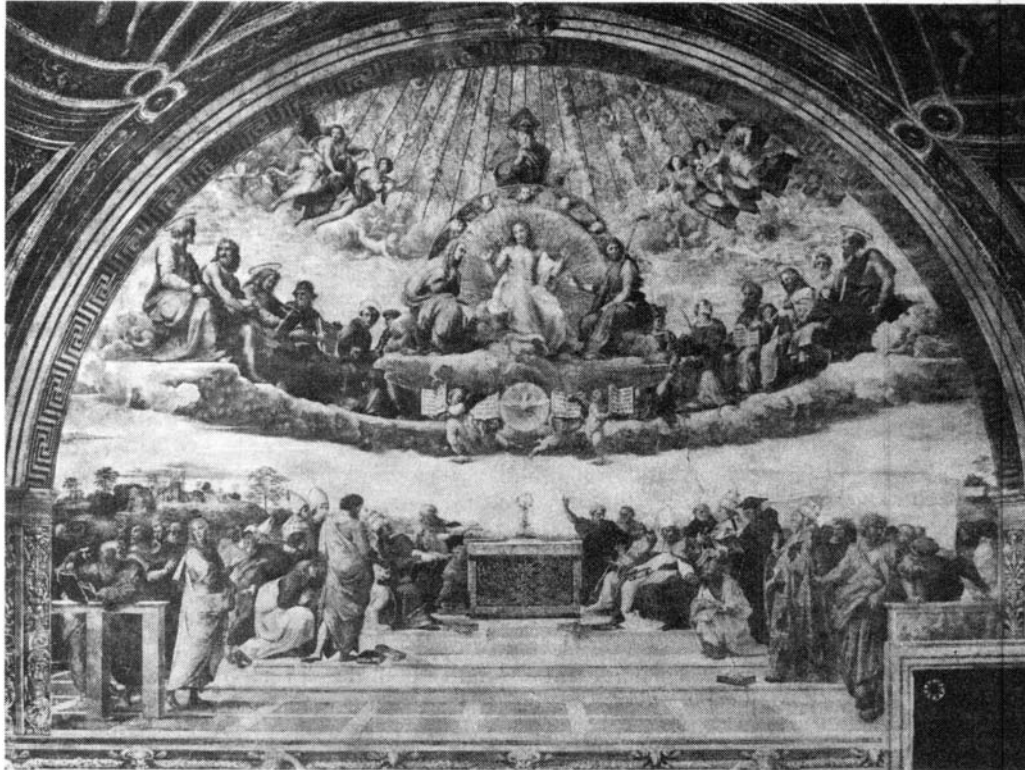
The geometrization of astronomical space

Space does not allow us to do justice to the closing two



Spherical quadrant.

chapters of Edgerton's book. One presents the application of Renaissance perspective to astronomy around the focus of Galileo Galilei's work and contains some very impressive wash drawings of the moon done by Galileo in 1609. The

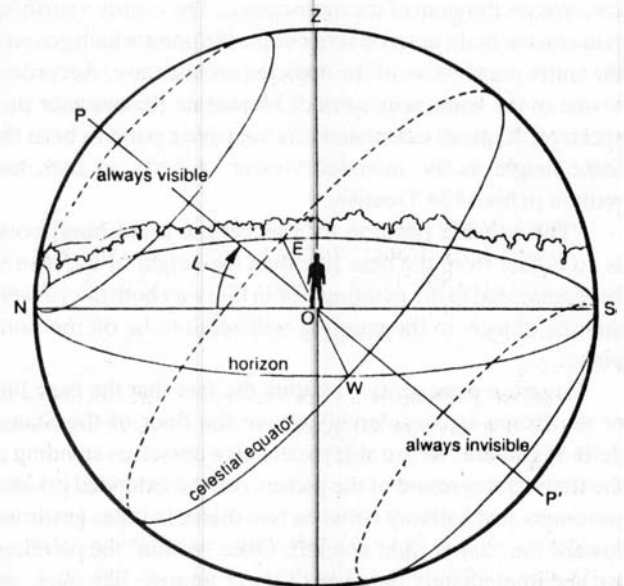


Raphael Sanzio: *Disputa (Theology), the fresco facing the School of Athens (Natural Science) in the Stanza della Segnatura, 1509.*

last chapter is a fascinating account of the way in which Father Matteo Ricci centered his attempts to evangelize the Chinese around demonstrating the power of Renaissance perspective both in painting and because of its utility in astronomy. The study of astronomy and the heavens was recognized by Ricci and his colleagues as the intellectual passion of the Chinese people. Ricci and his Jesuit colleagues, basing themselves on the successes in New Spain, presented glorious perspective etchings of subjects such as the Nativity and Annunciation not only as teaching devices to those unable to read. More fundamentally, the beauty and power of perspective paintings was “proof” that the Creator lived and can be imitated on earth in art and science.

Today, as the world is wracked by incredible crises which threaten the very fabric of mankind, Renaissance perspective is the most under-utilized strategic asset of Christian civilization. It is not accidental that there is a correspondence in this century between incredible suffering for mankind through world war, starvation, and disease, and the fact that “modern art” is based upon a war on perspective. Whatever else one may say or think about the various zoological species of modern art, its essence is to destroy all moorings on the canvas. Without perspective there is no ordering relationship between the viewer and the created space. The very idea of the artist-scientist imitating the Creator is forgotten and man is left helpless and hopeless in a sea of endless anxieties and crises.

The study and revival of the lost art-science of Renais-



Perspective diagram of star orbits around the earth.

sance perspective—this tested method proven to uplift and comfort, inspire vision and cause truth-seeking and creative solutions—is the key to the victory of the civilization of all cultures over barbarism.

Understanding Johannes Brahms

Brahms String Quartets, New Budapest Quartet, Hyperion 66651-52

Complete Brahms Violin Sonatas, Zino Francescatti and Robert Casadesus, Library of Congress 74321

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Brahms Cello and Piano Sonatas Yo-Yo Ma and Emanuel Ax, Sony SK48191

Brahms Handel Variations, Emanuel Ax, Sony SK48046

Several new CDs of Brahms's chamber works contain clues about why modern listeners have so much trouble listening to, let alone composing, classical music. Brahms, the last great classical composer (d. 1897), was trying to convey to the next generation of musicians the uniquely classical method of constructing his compositions from an idea conceived in the composer's mind as a unit, for which Lyndon LaRouche uses the term "thought object."

This process is described in *Johannes Brahms as a Man, Teacher, and Artist*, by Brahms's student Gustav Jenner (1865-1920), quoted in the Schiller Institute's 1992 *Manual on the Rudiments of Tuning and Registration*.

Most Brahms listeners and performers today are attracted to what they call his "passion," heard as sheer sensuality, getting carried away by "lush" violin or piano sounds. Others may believe they dislike Brahms for being "heavy" or "gloomy," with "strange harmonies." In fact, Brahms's emotional power flows from the rigorous unity of the idea behind each work which drives the particular notes to the conclusion—just as we find in the music of Bach, Beethoven, and Mozart—but with Brahms's own creative personality.

Not a 'leitmotiv'

The New Budapest String Quartet's recent release of Brahms string quartets are an exceptionally integrated performance, faithful to his intent to "maintain one fundamental mood throughout," as the liner notes put it. Zino Francescatti and Robert Casadesus playing three violin and piano sonatas, one of the Library of Congress's live recordings from 1949-52, also achieve unity.

