

LaRouche: ‘Court-martial SOBs behind embassy bombing’

by Jeffrey Steinberg

Within hours of learning of the May 7 attack on the Chinese embassy in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, which was hit by three separate precision-guided bombs, Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche demanded a thorough, rapid public investigation into the attack, and the initiating of court-martial proceedings against all of the NATO and U.S. military command personnel implicated. Such a list would necessarily include Gen. Wesley Clark, the NATO Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR), who brazenly defended the NATO action, proclaiming the attack on the Chinese embassy was merely an “anomaly” in a system that is otherwise nearly perfect.

LaRouche warned that, if the truth about the bombing, including the identification of those in the NATO command who “knew or should have known” about the attack, is not made public and acted on swiftly, the consequences for the Clinton administration, NATO, and the fragile stability of the Eurasian region will be grave.

In several statements, LaRouche spelled out the evidence that the bombing was anything but an “accident.” Rather, it was the premeditated effort by a British-centered grouping within the NATO command, to wreck the prospects for Balkan peace, and broader cooperation between the United States, the “Survivors’ Club” nations of Russia, China, and India, and several continental western European nations.

Even before the bombing of the Chinese embassy, the escalation of the Balkan war and the continuation of the bombing sorties over the northern and southern parts of Iraq represented a dangerously escalating pattern of “localized” military conflicts, building toward a new Thirty Years’ War

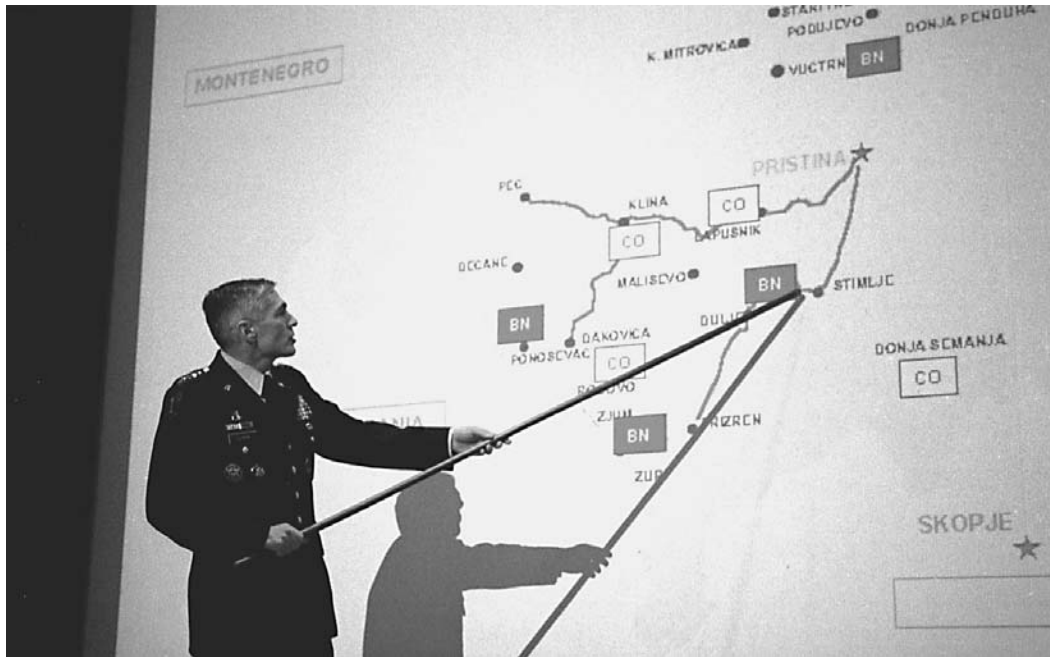
on a global scale, with the likely eventual introduction of a nuclear weapons component. Such a spreading virus of “each against all” warfare—as distinct from the kind of combat associated with World War I or World War II—is the essence of the simmering third world war, LaRouche warned. And, with the dumping of the Primakov government in Russia, the prospect of an International Monetary Fund-friendly dictatorship being installed in Moscow, accelerates the threat of a Balkan war spreading rapidly into a confrontation, involving the exchange of theater nuclear weapons.

