

Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, and Belorussia—ensure mutual respect for each country's territorial integrity.

On the issue of the foreign debt, Ukraine has formally refused to sign an agreement with the western Group of Seven, agreeing to pay its share. But this does not mean that Ukraine refuses to pay its share. Ukraine insists, correctly, that it will sign such an agreement only after it has received assurances that not only the debt, but the gold reserves, foreign exchange reserves, and other liquid assets of the former Soviet Union will also be fairly divided among the republics. Imagine General Motors being liquidated into 12 successor corporations: No American, European, or Japanese directing one of these 12 corporations would ever agree to assume GM debt and renounce all claim to GM assets. Exactly this is being demanded of Ukraine.

### **The Bush-Gorbachov mutual policy**

Putting aside George Bush's public relations talk of "forthcoming recognition," Bush's attitude has not changed from the summer when, in Kiev, he issued a stinging denunciation of Ukrainian independence. Bush, in a panic over the collapse of the Moscow Center and his own position with the American electorate, must now sing a different tune in public. But what Bush no longer dares to say in public, his friend Gorbachov says for him.

Gorbachov has, in interviews in the Soviet media, spewed a stream of invective against Ukraine. In a TASS interview on Nov. 30, he appealed to Ukrainians to vote against independence. Ukrainian independence is a "catastrophe for the union, Ukraine itself, Russia, Europe and the world," Gorbachov said. Repeating a theme he first discussed with Bush at the May 1990 Washington summit, Gorbachov stated that Ukrainian independence "can be exploited, and lead to territorial conflicts with Russia." He claimed for Russia, despite treaties signed by the Yeltsin government with Ukraine which renounce all territorial claims, the Ukrainian regions of Kharkov and Crimea.

Interviewed by the weekly *Literaturnaya Gazeta* after the referendum, Gorbachov declared that failure to sign the "New Union Treaty" would be a "catastrophe for the entire international community." He then warned of "ethnic conflicts," and "even wars between the republics," invoking the specter of "a confrontation between Russians and Ukrainians" producing a "general catastrophe."

Were there no Bush administration, Gorbachov's could be laughed at, as Gorbachov has little power now. However, they reflect the mutual policy of Bush and Gorbachov. Gorbachov's only hope to hang on lies in chaos and bloodshed sweeping the republics of the former Soviet Union. For Bush, the only way in which the U.S.A. can continue to militarily and strategically dominate Europe is by destabilizing these republics, to thus create for Europe a new "danger" from the East to replace the old Soviet danger that has now disappeared.

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## **Crimes Against Humanity**

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# **Serbian atrocities exposed in EC report**

by Umberto Pascali

The sickening brutality of the Yugoslav Army and the Serbian terrorist gangs against the Croatian population was confirmed by a report authored by European Community (EC) observers and leaked to the international press in Zagreb, Croatia. The report, which was not intended for publication, demonstrates, if anyone still needs proof, that Lord Carrington, Cyrus Vance, and the other "mediators" who have maintained "equidistance" between victims and butchers, knew the truth in detail. Nevertheless, they chose to protract the massacre for months, and even to recommend to governments that they not recognize independent Croatia and Slovenia.

### **Hospitals, churches targeted**

The report was sent on Nov. 28 by the EC monitoring mission from Zagreb to the European Community headquarters in Brussels. It said that the Yugoslav Federal Army has "not hesitated to shoot either indiscriminately at purely select targets with random fire, or, in certain cases, to deliberately select civilian targets of important symbolic value, including schools, museums, churches, radio and TV stations, and—particularly—hospitals." The allegations that the Croatian forces have been using these sites for military purposes are labeled "inaccurate and specious." "We are dealing here with [Croatian] forces deploying largely small arms against a hugely equipped major army, navy, and air force," the report specified.

The Yugoslav Army has shown a "consistent pattern" in which it "pours heavy artillery fire from a distance onto a target, terrorizing it into capitulation. The Yugoslav Army-backed and armed [Serbian] irregulars then move in on foot to occupy the place. The Army then moves in to re-assume overall control. Nor is this limited to big towns. Throughout broad areas of territory, in innumerable small villages, Croatian inhabitants are killed or forced to leave, after their villages are bulldozed out of existence. No attempt is made to occupy or otherwise exploit the captured places; they are simply and wantonly destroyed."

The report stressed that the Army "offensive" was "in

full swing,” and its aim was to capture Croatian territory up to a 190-mile line running from Karlobag, on the Adriatic coast, to Virovitice, on the border with Hungary, with Osijek, the main city in eastern Croatia, being the next target.

Indeed, Serbian Army leaders made it official on Nov. 28 that their goal is to occupy more than one-half of the entire territory of Croatia, making the western boundary of “Greater Serbia” equal to what is called the “1915 Line,” i.e., the farthest westward advance achieved by the Serbian Army against Austria-Hungary during World War I.