Less successful is the 1931-33 recording of the violin-piano sonatas by Adolf Busch and Rudolf Serkin, who seem so much in a hurry that they fail to draw out the internal voices. That is, even those who recognize "Brahms's principle of unification," as EMI's notes say, often have no idea of the *ordering principle* by which it is produced.

The unity here is not the mere repetition of a passage, as in the leitmotiv of Brahms's antagonist Richard Wagner, in which you know when the dwarf is coming by his theme song. Yo-Yo Ma and Emanuel Ax's expressive version of Brahms's cello-piano sonatas goes a bit off here, by *only* emphasizing the different passages in Op. 38, for example, whose material is taken from J.S. Bach's "Art of the Fugue."

As Jenner's book makes clear, the unit concept is not a repetition, but rather a *transformation* of basic material, which itself is a unit. Brahms trained his students on theme and variations, Jenner writes, because it demands that a composer take an entire poetic unit, the theme, inside his mind, and transform it:

"In the variation form, that which is essential is given in the theme; in the preservation of this essence within the form, the mind is exercised and sharpened, and the imagination grows more profound, in that it becomes accustomed to exhausting the content of

an idea. . . .

"It is certainly not enough to merely ornament the theme's melody with a few arabesques; on the contrary, the object is to penetrate deeply into the core of the theme, and out of it, to invent new things, without, however, violating the form of the theme. . . ."

Bass pedal point

To ensure the transformation be never arbitrary, Brahms guided Jenner to focus on the pedal point of the bass line of the theme: "Here, too, the variation, the development, must proceed from what is already given, if the whole is not to take on the impression of arbitrariness. 'You must always keep your goal fixed before your eyes, and that is only possible when the bass line is firmly established; otherwise you're floating in the air. . . ."

"'The bass is more important than the melody,' Brahms said. Not that this bass line had to be preserved under all circumstances; but through the complementary and explicatory melodic line of the bass, the melody of the upper voices first takes on a definite physiognomy, and a *variation of the bass can modify the entire character of a melody more strongly than a variation of this melody itself.*"

That power of the pedal point is shown in Brahms's piano "Variations on a Theme by Handel" Op. 24, which turns Handel's opening three bass notes, B-flat-A+B-flat, into the pedal point for all his extensive 24 variations. Through diminution and transposition of this into the soprano voice, Brahms also creates from it the motif of all the variations. But alter one note of those three, and the sonata-length whole is radically changed (see the Schiller Institute's *A Manual on the Rudiments of Tuning and Registration*, pp. 231-6, especially Figure 12.9).

Clinton's economic plan 'guaranteed to be a flop'

by Kathleen Klenetsky

It is difficult to imagine an economic policy orientation much worse than the one which President Bill Clinton outlined in his State of the Union address on Feb. 17. In the face of the deepest depression in recent history, Clinton offered next to nothing in the way of a positive program for economic reconstruction. He proposed instead a package of spending cuts and one of the largest tax hikes in U.S. history (\$500 billion), whose combined effect will be to further weaken the economy, and hurt most the very low- and middle-income segments of the population whose interests he claimed to represent during the campaign.

Former Democratic presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche identified the key flaw in Clinton's program in a radio interview on Feb. 18. "There are features of it which are possibly workable, and even represent emotions moving in the right direction, but the program overall is guaranteed to be a flop in its present form."

He reiterated that there is a "misdiagnosis of the problem by the Clinton administration." "As long as they do not touch the Federal Reserve System and its problems, there is no possibility—no matter how stringent or austere the measures—of dealing with the growth of the total national debt or the growth of the fiscal bite of the debt into the operating budgets," LaRouche stressed.

"Let us assume that President Clinton is going to carry out the program of Ross Perot," LaRouche added. "Ross Perot would assuredly be *as big a failure* on this count as Clinton. Obviously, we would expect that if Bush had been elected, he would have done pretty much the same. So any of the three leading candidates, which the voters voted for, would have done as badly as Clinton is doing right now. The thinking of any of them would have assured us a catastrophe."

LaRouche, who ran against Clinton, Perot, and Bush in

1992, has been a federal political prisoner since 1989 because he challenged the very economic powers which his rivals answer to.

Forward! bravely over the cliff

While praised by the U.S. establishment press for its "boldness" in proposing "painful measures," Clinton's program set off alarm bells in many foreign capitals (see article, p. 4). In Tokyo, Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa told a news conference that Clinton's program could signal a new trade war on Japan.

Dictated for all intents and purposes by the international financial markets, Clinton's package represents the antithesis of what is required to salvage the collapsing U.S. economy. What the country needs is an aggressive growth program, based on nationalizing the Federal Reserve, transforming it from a feeding-trough for the private commercial banks into a source of low-interest credit for productive investments and job creation.

But what the country got from Clinton is a program designed to keep the bankrupt financial system afloat for a little bit longer, by driving down consumption and shortchanging what remains of the productive economy.

Pain and agony

Garbed in rhetoric about "equality of sacrifice" and "shifting from consumption to investment," the Clinton economic package includes these key elements:

- A tax increase on so-called "wealthy" senior citizens. Under this provision, retirees with incomes of \$25,000-plus for individuals (or \$32,000 for couples) will be forced to pay an additional 35% tax on their Social Security benefits, at a time when falling property values and interest rates have

already eroded the elderly's standard of living.

- A BTU tax, i.e., a tax on the heat content of energy, which will cost Americans an estimated \$30 billion a year. One of the most highly regressive taxes imaginable, this levy will adversely affect the economy across the board, raising the cost of gasoline, heating oil, food, transportation, and so forth, while making all forms of industrial and agricultural processes more expensive.

- Deep cuts in Medicare. Although Clinton took great pains in his State of the Union speech to insist that he was not asking Medicare beneficiaries, but only health-care providers, to pay more, similar cutbacks in the past have had a devastating impact on the quality of health care, and have sent many hospitals into bankruptcy.

- A freeze on federal workers' salaries through 1994.

- An end to all nuclear power research and development—which will deprive the United States of a cheap, reliable power source.

- Cuts in programs such as crop insurance and rural electrification.

- An increase in corporate taxes and personal income taxes for those making over \$180,000. This gambit is supposed to convince the rest of the population that the burden of "sacrifice" is being equally applied.

- A four-year, multibillion-dollar combination of tax incentives and government spending, which falls woefully short of the investment required to revive the economy.

- As-yet-unspecified defense cuts, possibly amounting to \$80 billion or more.

- Clinton also hinted at more "pain and agony" to come, talking repeatedly in his address about the need to rein in health care costs, through stringent cost controls.

The markets talk, Clinton listens

For all Clinton's rhetoric about "sharing the pain," the policy initiatives he announced in his State of the Union represent an historic turning point: For the first time in recent history, the Democratic Party has publicly and formally turned against its traditional constituencies—labor, minorities, the working and middle classes, small business—and enthusiastically embraced Wall Street's agenda.

According to well-informed sources, the package was largely crafted by Robert Rubin, who heads the President's National Economic Council and is about as Wall Street as you can get. Until joining the Clinton camp, he served as co-chairman of the powerful investment bank Goldman Sachs, which is one of the leading players in the derivatives market, the global financial crap shoot responsible for much of the world's economic distress.

Despite his populist rhetoric about fairness, with his economic package Clinton has made his administration a tool of those financial interests who have been responsible for the destruction of the U.S. economy over the last 20 years, and who are now demanding that Americans tighten their belts

to keep these same financial interests fat and happy.