The bombing of the Chinese embassy, at the moment that President Clinton was working with Russia, with several nations of continental Europe, and with United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan, to end the Balkan conflict through a diplomatic settlement and an economic reconstruction plan, has once again kick-started the momentum toward just such a global conflagration.

The Chinese embassy bombing served the strategic interests of Britain, whose Blair government has been pressing for spreading the Balkan conflict into a broader quagmire, into which the United States would be sucked in and destroyed. General Clark is typical of the nominally American military and national security personnel who have been reading from a British script since the eruption of the “hot wars” in the Persian Gulf and Balkans last autumn.

An historical parallel

LaRouche recalled the 1961 Bay of Pigs fiasco, when U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Adlai Stevenson was caught in a series of bald-face lies, denying U.S. responsibility



Gen. Wesley Clark, NATO Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, defended the NATO bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade as the result of an “anomaly” in a system that is otherwise perfectly okay. Here, Clark gives a press briefing at NATO headquarters on April 13.

for the failed invasion. Days later, when the facts came out, Stevenson was forced to make a public admission that he had lied, and to apologize.

LaRouche equated the May 10 Pentagon press conference by Defense Secretary William Cohen with that Stevenson performance during the Bay of Pigs.

Cohen, along with two unnamed “senior intelligence officials” of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), put out a preposterous cover story, that the CIA had failed to update its maps, and, as a result, the 1996 move of the Chinese embassy to a new location in “New Belgrade” was never noted, and the building was mistaken for a Federal Republic of Yugoslavia supply and procurement ministry site.

Three people were killed and more than 20 injured in the missile attack, which, according to news accounts, may have employed the Global Positioning System (GPS) satellite guidance system, used by American B-52 and B-2 bombers. (Asked by *EIR* on May 12 to confirm the GPS story, a Pentagon spokesman declined to comment.) The GPS system has built-in fail-safe mechanisms to prevent the targetting of “off-limit” targets. Foreign embassies are the highest priority off-limit targets, and the idea that a human error in the “basement of the CIA” could have caused the Chinese embassy to be incorrectly located on the targetting maps is preposterous.

It is not surprising that the Chinese government has steadfastly rejected the Cohen-NATO cover story, and remains convinced that the attack on the embassy was a premeditated action by some elements within NATO, hell-bent on a “clash of civilizations” between the West and China.

Oops!

As is often the case with such a bald-faced cover-up, it takes several days for the package of lies to be assembled. Often in the heat of the moment, immediately following an event, like the Chinese embassy bombing, more of a truthful, albeit limited picture is presented.

Case in point: In the Pentagon briefing on May 8, the day after the Chinese embassy was bombed, Maj. Gen. Chuck Wald described at length, how pilots carefully study their targets before a bombing mission. His description, delivered two days before the “CIA map” story was put out, shows how impossible the “old map” theory is.

Wald was asked about the planning process for a target, and he responded that “it’s very comprehensive.” He said that targets “are reviewed routinely,” by many different people. And before a target is attacked, people again review the targets, and that the review is done by both intelligence people, and by pilots and air crews.

Wald said that once a pilot gets a sheet with a target on it, there “is no reason to question that.” But, the pilot will spend a lot of time studying the target; as Wald said, “the higher the threat, the more value the target, the more time you would study it.” And, he added, you would study the terrain and anything around the target. “My feeling would be, in an area like Belgrade that’s probably the most highly defended area that U.S. forces and NATO forces have flown in, similar to Baghdad in the last decade at least, that in an area like that, you’re going to do a lot of study. . . . I would suspect . . . that a lot of study was put into that target.”

On the same day, May 8, at the NATO press conference

in Brussels, Maj. Gen. Walter Jertz told reporters that NATO had attacked the building which it believed was the headquarters of the Federal Directorate for Supply and Procurement in Belgrade. He was asked by a reporter whether it were conceivable that “we were using an out-of-date map that did not have the new Chinese embassy on it?” Jertz answered:

“We go through a very thoroughly researched targeting process. We do validate targets if they are legitimate targets with all the information we can get. These targets will then be placed on the master target list consistent with NATO plans and those targets, once they are legitimate, we are going to attack. I have no evidence that we are using old maps, wrong maps.”

