

Srecko Jurdana on Feb. 11: "The Vance-Owen plan would buy precious time for Serbia to regroup for future genocide in Kosova, Makedonija, and Vojvodina."

creating the danger of a Vietnam-style quagmire which is otherwise nonexistent. Croatian and Bosnia-Hercegovina units can do the job on the ground, provided they can be suitably armed. The United States must act unilaterally and without regard to the British, French, Russians, or others who have criminally bungled the crisis thus far. The following U.S. measures would produce the military collapse of Serbia and end the war within 1-2 months:

- 1) Lift the arms embargo on Croatia and Bosnia-Hercegovina.
- 2) U.S. diplomacy should remove all restrictions on Croatian and Bosnian self-defense against Serbian units on their territory; no state can be an aggressor within its own borders.
- 3) Destroy Serbia's capacity to wage aggressive war through U.S. bombing of key Serbian air bases in Bosnia-Hercegovina, including Banja Luka. Destroy from the air the Serbian long-range artillery concentrations around Sarajevo, Travnik, the Bosanska-Posavina area, Bihac, Bosanski Brod, Orasje, the hills around Visegrad on the Drina, the Zegulja hill near Mostar, Gradacac, Mt. Majevica near Tuzla, Motajica, Donji-Vacuf, Trebinje, Nevesinje, etc. Interdict from the air the Serbian land corridor between Gradacac and Orasje in northern Bosnia and other logistics chokepoints. Interdict Serbian air logistics through enforcement of the no-fly zone against fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters. Inside the Serbian-occupied zone of Croatia, the U.S. must bomb the Serbian-controlled missile concentrations along the Glina-Petrinja axis in the Banija region, and the Serbian artillery positions south of Karlovac and near Slunj in the Kordun region and in the Lika region.
- 4) Issue an ultimatum to Serbia, that if hostilities continue and all Serbian armed units do not retreat inside Serbia,

Serbia will not be considered a privileged sanctuary. In that eventuality, the air war will be carried to Serbian air bases, the Serbian intermediate-range ballistic missile (IRBM) base at Leskovac, the center for Serbian and foreign special forces at Nis and Aleksinac, and other military targets. Serbia itself is mostly a plain, flat as a table, affording little cover against assault from the air.

- 5) An international war crimes tribunal must be set up to try Milosevic and other Serbian leaders who conspired to wage aggressive war and genocide.
- 6) When all armed forces have been demobilized or withdrawn within internationally recognized borders, peace negotiations can begin. A permanent peace order must include a lifting of all International Monetary Fund conditionalities and a cooperative plan for the economic reconstruction and development of all states involved, including Serbia, within the framework of the European "Productive Triangle."

Croatian journalist: U.S. will have to act

Srecko Jurdana, a Croatian journalist, travelled to Rochester, Minnesota early in February to interview political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche. Prior to 1985, Jurdana worked for Radio Zagreb and numerous Croatian magazines. In 1985 he was forced to leave the country, attacked as an "anticommunist." Since his return to Croatia from West Germany in 1989, he has been influential in his country's politics, writing for the leading Croatian newspapers Vecernji List and Vjestnik. The following interview with him appeared in the Rochester Post-Bulletin on Feb. 8, under the headline "U.S. Should Step In, Before It's Too Late, Croatian Says."

Srecko Jurdana has one simple reason why America should intervene soon in the Balkans war—World War III.

The Croatian journalist, who was in Rochester Monday, said it is already too late to stop destruction of much of the Bosnian-Croatian areas by Serbian forces allied with Russia. But it is not too late to stop genocide and to stop the world's great powers from colliding in the Balkans, he said.

Jurdana, 42, was here to interview Lyndon LaRouche, who is serving a sentence in the Federal Medical Center, and to talk about what is happening in his country. He will be in the U.S. 10 days on a trip sponsored by the Schiller Institute, which was started by LaRouche. The institute tries to promote world peace through economic development, said Glenn Mesaros of the institute. It blames much of the misery and war in that part of the world on policies of the International Monetary Fund, which Jurdana said keeps the Third World poor.