Aside from breaking nearly every campaign promise that he made regarding the economy, the most obvious example being his decision to up taxes on the middle-class rather than cut them, the real problem with Clinton's economic program is that it endorses the bogus view—purveyed by the mass media, Wall Street, and the economic "experts"—that austerity is the only feasible means for getting the economy back on its feet. Clinton would have you believe that measures such as slashing Grandma's Social Security benefits, or raising the price of fuel, will somehow "liberate billions for investment," as he put it in his speech.

But the country's economic problems stem not from spending too much money on Social Security and the like, but from permitting the Federal Reserve to loot the federal Treasury for the profit of private banks, and tolerating two decades' worth of speculation and usury.

The history of Germany in the late 1920s and early 1930s provides graphic evidence that choosing the austerity path will lead to killing off whole sectors of the population, as so-called "useless eaters."

Will it sell?

Immediately after the State of the Union, Clinton and key members of his administration began to fan out across the country in an effort to sell his poor excuse for a policy to the population. Despite instant opinion polls claiming to show overwhelming popular support for the program, the administration is known to be extremely worried about the public's reaction. That fear goes a long way toward explaining why Clinton briefed Ross Perot on his plan before it was announced, part of a frantic effort by the Clinton team to line up Perot behind the program. (Perot pronounced the Clinton speech "very good" in an interview on the ABC News "Nightline" program immediately afterward, but coyly withheld full support, cautioning that "the devil is in the details.")

Getting the program through Congress in anything resembling its current form could well prove impossible. "There's plenty in this for everybody to hate," Joel Prakken, vice president of the St. Louis-based consulting firm Laurence H. Meyer and Associates Ltd., told Reuters.

Republicans have slammed the program, lamenting the fact that it raises taxes, but doesn't include sufficiently draconian spending cuts. Many groups, such as the American Petroleum Institute, have blasted Clinton's energy tax.

And while congressional Democrats have lavished praised on the program, a lot of the applause stems more from a desire to put up a show of unity, rather than enthusiasm for the program itself. Lobbies representing the elderly are already bringing pressure to bear on the White House and Democrats in Congress to soften the attack on Social Security; Democrats from the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, where many federal workers live, are already talking about eliminating Clinton's proposed freeze on federal salaries.

ADL caught spying on 12,000 Americans

by Jeffrey Steinberg

At a Feb. 11 hearing in California Superior Court before Judge Leonard Louie, a San Francisco District Attorney revealed that the raid last December on Anti-Defamation League offices in San Francisco and Los Angeles and the homes of two ADL-linked individuals had turned up files containing sensitive personal data on over 12,000 American citizens and organizations. The ADL, with longstanding ties to organized crime and to Israeli intelligence agencies, is ostensibly a tax-exempt civil rights group explicitly forbidden from engaging in the kinds of activities it now stands accused of conducting.

Assistant District Attorney Tom Dwyer further revealed in open court that among those under surveillance by the ADL network was an Arab-American from Chicago who was arrested by Israeli police on Jan. 25, 1993.

That individual, naturalized American citizen Mohammed Jarad, is still being held by Israeli police on charges that he was a funder of the Islamicist group Hamas. Jarad's wife gave a press conference in Washington, D.C. shortly after his arrest, denying that he had any ties to Hamas. A U.S. resident for over 20 years, Jarad owns a grocery store in Chicago. He was visiting relatives in the West Bank when he was grabbed by Israeli police. His arrest, along with another Chicago area man, prompted protests from the U.S. Embassy in Israel, which was not informed about the detention of two American citizens for several days.

These new revelations about illegal spying by the ADL and their suspected link to Israeli intelligence have sparked another round of loud protests from Arab-American groups. Audrey Shabbas, the head of an Arab-American group in Berkeley, California, told the *San Francisco Examiner* that it "doesn't surprise us at all" to find the San Francisco spy case intersecting the arrests in the West Bank. "With the arrest of Arab-Americans in Israel, we said it must be with information from the ADL."

The Dec. 10 raids that produced the files came as part of a probe into San Francisco Police Inspector Tom Gerard, who was accused of accepting more than \$20,000 from "a South African agent" to pass on classified police files on Arab-Americans, members of the Nation of Islam, and a number of right-wing groups. Those files were believed to have been laundered through the Bay Area office of the ADL.

The so-called South African agent was later identified as

Roy Bullock, a San Francisco-based unlicensed private eye and self-described art dealer who has been on the ADL's payroll for a decade. According to sources close to the police probe, the bulk of the 12,000 dossiers seized in the raids was found in the search of Bullock's residence. The fact that some of the files seized deal with individuals outside the Bay Area conforms to Bullock's profile as a nationally deployed undercover operator for the ADL. According to several persons familiar with Bullock's activities during the 1980s, he periodically showed up in Washington, D.C. to attend national Arab-American conventions and other events. He always carried a large wad of cash and regularly made the rounds of groups on the ADL's "hate list."

ADL broke the law

At the public hearing on Feb. 11, the ADL's local attorney, Jerrold Ladar, implicitly admitted that the raids on the two ADL offices had turned up government records, including Department of Motor Vehicles data that cannot be legally obtained by private groups. The hearing was convened by the DA after Arab-Americans voiced concern that they might be arrested during an upcoming Christian holiday trip to Israel.

In court papers filed at the Feb. 11 hearing, the ADL "adamantly denied that it has ever acted as a conduit for information to any foreign government, or that information contained in its documents would jeopardize the personal safety of those seeking disclosure. Nor is there a basis for the implicit assertion that private ADL documents were communicated to Israel and that as a result the lives of Arab-Americans are threatened."

Court records obtained by *EIR* indicate that the ADL was lying outright in this sworn assertion. As early as July 7, 1961, then-ADL Executive Director Ben Epstein had written to B'nai B'rith official Saul Jofte: "As you know, the Anti-Defamation League for many years has maintained a very important, confidential investigative coverage of Arab activities and propaganda. . . . In order to obtain complete and thorough data on these activities, we must follow the Arab diplomatic corps in their political efforts, lobbying activities, and propaganda programs. . . . Our information, in addition to being essential for our own operations, has been of great value to both the United States State Department and the Israeli government. All data have been made available to both countries with full knowledge to each that we were the sources."

Washington, D.C. sources have alerted *EIR* to the current activities of Israeli Gen. Shimon Erem (ret.), who served for a period of time as the Israeli Consul General in Los Angeles, and who is now reportedly in charge of monitoring Arab activities on the west coast. Erem just returned to Los Angeles from Israel, according to these sources, where he reportedly reviewed, among other things, the potential damage brought about by the San Francisco Gerard-Bullock-ADL scandal.

Virginia death row inmates sue to stop use of electric chair

by Katherine R. Notley

For the first time since the electric chair was introduced in 1890, a U.S. court scheduled an evidentiary hearing to determine whether capital punishment by electrocution constitutes "cruel and unusual" punishment, in violation of the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution. The suit was brought last December by Virginia death row inmate Syvasky L. Poyner as a class action "on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated," in federal court in Virginia. *Poyner v. Murray*, as the case is known, "seeks injunctive and declaratory relief against the unconstitutional practices of the defendants in executing prisoners sentenced to death in Virginia by electrocution," according to Poyner's complaint.