Chinese media feature LaRouche

Within hours of the announcement of the bombing of the Chinese embassy, Lyndon LaRouche was being asked to comment, and on the appropriate steps to be taken to avoid a further catastrophe. LaRouche’s call for “immediate court-martial proceedings” against every official in the NATO chain of command implicated in the bombing, was featured prominently in a wire from China’s official news agency, Xinhua, issued from Beijing less than 24 hours after the Belgrade attack.

Xinhua reported on May 8: “Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr., a famous economist who founded *EIR* 25 years ago, sent a written statement, calling for ‘immediate court-martial proceedings. . . . There should have been standing orders at all relevant levels against any targeting which would have put the embassy and consular offices of neutral powers at any conceivable risk. The lack of such standing orders would be sufficient grounds for court-martial proceedings against officers at the highest-ranking positions.’

“LaRouche urged the U.S. government to denounce the attack on the Chinese Embassy, and hold those in the NATO command responsible,” Xinhua continued. “LaRouche condemned the British government’s position, of sparing no effort to continue the Yugoslav war. He pointed out that the timing and nature of the bombing show that they were particularly useful to the British Blair government’s policy of continuing the Balkan war.”

Guangming Daily, a widely circulated Chinese regional newspaper whose correspondents in Belgrade were killed in the embassy attack, also featured LaRouche’s statement, along with a second message from LaRouche, extending his condolences.

By May 10, the Chinese government had officially responded to the embassy bombing, in language similar to that of LaRouche. Chinese Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan demanded that the United States and NATO conduct a complete and thorough investigation of the attack, and promptly make the details public. Those responsible for the attack must be severely punished, he stated.

Chinese defense specialists said on May 9, that the attack

on the Chinese embassy in Yugoslavia by NATO was in no way an accident, *China Daily* reported the next day. One member of the Chinese Academy of Military Sciences concluded that the attack had been planned and carefully plotted. A mistake might have been possible if only one bomb had hit the embassy; but the fact that three missiles hit the building from three different angles made it impossible to label it an accident.

The experts noted that the Chinese embassy in Yugoslavia stands out, and there is no similar building within 200 meters. U.S. missiles normally have a margin of error of less than 10 meters, but the Chinese embassy is a kilometer away from NATO’s claimed target, the specialist said.

Groundswell behind call for probe

By May 11, the day after Cohen’s shameful performance at the Pentagon, senior officials from continental European NATO governments were also demanding an open and honest probe, and serious action against any guilty parties. Following a telephone conversation with Chancellor Gerhard Schröder of Germany on the evening of May 10, Italian Prime Minister Massimo D’Alema said that “beyond the formal expressions of regret for the bombing of the Chinese embassy, the Atlantic Alliance should conduct a rigorous inquiry into the circumstances that led to this unprecedented incident.”

Schröder, the same evening, declared that he is “not at all satisfied with the official explanations given by the Alliance on the affair, to date,” and that he insists on a “thorough investigation,” as well.

D’Alema also told Schröder that it “would be extremely serious for the Alliance’s credibility, if it were to stop at a hasty justification and not give the public the utmost transparency on the cause of such a tragic error.”

The fact that the heads of the Italian and German governments share the view that a rigorous probe must take place, is also of some importance, because the two leaders discussed the issue on the eve of Schröder’s one-day visit to China, for talks with Chinese leaders on May 12. Furthermore, at the point that President Clinton visibly broke with British Prime Minister Tony Blair over Britain’s drive for a Balkan ground war, during the April 23-25 NATO summit in Washington, Schröder and D’Alema forged much closer ties to the U.S. President, ties that remain critical to any diplomatic solution to the ever-more complex Balkan war.

