

oil companies working in Sudan be banned from raising funds on U.S. capital markets.

What Happened To Peace?

The new American policy for Sudan, as signalled by the CSIS study, Powell, and the Commission, is clearly aimed at sabotaging Sudan's growing oil industry, blackmailing its international partners, and moving in to shore up the insurgent Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) forces with massive financial support. Its "peace" effort involves creating an "international nucleus" to mediate negotiations. This is explicitly aimed at replacing two regional mechanisms, involved in seeking peace. One is the Inter-Government Agency on Development (IGAD), made up of Sudan's immediate neighbors, and the other is the 1999 initiative, launched by Egypt and Libya, to mediate reconciliation between the government and the northern opposition parties.

The CSIS report states: "Regional initiatives hold little promise for ending Sudan's war. Although the IGAD peace initiative has had certain achievements on which any future initiatives should build, IGAD cannot be relied on to persuade Sudan's warring principals to enter into serious negotiations. . . . A new, robust extra-regional mediation agency is required if a credible peace process is to begin in Sudan."

Clear enough. What the report neglects to mention, is that at each and every IGAD-sponsored negotiating session, the U.S., in its quality as a member of the IGAD Partners Forum (IPF), has intervened to "advise" the SPLA representatives present, or, to dissuade SPLA leader John Garang from attending any such session. The United States has also consistently thwarted the Egypt-Libya initiative, precisely because it has been making steady progress.

In point of fact, over the past year, also due to internal political changes inside Sudan, the government has come closer to making political agreements with the opposition. The Umma Party, led by Sadiq al Mahdi, and once the leading organization in the NDA, split from that alliance, and entered talks with the Khartoum government. Sadiq al Mahdi himself returned to the country, after years of self-imposed exile. Mohammed Osman al-Mirghani, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), the other remaining political group of the NDA, has also come to terms with the Bashir government, and on March 1 signed a memo with the Umma Party, overcoming their differences. Their eight-point "Sudan Appeal" was welcomed by President Bashir. Sudanese Foreign Minister Dr. Mustafa Osman Ismail met, on Feb. 28, with his Egyptian counterpart, Amr Moussa, to discuss plans for a national reconciliation conference to be held in Cairo, between the government and opposition. Moussa met as well with both Sadiq al Mahdi and al-Mirghani.

The question, then, is: Why is the United States not throwing its weight behind this initiative, championed by a country, Egypt, which is supposed to be a key ally in the Arab world?

Macedonia Faces The 'Taliban of Europe'

by Umberto Pascali

On the night of March 21, the war of aggression waged against Macedonia reached the capital, Skopje. Two policemen were shot, one fatally, in the part of the city inhabited mostly by Macedonian Albanians. One policeman died immediately, the second was taken to the hospital in critical condition. The attempt took place at the end of a day of cease-fire declared by the government in the military confrontation between the Macedonian army and formations of well-armed and trained terrorists around the city of Tetovo in the northwest.

The government had issued a demand that the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) gangs abandon their weapons and go back to Kosovo, or face attack by government forces. The KLA did not abandon their weapons or their positions, but simply communicated to press agencies that they are ready for a permanent cease-fire and to "negotiate." In other words, they want to obtain a status of "co-belligerent" that they expect to be recognized by the international community.

The small country of Macedonia, with its very limited military capabilities and small army and police, has been left by the "international community" to fight alone against an enemy that is armed with the most modern weapons including, according to reports, mortars and even tanks. Macedonia is under an escalating foreign military aggression that has as its base of operations, the province of Kosovo, controlled and governed by more than 40,000 military and non-military personnel under NATO and UN administration.

How Could NATO Not Know?

Still, the UN Security Council was not even able to recognize openly that the attack was coming from Kosovo, while many European and NATO governments are issuing contradictory or confused statements.

Macedonia Prime Minister Ljubco Georgievski used very explicit language in an address to the nation on March 18. "I will now reveal a secret saying that Macedonia has been subjected to an aggression for more than one month. The aggression has been carried out in two sections, one very strong in the area from Tanusevci to the junction of Kosovo, Serbia, and Macedonia, and the second one, with similar intensity, over the mountain of Sara and directly on the city of Tetovo." Georgievski was describing the KLA strategy that had started with the armed takeover of the village of Tanusevci at the borders with Kosovo, northeast of Skopje, when NATO demanded that Macedonia not use force, but "political means"—and the following KLA penetrations into the north-

west part of the country around the mostly ethnic Albanian city of Tetovo, where fighting has been going on for one week.