The Virginia establishment has a lot riding on the suppression of this suit. In the eight years from 1985-93 that Mary Sue Terry was attorney general, Virginia has become internationally notorious for its rush to executions, including the May 1992 execution of Roger Keith Coleman, whose claim to innocence was very strong. Terry's last execution before resigning her post to run for governor was Charles Stamper, a man who had been confined to a wheelchair since he was crippled in a prison knifing. With this tradition of "Confederate justice," the U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals dismissed the *Poyner* suit in January 1993, in the course of hearing an appeal from Terry's office regarding a ruling on discovery. Although no dismissal had been requested, the appeals court granted it notwithstanding, terming the suit as "entirely without merit."

A break in Loudoun County

A break came on Feb. 11 in a capital murder case being heard in Loudoun County, in northern Virginia. Loudoun County Chief Circuit Judge James Chamblin agreed to hold a hearing on whether Virginia's electric chair violates the Eighth Amendment. The five-day pre-trial hearing was set for Feb. 22 in the case of Curtis White, who maintains he is innocent, and would have been the first time in the United States since 1890 that a judge would hear expert testimony on whether the process of electrocution tortures the prisoner before killing him. Chamblin denied Commonwealth's Attorney William Burch's request to cancel the hearing because of the Fourth Circuit's dismissal of *Poyner*. According to the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, Burch argued that the U.S.

Supreme Court "held more than 100 years ago . . . that death by electrocution is not unconstitutional. The Supreme Court has never deviated from the holding, and, put simply, the constitutionality of execution is not open to debate." Burch's office was seeking \$20,000 in state funds to argue on behalf of the electric chair.

However, Chamblin said in his ruling: "There's just, for some reason, some sort of blind adherence to this rule that came up from the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court back in 1890, that it's not cruel and unusual punishment for execution by electrocution." That ruling was reached, he continued, before the electric chair had ever been used, "without any real findings of fact, without any real factual basis to support it. And certainly science and technology have advanced an awful lot since 1890. And I feel that somewhere a court has got to hear the evidence of what the state of the art is now on the effect of electricity on the human body during the course of execution by electrocution in Virginia."

Within 45 minutes of Judge Chamblin's decision, prosecutor Burch claimed to have discovered "new evidence" which led him to reduce the capital murder charge against Curtis White to first-degree murder, thereby making the hearing moot. Burch refused to comment on the new, mitigating evidence, except to say that he may charge another person. If mitigating evidence does exist, Burch may have intended to suppress it to hang a capital conviction from his belt. Suppressing exculpatory evidence is not new to Burch: According to former Loudoun County Sheriff's Deputy Doug Poppa, he presented evidence to Burch and to Sheriff John Isom showing that Middleburg resident William Douglas Carter was innocent of "malicious wounding" of his ex-wife. That evidence was never provided to the defense or presented at trial, and Carter spent four years in prison before being acquitted in a second trial, last year.

This is serious enough in a case like Carter's, but in Virginia capital murder cases, i.e., where the defendant is facing the death penalty, the defense only has 21 days after conviction to present new evidence that would merit a retrial, a procedure that cost Roger Coleman his life last May. Now the U.S. Supreme Court has upheld such outrageous "procedures," over and above claims to innocence, no matter how compelling.

Back to the Fourth Circuit

Lawyers for Poyner returned to press the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals to reconsider its January dismissal of the class action suit. On Feb. 12, attorney Harry M. Johnson III informed the Fourth Circuit that the Loudoun court had ruled that such an evidentiary hearing was necessary and appropriate. Said Johnson: "The court's ruling is especially significant because, only 45 minutes after . . . [Judge Chamblin] explained why he felt compelled to hear evidence about electrocution in Virginia," the prosecutor notified Chamblin that he "was 98% sure" he would be dropping the capital murder charge that had been pending for six months. By reducing the charge, Johnson wrote, "the Commonwealth . . . avoided defending the constitutionality of Virginia's electric chair." The Fourth Circuit denied the motion for reconsideration on Feb. 17.

Poyner, for whom no execution date had been set, is now scheduled to be executed in Virginia's electric chair on March 18.

Documentation

The following excerpts are from the federal class action suit Poyner v. Murray, filed on Dec. 10, 1992 in Richmond, Virginia.

V. Factual allegations

Count I

15. The Commonwealth of Virginia uses electrocution as its method of execution. Electrocution involves passing electrical current through the human body until the condemned person is dead. Electrocution was heralded as providing an instantaneous and hence humane and painless death when invented in the late 19th century, but modern medical and scientific evidence demonstrate that it provides neither. Execution by electrocution results in the wanton and unnecessary infliction of pain: Death by electrocution is tantamount to being burned or cooked alive. . . .

17. In general, if the voltage applied to a resistor is too great, the latter will burn out or explode.

18. The objective of the Commonwealth in electrocuting the condemned person is to kill him without causing his body to explode and without allowing the witnesses to see indicia of suffering on his part.

19. The defendants and the Commonwealth strap the condemned person into the chair at the arms, the trunk, and the legs. A mask is placed over his face so that the witnesses will not see the effects of the current reflected upon it. Moreover, the Commonwealth equips him with a diaper to prevent

the witnesses from becoming aware of the effects of the electrical charge on his bladder and bowels.

20. The defendants and the Commonwealth apply one electrode to the condemned person's head, which has been shaved. Between the head and the electrode, the defendants and the Commonwealth place a sponge soaked in a briny solution. The electrode is to pass current against the scalp of the subject, the sponge is to secure the contact and theoretically to alleviate burning of the scalp, and the brine is to improve the conductivity of the sponge.

21. A second electrode (with brine-soaked sponge) is placed on one of the subject's legs.

22. The defendants and the Commonwealth must recognize that the continuous and repeated application of electricity to a conscious human body is extremely painful, and that to apply electricity in such a manner intentionally would constitute cruel and unusual punishment within the meaning of the Eighth Amendment.

23. Therefore, the avowed objective of the defendants and the Commonwealth is to pass sufficient current through the body and brain of the condemned person to render him brain dead or at least instantaneously unconscious without unduly disfiguring the body.

24. However, no one knows the amount of voltage needed to render the condemned person instantaneously unconscious, and the law of the Commonwealth leaves it up to the Director or his designee to determine how much voltage to use. It provides him with no guidelines in this respect.

25. No testing is done to determine resistance of the body of the person to be electrocuted. Hence, the Director or his designee must guess at the amount of voltage to apply to the condemned person.

26. The human skull is a very poor conductor of electricity. Human skin is also a poor conductor, but sweat on the outside of the skin is an excellent conductor, given that it is essentially salty water.

27. Most, if not all, persons strapped into the electric chair waiting execution, sweat.

28. Electrical current seeks the path of least resistance. Therefore, a far greater portion of electrical current passes along the prisoner's skin than through his skull, body and brain as it travels to the electrode on his leg.

29. Hence, in spite of the voltage applied, relatively little current goes through the prisoner's brain.

30. The effect is to burn the condemned person's skin at extreme temperatures while he is awake and conscious for an indeterminate period. Copies of photographs of the body of Robert Wayne Williams, executed in Louisiana, attached hereto as Exhibit 1, provide some understanding of the burns that can be inflicted by the electric chair. . . .

31. The heat generated by the passage of current across the body eventually brings the blood to a boil and results in the brain being cooked.

32. The prisoner ultimately dies from asphyxia and

cardiac arrest.

33. Sufficient current can be applied to a human being to kill him instantaneously. However, the amount of current would be so great that the body would be very badly burnt and might well explode.