Even some prominent NATO military officials have now joined in condemning the Chinese embassy bombing as a willful provocation. In an exclusive interview with Germany’s national Deutschlandfunk radio network, on May 10, Germany’s former Assistant Defense Minister Willy Wimmer said that he is convinced the bombing was not an accident, that it was carried out on purpose.

Wimmer asked: “In what other way should one interpret this attack, than as being an assault on the potential role of China at the United Nations?”

LaRouche on China embassy bombing

Democratic Presidential pre-candidate Lyndon LaRouche issued the following statement on May 10, on the implications of the recent NATO bombing of China's Belgrade Embassy.

The following points are to be emphasized as the crucial dilemmas in the bombing of China's Belgrade Embassy:

1. The most important element of proof of the certainty of willful guilt by parties at the highest level of the NATO command, feature the following:

a) The use of "over-the-horizon" targetting of regulated trajectory bombs and missiles requires a GPS-based method of enforced exclusion of non-permitted targets (such as embassies, hospitals, schools, etc.) from the targetting.

In other words, every electronic target must be stated in terms of military-grade GPS position, and that targetting screened against the GPS-position list of prohibited targets. A coincidence must ensure immediate, automatic pre-cancellation of the target. This is to ensure that no "Strangelove"-type of character within the NATO air and ship-based air and missile command bypasses a central prohibition against those prohibited targets.

Negligence in respect to efficient enforcement of this rule is, according to the "drunken driver principle," already sufficient proof of culpability at all relevant layers of the NATO military command, from the top down.

b) The obligation to effect and enforce such targetting discipline goes automatically with "the territory." Any failure to install and maintain such a discipline efficiently, is a court-martial offense on principle. Any violation of that rule is *prima facie* evidence of culpability by those officials at the highest level who should have established and efficiently enforced such rules. The least result of violation of this rule shall be prompt dismissal of all such officials "for the good of the service." Willful violation of the requirement to establish and enforce such a rule is proof of a culpability of the relatively highest degree. The Nuremberg wartime standard of "either knew, or should have known" applies to any relevant high-ranking NATO military or other official of any nation.

In the case of a military official, this is sufficient cause for court-martial proceedings. In the case of a relevant non-military official, this is cause for war-crimes proceedings. In the most important cases, the culpable military official is also subject to war-crimes proceedings.

c) Enforcement of the "either knew, or should have known" standard requires no proof of explicit intent.

d) The statement of NATO's Gen. Wesley Clark, to the

effect that he continues to stand by the system, if verified as to accuracy of the quote and explicit context of the utterance, would be sufficient proof to require his immediate discharge for cause of culpable intent to foster negligence in related matters.

2. The foregoing rules apply as long as the warfare continues. Only under the rule of the Treaty of Westphalia can exceptions to such prosecutions be allowed. This is relevant to the matter of possible charges of crimes against humanity which might be placed at some future time against such parties as officials of Yugoslavia or others. The power of forgiveness is relegated in cases of offenses committed during warfare or similar states of conflict, is a treaty power, which if adopted, must be respected in perpetuity. This power of forgiveness is a natural extension of the principle of justified warfare, as typified by the labored definition of this connection in the course of the protracted negotiations of the Treaty of Westphalia.

Revenge is never an honorable feature of justice. Action for purposes of revenge is itself a crime against the principles of justified warfare, and thus a crime against humanity. Revenge is an act of barbarism in and of itself.

3. For reasons of proof defined above, the targetting of China's Belgrade Embassy was not only culpable per se, but clearly intentional.

a) The failure to establish and apply reasonably available means to ensure no targetting of prohibited places is sufficient proof of intent under the Nuremberg rule of "knew, or should have known."

b) There are expressed motives by NATO and related relevant officials, before and after the bombing of China's Belgrade Embassy, to show the intent to conduct such violations of international law under the pretext created by use of covert means, to lay the blame after the event on an anomaly in the system. This intent has been shown, not only by the statement attributed to NATO's Gen. Wesley Clark, but by such opponents of the recent decisions by both U.S. President Clinton and NATO's Washington summit, as Her Majesty's Blair government. A similar intent is indicated for the cases of palpably disgruntled opponents of President Clinton's decision within the U.S.A. institutions participating in NATO operations against Yugoslavia, and against strong opponents of President Clinton's doctrine of "constructive engagement within China."

c) The NATO bombing of China's Belgrade Embassy is consistent, in imputable intent and consequences, with the efforts of the British government and the U.S. anti-China lobby, to enrage China to such a degree as to undermine the present government of China and its efforts to maintain constructive engagement with the U.S.A.