The Prime Minister denounced as false, both the pretense that NATO (naming in particular the national contingents, German and U.S., stationed at the borders) did not know what was going on, and that it could not stop it. His second concern is the growing media campaign of reports that the assault is not staged from Kosovo, but is a Macedonian domestic problem caused solely by the unfair treatment of the Albanian minority.

“It is not a secret for us that this aggression has been prepared, organized, and conducted by logistics support of parties and structures from . . . Kosovo,” he said. “We cannot agree with some assessments, that developments in Macedonia are not a result of a spillover of the Kosovo crisis, an aggression from Kosovo against Macedonia. I could call every international diplomat and media and present them with hundreds of evidences. They may also ask NATO-KFOR soldiers deployed at our northern border.

“If the international community admits that there is an aggression from Kosovo, then its Kosovo policy for the last two years has been wrong. I may only say that no one in Macedonia can be convinced, that the U.S. and German governments do not know who are the bosses of the gangs that are entering Macedonia today, and that if they apply stronger political measures against those bosses, the gangs will not stop the aggression.”

Heroin, Prostitution, and Blackmail

In the middle of his address, Prime Minister Georgievski included this shocking characterization: “It is obvious that the international community cannot run away from the fact that this time we are dealing with the creation of new Taliban by the Western democracies within Europe.”

The readers of *EIR* are familiar with the background of the KLA: from the ideological pre-history linking it to the dictatorial cult of Albanian “Duce” Enver Hoxha; to the “understanding” the KLA received from Sen. Jesse Helms, then-Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook; to the total support, training, and protection it was accorded by NATO; to the KLA symbiosis with organized crime, drug trafficking, prostitution rackets, blackmail, and illegal smuggling. When Georgievski compared the KLA to the Taliban fundamentalist cult that took over Afghanistan in the mid-1990s, he was talking about a very precise fact and a very demonstrable link. Kosovo has become the Colombia of Europe, and the KLA is a byproduct of the so-called Kosovo or Albanian Mafia.

When Albright and the Brzezinski gang “adopted” publicly the KLA, in opposition to the much more broadly supported moderate Albanian movement of Ibrahim Rugova in Kosovo, it was supposed to be used as a weapon against Serbia. But with this impetus, the “Kosovo Mafia” substantially took over the Western European traffic in heroin. The huge profits were used to buy weapons, to recruit, to open



The creation and arming of the Albanian aggression against the government of Macedonia—a UN member-nation—was accomplished under the aegis of these NATO troops occupying neighboring Kosovo, under a UN mandate.

political doors, to buy influence and exercise corruption. Given that organized crime is not a democratic enterprise, it is clear that the KLA and its mother organization was given “the heroin distribution franchise” as payment for its services.

The *modus operandi* is very similar to that of the Taliban in 1989. The Taliban (the word, *Talib*, means religious student in Arabic) were recruited among young boys and children concentrated in refugee camps in Pakistan at the border of Afghanistan during the war, and run by British and U.S. intelligence entities against the Soviets. They were mercilessly “indoctrinated” under the protection of the British- and U.S.-supported “freedom fighters.” In fact, the leader of the “freedom fighters” was Osama bin Laden, presently the most wanted terrorist in the world. Soon the Taliban developed into one of the most fanatic political cults in recent history, comparable to that of Albanian “Communist” leader Enver Hoxha, who dominated Albania from the end of World War II until the early 1980s.

As is known, the Taliban took over Afghanistan and are holding it until now, overseeing an extensive cultivation and sale of opium, at least tolerated by international law enforcement institutions. And where does the Taliban’s opium road go? Curiously enough, to Kosovo.

It was only after June 1999, when NATO took over Kosovo, that the province became a safe haven for the drug mafia. In less than one year, under a NATO protectorate, Kosovo has become the supplier of 80% of the heroin consumed in Western Europe with routes now reaching into North America.

A decorated retired veteran of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, Michael Levine, stated in May 1999: “Ten years ago we were arming and equipping the worst element of the mujahideen in Afghanistan. Now we are doing the same thing with the KLA. These guys have a network that is active on the streets of this country [Germany]. It is a scary operation.”