34. The Director or his designee therefore essentially guesses at the voltage that should be applied to kill the condemned person without creating a mess. Generally, the Director or his designee errs on the side of avoiding the latter.

35. The pain experienced by the condemned person is evidenced by:

- (a) third-degree burns to the flesh;
- (b) drooling and vomiting;
- (c) defecation and urination;
- (d) convulsions;
- (e) grimaces and dilated pupils.

36. The painful effects of electrocution described above are concealed from spectators by the mask, diaper and restraints on the prisoner.

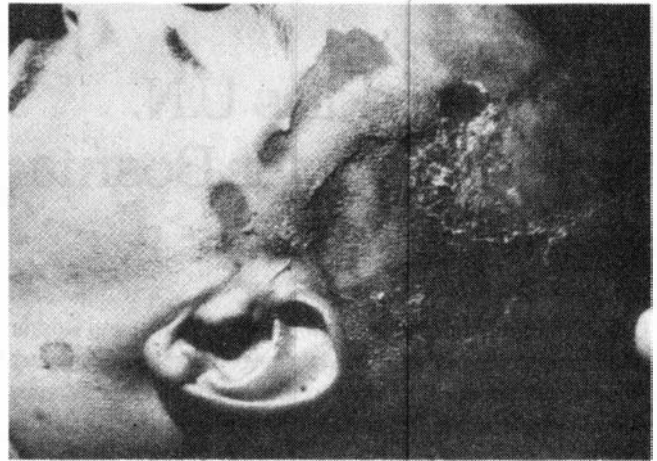
37. Because the nervous and motor systems of the body are separate, the muscles can be rendered immobile while the nervous system retains its ability to register pain. During the application of electricity, the condemned person's nervous system and brain remain relatively intact, allowing him to feel pain. His muscles, however, are fully contracted by the electrical shock. The involuntary contraction of the condemned person's muscles itself causes intense pain. After he lurches forward with the initial jolt of electricity (a phenomenon almost invariably noted by witnesses), he cannot move but can still feel the indescribable pain inflicted by the electrical current travelling over and through his body. . . .

Count II

. . . 39. The defendants and the Commonwealth are deliberately indifferent to the fact that they are torturing the Commonwealth's condemned prisoners, as they are aware or must be deemed to be aware of the facts set forth herein and have not even attempted to alleviate the resulting problems.

40. The technology of executing people by administering jolts of electricity externally to the head is antiquated. The defendants and the Commonwealth are aware of a large number of botched executions, both within and without Virginia.

41. The defendants and the Commonwealth are aware that the use of Virginia's chair has resulted in several gruesome executions. Flame and smoke erupted from the head of Frank J. Coppola when he was executed. More recently the executions of Wilbert Lee Evans and Derick L. Peterson were botched. Both men died prolonged, lingering, agonizing deaths, as observed by eyewitnesses and reflected by physical evidence. Blood and other bodily fluids gushed out from under Evans' mask during his execution, and his autopsy revealed burns not only at the points of the electrode contact, but on other parts of his body as well. Peterson was not killed by the first jolt of electricity, and witnesses observed him wheezing and moaning. It took the defendants



Louisiana electric chair victim Robert Wayne Williams, showing the first, second, third, and fourth degree burns on his scalp. Prosecutors such as William Burch in Loudoun County, Virginia consider a string of capital convictions good "career moves," so long as the public is "protected" from seeing the barbarity of the death sentence.

and the Commonwealth over 12 minutes to execute Peterson.

42. In response to the botched execution of Peterson in August 1991, the defendants and the Commonwealth decided that in all future executions they would administer two separate two-minute series of electrical jolts. The defendants and the Commonwealth adopted this procedure because they recognized that the first jolt of electricity often does not kill a condemned person and that death by electrocution is not immediate. . . .

44. Virginia's operating and testing procedure for its equipment are primitive. The operating procedures promulgated by the Department of Corrections provide that the brine solution in which the sponges are soaked shall consist of five gallons of water and "approximately three (3) pounds of table salt." . . . In order to determine whether the brine is sufficiently saline, the defendants and the Commonwealth place "a fresh egg in its shell in the solution. If the egg will float, the solution is correct." . . .

45. The Commonwealth in the past has failed to provide requested information on the composition of the execution teams, and hence, the expertise of these persons cannot be gauged. However, a review of the relevant parts of the Institutional Operating Procedures (No. 426.1) reveals that no special expertise is required of its members. . . .

WHEREFORE, plaintiff on behalf of himself and the class prays that the Court: (1) declare Va. Code § 53.1-233 and the actions of the defendants unconstitutional in violation of the Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments' prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment; and (2) enjoin the defendants from using electrocution as a method of carrying out death sentences.

BASIC peddles U.N. protectorate for Bosnia

by Scott Thompson

One of the agencies that assisted Britain, France, and Russia in deflating U.S. action against the ongoing genocide against Bosnia, which was signalled by Secretary of State Warren Christopher's six-point program issued on Feb. 10, is the British American Security Information Council (BASIC). The British-dominated BASIC has been lobbying, since at least the Clinton transition period, to see that President Clinton would drop his view that military action might be an integral part of the solution to the crisis in the Balkans. BASIC's director, Daniel T. Plesch, told a journalist that his group had sent Clinton's team a document calling for the creation of a U.N. protectorate in Bosnia-Herzegovina—paralleling the Vance-Owen “peace plan”—and that members of BASIC had been in discussion with transition team members on non-military solutions.

‘Moderates’ defend Milosevic

On Feb. 11 in Washington, BASIC sponsored a press conference, followed by a luncheon on Capitol Hill, by a self-proclaimed “Experts’ Committee on Ex-Yugoslavia,” who were billed as “moderates” from the former republics of Yugoslavia. In reality, BASIC pulled off a fraud on the press and on Congress, since the committee consisted of devil's advocates for a Greater Serbia. Included on the committee was Serbian dictator Slobodan Milosevic's agent Milorad Pupovac (founder of the Serbian Democratic Forum in Zagreb), who has been a propagandist for the Serbian nationalist minority in Croatia and who has received severe criticism from the Tudjman Croatian government for promoting Belgrade's goals. The only thing moderate about the committee members was that Pupovac, along with other members, proposed a list of impotent gestures that complement the pro-Serbian Vance-Owen “peace plan” to carve up Bosnia.

The fact that BASIC was trying to pass off a tiger for a kitten emerged when a reporter for *EIR* confronted committee members and stated that no one could find any real solution to the crisis as long as they avoid naming Milosevic as a mass murderer. The entire panel of moderates went into a defensive diatribe. BASIC shut down the press conference, lest the real nature of the “committee of experts” be exposed further.

A few hours later, at a luncheon on Capitol Hill, Plesch made a surprising reference to political prisoner Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. In the context of a discussion of the problem of the media inflaming the populations of both Croatia and

Serbia, Plesch said the problem could be compared with “what would happen if the whole of the American media were taken over by LaRouche for five years. It would be easy, then, to get everybody killing each other.” Plesch's wild slander ignored the fact that LaRouche was the first statesman to warn during his 1988 presidential campaign about an imminent war in the Balkans, which could be a potential trigger for World War III, and the fact that many thousands of slain Serbs, Croats, and Bosnians would be alive today had LaRouche's warning been heeded.