Jurdana said he has been within 15 miles of Sarajevo,

which is under heavy Serbian attack, and has been in other besieged cities. Those cities were once in richly historic, beautiful areas that are now ruins. "If you would tour Croatian villages now, you would be terrified," he said. The true extent of the casualties in Sarajevo will not be known until spring, because winter will take its toll on the city, he said.

Croatian culture goes back to the seventh century, he said, but the country was forcibly annexed into part of the new country of Yugoslavia after World War I to keep Germany and Russia separated. The Soviet Union took over after World War II, but once the Soviet Union began to crumble, several republics tried to break away, including Croatia, he said.

That set the stage for the current war, because it gave the Serbs, with ties to Russia, a chance to grab Croatia, Bosnia, and other regions. Serbian policy was simple—genocide. Serbs want to wipe out the Croatian people, wipe out the culture, wipe out historic monuments so there is no memory of culture, he said. . . .

He fears that Russian ultra-conservatives will take power in April and aid Serbia with more military might. That could give Serbia a free hand in trying to conquer other provinces in the region, he said.

Therefore, it is in the United States' best interests to act now, before anything worse happens there, Jurdana said. Serbia is overextended militarily, so a few well-placed air strikes and the U.S. announcement that the Serbs must retreat would force them back. Then, and only then, could there be real peace talks, he said. "You have to stop the fascists, that is basically what is being requested," he said.

"Influential groups" in some European countries don't want to help, because they want to see the region in turmoil, he said. And the United Nations is now protecting Serbs from Croatian counterattacks. That leaves only the United States, he said. LaRouche had the right idea when he said Serbs should pull back and that economic help should be given to all free sides, he said.

But the longer the United States waits, the harder it will be to intervene successfully, he said. "This is that pattern of World War III," he said. "So sooner or later, America will have to get involved."

Beirut, Sarajevo face same struggle

EIR's Paris bureau received the following eyewitness report from a Lebanese reader who requested to remain anonymous. It has been translated from the French.

Today, Lebanon has been pacified. For you and for us, "pacified" should mean "in peace." For the diplomats of every stripe, it means "subjugated"; with mountains of dead bodies fresh in our memories, there is daily terror, humiliation, and frustration.

After 15 years of perseverance, [Syrian President Hafez] Assad has finally gotten hold of Lebanon; true, he had a great deal of help from a string of superstars in international relations, which goes from Kissinger to Roland Dumas, without leaving out, of course, George Bush, François Mitterrand, King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, two or three Britons, a few Israeli leaders, etc.

In Beirut, people are being arrested every day. Some are tortured and "turned," others disappear—like that. In Beirut, on New Year's day, U.S. Ambassador Ryan Crocker sent his good wishes to the Lebanese people and congratulated them on the return to peace. The same tone, same smile from the representative of Great Britain and the ambassador from France.

However, even at the airport, you are seized by a heavy, oppressive feeling. Glances are shifty and filled with suspicion. There are no newspapers that don't have their blank spaces [censored articles—ed.]. There are no neighborhoods without their disappeared persons, snatched in the early morning hours—and their graffitti proclaiming [exiled former Prime Minister] Michel Aoun, or democracy, or even freedom and rights, or all at the same time.

An unreal government, a "tin horn" President, a spicerack Assembly, all under the boot of a certain Assad. For you and for us, we are dealing with an avowed criminal; for them, a realist, serious and respectable. They are the superstars of international relations; they are, also, the journalists, and not the least of them from France and elsewhere. Are they mad? Are we mad?

Lebanon is pacified! But the Lebanese charnel-house is being repeated at this moment in Sarajevo. Make no mistake! And I swear to you, when a reporter says "Milosevic," I hear "Assad," in spite of myself. As for Dumas, Kouchner, and the Clemenceau, it is exactly the same. The same plastic smile, the same bags of rice, and the same cargo. There are even French reporters and British leaders who inform us that the Croats were the Ustashis, which means, after all, formerly pro-Nazi.

Listen up, brave folk!

In Beirut, in the parlor of a convent on Mt. Lebanon, a nun and I had a long conversation on the killing taking place in former Yugoslavia. My interlocutor concluded: "It was the same here. I pray for these poor people. The criminals must be tried . . . to make an example. . . . They and their accomplices must answer before mankind." Let this be done.