Statements by Serbian generals proclaiming this goal appeared first in statements to the Serbian mass-circulation newspaper *Vecernje Novosti*. Gen. Marko Neganovic, the head of “Yugoslav” (i.e., Serbian) Military Intelligence, declared that the Army is “prepared to fight a long and successful war” to advance to the line Karlobag-Virovitica. Gen. Andrija Biorcevic, the Army commander of the “Northern Front,” declared that, concerning his front in Slavonia, the next goals are to seize Vinkovci and Osijek.

### ‘A cowardly army’

The EC report concludes, “In the last analysis, the Yugoslav Army is a cowardly army, fighting for no recognizable principle, but largely instinctively for its own status and survival. It no longer has the authority to lead its men into real sacrifice—hence the pattern of behavior outlined above.”

The Army “disregards cease-fire arrangements, timetables for withdrawal [from bases in Croatia], inspection rights for monitors, etc.” The monitors warned the 12 EC foreign ministers that the violence and repeated attacks on their teams by Serbian land, air, and sea forces have rendered their mission “practically obsolete or at best marginal,” and that “European political and diplomatic authority . . . has lost the prophylactic power it once may seem to have had.”

The authors of the report propose a series of alternative recommendations to the EC, ranging from withdrawal of the observers to the “supply of such effective sea and air deterrent capacity as will make continued army aggression pointless, if not suicidal.”

The report lists a few examples on how to deal with the Serbian aggression: “There is equally good reason to believe that the selective show and use of force—to intimidate and hit the Yugoslav Army in places where it hurts—can cow its bluster and bluff.

“The warship that fires on a defenseless city from a safe distance out to sea must be put in a situation whereby it knows that it can do so at the cost of being promptly sent to the bottom. The battery that shells a hospital must know that within 30 minutes of firing it risks being obliterated. The air force must learn the choice of inaction, being destroyed on the ground or hopelessly outgunned in the air.”

An example of the kind of jackals used by the Army against Croatian civilians is Zeljko Raznjatovic, a terrorist leader who uses the battle name of Arkan. A “former” agent

of the Yugoslav secret police, he is wanted on criminal charges in several European countries. “I suggest that the mayor of Osijek, Zlatko Kramaric, and President Franjo Tudjman had better surrender Osijek themselves, so as to avoid unnecessary destruction and casualties,” Raznjatovic arrogantly told the press on Nov. 27. “I assess that Osijek will fall easier and faster than Vukovar. [If the Croatian resistance continues], we must go to Zagreb too, to defeat them militarily to the very end.”

The *modus operandi* of the Army is to let sadists like “Arkan” get into towns and villages to scare the population out of their homes—already 10% of the Croatian people are refugees—and then repopulate them with ethnically “pure” Serbians.

### Recognition by Christmas?

But the Greater Serbians are in a desperate drive, a knowledgeable source told *EIR*. Reportedly, the Yugoslav Army can count on no more than three weeks of autonomy; then, they will “run out of steam.” The Soviet and Romanian support and supplies they have hitherto enjoyed are vanishing, because the gold and hard currency the Greater Serbians stole from the federal treasury has been spent. This is the reason that the Army went into a total offensive, and at the same time appealed to their friends at the United Nations to send “peacekeeping” troops to guarantee their conquest.

The cynical game is not working, and not because of lack of support of U.N. special envoy Cyrus Vance. Back from his “peace” mission, Vance announced that he had accepted the Greater Serbians’ view on the deployment of troops. He called for the establishment of “ink blot areas” between the two fighting forces—i.e., deep inside Croatian territory. Vance had the nerve to say that this solution had already been applied “successfully” in Cyprus and Lebanon—two nations that were systematically destroyed through these techniques. Vance was not ashamed to argue that the disgusting butchery against the city of Vukovar could be rationalized by the claim that the Croatians had blocked some of the federal barracks. He compared the soldiers in the barracks to “hostages,” thereby attempting to justify the Serbian massacre.

But time is running out for the Greater Serbians and their supporters. On Dec. 2, the foreign ministers of the European Community agreed to lift the sanctions against Slovenia, Croatia, and the other republics of the former Yugoslavia, *except* Serbia and its ally Montenegro. In a statement released on Dec. 2 in Madrid, where a Croatian international office will be opened, Croatian Foreign Minister Zvonimir Separovic said he was confident that most EC states would recognize Slovenia and Croatia by Christmas. “There will be a European summit in Maastricht on Dec. 10 and a foreign ministers meeting on Dec. 18, and we believe there will be a decision then by all or a majority,” Foreign Minister Separovic said.