An anti-nuclear bias

BASIC was founded in 1987 by Daniel Plesch, who had been serving as vice chair of Great Britain's Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND), which had been founded in large measure by the evil Lord Bertrand Russell. Today, BASIC works closely with such Russellite groups as the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), SANE, and Freeze. The two most powerful and influential members of BASIC's council are Denis Healey, who is a former member of the Communist Party of Great Britain, a Labour Party Member of Parliament, and former defense minister; and Labour Peer Lord Jenkins of Putney. Frank Blackaby, who was a former director of SIPRI, is also on the council.

Despite claiming to be defense experts, BASIC advocates total (or near total) de-nuclearization. In effect, it would like to see the dismantling of NATO, which would be replaced by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. There is good reason to suspect that BASIC prefers the CSCE, which combines eastern and western nations, because it is wedded to the age-old British geopolitical goal of containing Germany. For example, BASIC argued strongly against the creation of a Franco-German military force as the core of a European Community army.

BASIC was able from a very early point in the election to establish an “in” with the Anglophile Clinton administration. On Nov. 20, 1992, Plesch and his associate David Schorr completed a policy memorandum for the Clinton transition team on the Balkan crisis. Apart from a list of “do nothing” suggestions, its main proposal was: “The international community should be prepared to establish a U.N. protectorate in Bosnia, perhaps even limited to metropolitan Sarajevo.”

In an interview with a journalist on Feb. 9, Plesch insisted that Serbian nationalists would not attack U.N. forces over-seeing a protectorate, so that a Greater Serbia could be built. Plesch suggested that a large number of Russian and eastern European troops should be part of the U.N. force. Asked if he were not aware of a growing Moscow-Belgrade Orthodox religious axis, Plesch first denied this, then said, if it were true, “it would mean World War I without the czar.” In short, BASIC has been telling the Clinton administration that the Serbs are not the “enemy image” and that the United States should let the U.N. take the lead in solving the crisis of Balkan genocide.

Shooting at CIA HQ remains a mystery

by Jeffrey Steinberg

Even though the FBI and Fairfax County, Virginia police have identified a Pakistani national, Mir Aimal Kansi, as the man who shot five people outside the main gate of the CIA at Langley on Jan. 25, many crucial questions about the terrorist incident remain unanswered, and many experienced observers believe that the mystery will never be solved. During the Monday morning rush hour on Jan. 25, a man armed with a rifle walked down a row of cars stopped at a traffic light on Route 123 just outside the main headquarters of the Central Intelligence Agency and fired into five cars. He then disappeared on foot, leaving two career CIA officers, Frank Darling and Lansing Bennett, dead and three others wounded.

Despite a dragnet throughout Greater Washington, police failed to capture the shooter, and it would be days before any serious leads emerged. Sources close to the probe told *EIR* that from the outset, the CIA was largely uncooperative with the police investigation.

It was only on Feb. 8—two weeks after the shootings—that police honed in on Mir Aimal Kansi as the prime suspect. By that point, Kansi had fled the United States, returned to his home town of Quetta, the provincial capital of Baluchistan, and then disappeared from Quetta. News accounts speculate that he crossed the border into either Iran or Afghanistan.

Despite public claims of an international manhunt involving cooperation between American and Pakistani officials, it was admitted on Feb. 17 that photographs of Kansi and information about his March 1991 illegal entry into the United States only arrived in Pakistan on Feb. 16!

A targeted attack?

Sources close to the probe have told *EIR* that top officials of the CIA are baffled and worried about the incident. In particular, they are not sure whether the attack was—as it has been widely described—“random,” or whether one of the two killed CIA agents was actually the target. Speculation has centered around Frank Darling, a 28-year-old Clansdestine Services officer who may have been involved in sensitive investigations in Southwest Asia as part of his last assignment for the agency. According to one source, Darling

had successfully penetrated an intelligence operation involving Israeli, Chinese, and Russian agents. According to published accounts, Darling may have been involved in supplying arms to CIA-backed Afghan Mujahideen rebels during the 1980s.

If the shootings were actually aimed at Darling (he was shot three times, whereas all the other victims were only shot once), the question then emerges: Was the “hit” carried out by one of the three intelligence agencies cited above? An assassination in broad daylight, outside the main gate of CIA headquarters, is quite a provocative act, and could trigger the kind of bloody intelligence warfare that often characterized the tensest moments of the Cold War.

A lot of blue smoke and mirrors

Predictably, the American media have had a field day speculating about the suspected killer Mir Aimal Kansi. Among the most bizarre features of his profile is his employment by a courier service owned by the son of former CIA official Victor Marchetti. A former executive assistant to the deputy to CIA director Richard Helms, Marchetti quit the agency in 1969 and wrote one of the earliest exposés of U.S. intelligence, *The CIA and the Cult of Intelligence*. Pundits like National Public Radio commentator Daniel Schorr and *Washington Times* reporter Bill Gertz waxed eloquent trying to link Marchetti’s anti-CIA profile to Kansi, in efforts to develop a possible motive for the killings.

In an interview with *EIR*, Marchetti—who says he never met Kansi or had any other kind of contact with him—said that he could not rule out that Kansi had worked with the CIA in Pakistan. Kansi’s home town, Quetta, was the base for CIA covert arms shipments to the Afghan Mujahideen rebels.

Whether or not Kansi had a past history of links to the CIA or any other intelligence agency, the circumstances of the shootings and his uncanny ability to stay one step ahead of the law certainly paint a picture of someone skilled in covert operations and backed up by others providing him with critical intelligence. The fact that neither the FBI nor the CIA made any effort to bring Pakistani officials in on the case in a timely fashion also raises more questions.

Israeli government agencies, as well as U.S.-based groups like the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) are pressuring the Clinton administration to declare Iran’s fundamentalist regime and Islamic groups like Hamas to be the “new enemy image.” They have seized on the Kansi affair to push the line that the shootings outside the Central Intelligence Agency were the work of Islamic terrorists, further muddying the waters.

If recent history is any guide, the CIA will continue to obstruct the probe, while running its own parallel quest for the truth about the Jan. 25 attack. Chances are that the public will be treated to large amounts of “blue smoke and mirrors” and that the real story will never see the light of day.

National News

Suppression sought of Demjanjuk report

George Parker, an attorney with the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI) who warned in the late 1970s that there was evidence proving that John Demjanjuk was not the concentration camp guard Ivan the Terrible, and who subsequently quit the OSI over the case, filed a motion with the U.S. Supreme Court on Feb. 1, asking the court to declare the appointment of a Special Master by the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals to be unconstitutional. On Feb. 12, Parker's attorneys filed a separate motion before the Sixth Circuit asking them to hold off on publicly releasing Special Master Judge Thomas Wiseman's findings until after the Supreme Court decides on his petition.

The Sixth Circuit, which originally upheld Demjanjuk's extradition to Israel, where he has been sentenced to death for war crimes, appointed a Special Master last year to investigate whether the OSI had fraudulently argued for extradition despite massive evidence in its possession that another man was Treblinka's murderous "Ivan." Judge Wiseman's report of findings is scheduled to be presented to the Sixth Circuit panel in the spring.

Parker's Feb. 12 filing at the Sixth Circuit argued that his and others at OSI could have their careers ruined by findings of misconduct, and therefore, the court should suppress the evidence until the Supreme Court decides whether the entire Special Master procedure is constitutional. His motion was rejected within 24 hours.

Pike was follower of French Satanist

According to a 1990 book, *Painted Black* by Carl Raschke, a professor of religious studies, Confederate general and freemason Albert Pike adopted the Satanic belief structures of a French "black magician" as the founding principles for the Ku Klux Klan. Pike's statue has been maintained in Washington, D.C.'s Judiciary Square since 1901 at public expense, and the campaign for its

removal launched by Lyndon LaRouche's presidential campaign, has become an international *cause célèbre*.

According to Raschke, Pike was the "most notable apostle in America" of "a renegade Catholic rector called Alphonse Constant, who changed his name to Eliphaz Levi. Levi was considered the Michelangelo of the suppressed traditions of 'black magic' in the Christian West. Levi exerted a powerful influence on a whole generation of avant-garde intellectuals in continental Europe, Britain, and the United States. . . .

"Pike was one of the original architects of the Ku Klux Klan, which, contrary to common belief, was not at its inception primarily a racist club for semiliterates. The white robes, cross burning, conical hats, and use of such titles as 'grand dragon' and 'imperial wizard' derives from the strange lore developed by Levi. . . .

"The amalgam of violence, secrecy, and fanaticism that went into the original constitution of the Klan became the basis for the rise of Satanism in the South over the past decade."

Baltimore citizens slam Norplant use in schools

An "informational hearing" at the Baltimore City Council on plans to use the implantable hormonal abortifacient Norplant in middle and high schools was packed to full capacity on Feb. 9. The hearing was opened by East Baltimore Councilman Carl Stokes, who began by quoting from the *EIR Special Report*, "The Genocidal Roots of Bush's New World Order."

"Tonight, we are going to hear extensive testimony of the Kissingerian policy of population reduction," Stokes said. "We will hear that the government of this nation declared that the growth of non-white populations in the Third World presented a threat to this nation's national security. You will hear about government funding of sterilization projects and you will learn that Norplant was originally developed by the notorious Population Council of John D. Rockefeller as an instrument to control the third world population. . . ."

Other councilmen and city health commissioner Peter Beilenson attempted to de-

fend their effort for three hours. Beilenson, who trained at the Population Control Unit of Emory University, attacked Norplant's opponents for "depriving" poor black women from having what is readily available to middle-class white women.

Popular opposition, however, was overwhelming: The chairman of CURE, a coalition of ministers from East Baltimore, said that children born into the black community may be unwanted by the state, but are welcomed by the community and their families, as a joyous addition. The Norplant program was a slap in the face, he said. "You will not do this to our daughters! It's enough to make a good Christian preacher cuss!"

Nation of Islam Health Minister Dr. Abdul Alim Muhammad refuted Beilenson and the others using the drug company's own "fine print." To Health Department disclaimers that they do not "impose or coerce" girls to use Norplant, and "have no desire to be their parents," Dr. Muhammad retorted, "If you don't have even that much concern for these girls, then, my God, leave them alone."

Acting troupe holds Shakespeare workshops

On Feb. 7 the Travelling Shakespeare Company performed Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Washington, D.C.'s Folger Theatre, with a workshop for high school students preceding the play, as part of an educational initiative which began two years ago.

The technique used in the workshops aimed to prove to the audience that anyone could learn to act Shakespeare. The actors began by choosing one of their favorite lines, and asking individuals in the audience to recite it, which the individual usually did rather poorly. The audience was then broken up into groups, each coached by an actor, and each group organized a skit based on presenting one or more lines from the play. The transformation was extraordinary: Like a chorus, the group skit provided the backbone and attention span needed to make significant progress in accurately performing what the students had heretofore considered impossible.

An important dynamic of this particular

Shakespeare production is the "play within the play," and efforts to introduce "political correctness" into the acting in terms of so-called women's and gay issues fell flat, because Shakespeare's ideas, and especially in *Midsummer Night's Dream*, are impervious to such shenanigans. Overall this effort "to give equal attention to professional performance and education" should be supported. The next production will probably be *Macbeth*, following which the company will begin to take their performances *cum* workshops around the country.

Studds rams through anti-whaling resolution

Massachusetts Rep. Gerry Studds (D), chairman of the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, planned to ram through a resolution calling for a "U.S. policy of opposition to the resumption of commercial whaling" on Feb. 16, according to the Feb. 10 newsletter of Putting People First, which exposes the dangerous antics of animal rights terrorists. Studds introduced the resolution Feb. 3, and planned to rush it to a vote "under suspension of rules" without any hearings. The resolution is supported by the Humane Society, an animal rights group that is boycotting Norwegian products because Norway plans to resume hunting the minke whale. There are abundant stocks of minke whales, which are an important source of food for Faroe Islanders and other northern communities.

Two convicted in Va. 'get LaRouche' trials

LaRouche associates Richard Freeman and Fred Haight were tried on Feb. 11 before Judge Clifford Weckstein in the continuing series of Virginia "get LaRouche" cases that began in 1987. Both entered not guilty pleas and were tried separately without a jury. All evidence was presented by stipulation.

Both were charged with being unregistered securities brokers, selling unregistered securities, and engaging in a course of business which would operate as a fraud. All the charges stemmed from one transaction,

when a state police officer, Larry Burchette, posing as a political supporter, agreed in 1986 to loan \$5,000 to Caucus Distributors, which disseminated the publications associated with LaRouche. The company, along with the publications it distributed, were illegally bankrupted by the federal government, in April 1987, preventing repayment of the political loans.

Before the trial, the state reduced the charges from felonies to misdemeanors, and Judge Weckstein acquitted Haight of one charge. He was found guilty of two others; Freeman was found guilty of all three counts. Both defendants were sentenced to 30 days in jail, which was suspended while they appeal on the grounds that these trials violated their speedy trial rights.

Other LaRouche defendants who demanded their right to jury trials have received sentences averaging 37 years and ranging from 10 years to 77.

City water endangered by blind salamander

The water supply of San Antonio, Texas must take a back seat to the Texas blind salamander and three other endangered species, according to a Feb. 1 ruling by U.S. federal Judge Lucius Bunton, reported the Feb. 4 *Los Angeles Times*. Bunton ruled that in order to protect the salamander, the fountain darter, the San Marcos gambusia, and Texas wild rice, the city of San Antonio would have to cut the amount of ground water it pumps from the Edwards Aquifer by as much as 60% in times of drought. The suit was brought by the Sierra Club and the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority under the Endangered Species Act. Judge Lucius D. Bunton III handed down a decision in the case, which directs the Texas Water Commission and state legislature to devise a plan to limit pumping from the aquifer.

San Antonio Mayor Nelson Wolff figures that complying with Bunton's decision could cost the city dearly in trying to attract new industry and in keeping its military installations, as well as \$2 billion for construction of new water supplies. "How do you balance the endangered species with the human species that is struggling like hell today even to make a living?" Wolff asked.

Briefly

● **'THE FINAL CALL,'** the newspaper of the Nation of Islam reviewed *EIR's* book "The Ugly Truth About the ADL," on Feb. 23, under the headline "The Crack PAC? New Book Exposes ADL as Front for the Dope Lobby."

● **NAT HENTOFF** blasted the Supreme Court's *Herrera* decision, which ruled out proof of innocence as the basis for a new trial in a capital murder case. Hentoff, in his syndicated column, called the ruling "murder by the highest court in the land."

● **STATE PROTECTION** for Christine Busalacchi, who is severely handicapped, was rescinded by Missouri Attorney General Jay Nixon hours after he took office last month. Nixon directed the state Supreme Court to dismiss the state's two-year legal case to protect her life. Her father, Pete Busalacchi, has petitioned the court for the right to starve her to death.

● **THE CHICAGO CITY** Council, voted 35-3 to ask the Federal Communications Commission to investigate the University of Chicago radio station broadcast "Sensuous Black Man," a sexually explicit musical monologue. One alderman said, "It is not the type of record that appeals to anyone except some lame-brain at the University of Chicago who calls himself a disc jockey."

● **RHODE ISLAND'S** video gambling law was pushed through by Lincoln Greyhound Park, where video poker games are located and G-Tech, an international lottery company which is the largest employer in the state, according to a recent exposé by the *Providence Journal*. The legalization, which passed by being appended to the budget last summer, has stirred heated opposition.

● **PRINCE CHARLES** is scheduled to meet in Houston with Kenneth Lay to discuss their mutual interest in his pet educational project, the United World Colleges. Lay is president of Enron, which is a major local funder of the ADL's "A World of Difference" brainwashing program.

Editorial

Free LaRouche by March 23rd

In a tragic irony, it was ruling circles within the Soviet Union, led by then-President Mikhail Gorbachov, which demanded Lyndon LaRouche's head as the price for their participation in the Reagan-Thatcher-Gorbachov condominium. The tragedy lies not in political prisoner LaRouche's misfortune, bad as that is, but in the steady pace now being travelled toward World War III, as a result of the repudiation of his policies.

From as early as 1989, the stage was being set in former Yugoslavia by the British and U.S. governments, which not only supported, but helped to direct, the aggression of the Serbian fascists around Slobodan Milosevic, to commit genocidal crimes, first against Croats and then against the Bosnians. Now, they are preparing to go against Kosova and Makedonija.

This is a renewal of the same "New Yalta" arrangement between the Anglo-Americans and the Soviets which set into motion the imprisonment of LaRouche, starting with the Reagan-Gorbachov summit in Reykjavik, Iceland in 1986. The situation is far more dangerous now than it was then, because of the combination of global economic crisis and war.

The roots of this tragedy go back to the period right after March 23, 1983, when President Reagan announced the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) and offered a collaborative deal to the Soviets, to develop a global anti-missile defense shield based upon advanced technologies. Key to this was the rapid development of the X-ray laser and related directed-energy technologies.

This was LaRouche's policy. LaRouche recognized that the backwardness of the Soviets culturally, as well as economically, meant that they would be unable to easily assimilate these technologies into their civilian economy, in order to make the kind of leaps in productivity which the United States had made during the Apollo Moon landing project. He therefore urged upon the Soviet leadership and the Reagan administration a course of joint development of such technologies, so that the Soviets would not be destroyed by the economic burden of the SDI, and the threat of nuclear war could be averted.

The Soviet leadership rejected this offer, because they recognized that if they accepted, the same social forces which ultimately did unseat Mikhail Gorbachov, would be brought to the fore. Instead they attacked LaRouche, whom they recognized as the person who had shaped the SDI policy as it was first articulated by Ronald Reagan.

As it became increasingly clear to the Kremlin that LaRouche had been correct in his estimate—that refusal by the Soviets to accept the Reagan offer for collaborative development of the SDI would beggar their economy—they became more and more hysterical. This was clear in 1986, when scores of articles attacking LaRouche appeared in Soviet newspapers and magazines.

They were determined to kill the SDI in the West at any cost, even the cost of attacking the leading American who had offered them a safe road to peace and prosperity: the man who had proposed, and to this day continues to propose, a true peace policy, based upon global economic development.

As a prelude to the Reykjavik summit, an agreement was reached between the Gorbachov government and the Reagan-Bush administration, with full British assent, that LaRouche's growing influence would be checked.

This is not to deny that George Bush conducted a personal vendetta against LaRouche, so that LaRouche has been kept in prison, despite the shift in power relations which at least temporarily consigned the Russians to a position of junior partnership.

Had events taken a different course, the one proposed by LaRouche, then prosperity rather than depression would be the global reality, due to the enormous technological spinoffs which would have boosted productivity. The precipitous economic decline which is quickening the pace toward war would not exist.

March 23 will be upon us shortly. What better occasion for the new U.S. President to avert the tragedy of a third world war, by freeing Lyndon LaRouche, and allowing him to concentrate his full effort on repairing the blunders of the past decade.

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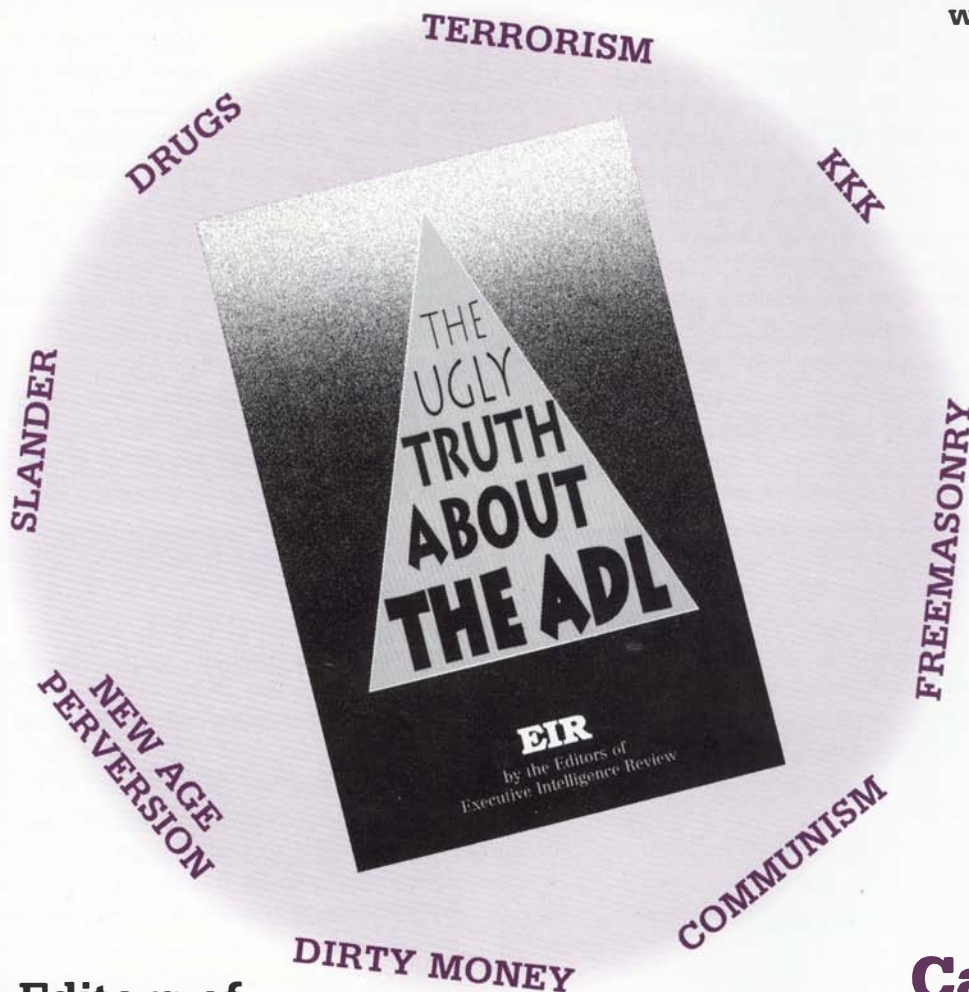
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