4. The great folly in U.S. policy which contributes to allowing such a mess to be created by such meddlers, is the error of allowing it to be said that the present Balkan war is a local Balkan issue defined solely by the issue of Kosovo "eth-

nic cleansing.” This war is the result of an orchestrated campaign, led by Her Majesty’s Blair government, and including Blair government sympathizers within the U.S.A. political and executive establishment, to introduce a new global military policy. This new policy was first attempted to be put into effect in the aborted effort to launch a new war against Iraq, during early 1998, and was set into motion on or about the time of the first weeks of October 1998, with the sequence of bombing of Sudan, Iraq, and the deliberate abortion of the Rambouillet negotiations to the purpose of orchestration of the present Balkan war.

The target of this war has been the collaboration developing among China, India, and Russia, assuming that the targets are sufficiently weak, in face of a confrontation with the NATO superpower force, that they have no choice but to submit to the terrifying will of Her Majesty’s Blair government, even to the extent of allying with Her Majesty’s government against the U.S.A. itself.

This consideration must be faced. The implication is, that any U.S. official supporting the policies of Her Majesty’s Blair government may be acting treasonously, if not otherwise explicitly guilty of treason, against the U.S.A.

LaRouche on Montgomery, Churchill, and Blair

This statement was issued later in the day on May 10.

1. It is urgent that we recognize, that the purpose of Her Majesty’s Blair government, in the NATO bombing of China’s Belgrade Embassy, was to break up the China-Russia-India cooperation, by aid of using the bombing incident to tilt the situation in China against the existing government’s policies of cooperation with President Clinton. The bombing of the Belgrade Embassy is to be seen as a follow-on to the parliamentary destabilization of the current government of India. For this reason, anyone supporting Blair’s NATO policies against the policies of President Clinton must be regarded as virtually a traitor, not only to the U.S.A., but the human race as a whole.

2. For this reason, there must be no temporizing with such actual and virtual traitorous actions in connection within current NATO operations. Unless President Clinton uses his authority to exact, publicly and loudly, brutally summary, ruthless actions against those responsible for the bombing of that Belgrade Embassy, the Clinton Presidency and much else will almost certainly go down. This will probably turn out to be a test for the entirety of Clinton’s Presidency. Has he the will to take the exemplary action against NATO officers required by this situation? If not, it is not likely that his Presidency will survive currently unfolding developments.

3. Two pages from the 1930s and 1940s experience should

be reviewed as case studies of relevance to policy-shaping in the current circumstances. a) The role of the German military in the history of 1930s-1940s Germany, from the fall of the Schleicher government through and beyond the heroic, crushed effort of July 1944; b) The outcome of the Hurley mission to China late during World War II.

How the German military failed

The British betrayal of the July 1944 coup against Hitler must be examined against two associated developments: a) The British role in assisting the Gestapo in putting down the coup, as related to the continuing role of Britain’s delaying the end of the war in Europe by at least six months through the continued posting of Field Marshal Montgomery, from El Alamein through “Market Garden;” b) The role of the British influence, as expressed by the roles of both Lord Mountbatten and the Russell-Needham gang, on the Allied China-Burma-India theater.

These two experiences illustrate the following lessons respecting principles of strategy and diplomacy.

The purpose of Britain’s repeated deployments of Montgomery, into situations where competent British commanders might have failed to delay Allied victory by as much as six months each time, was consistent with the standing policy of His Majesty’s Churchill government (e.g., “the soft underbelly of Europe” policy), of delaying the victory as long as possible, to ensure the maximal mutual destruction of the nation, economy, and people of both Germany and the Soviet Union. This had the included purpose of eliminating, to the degree possible those German families whose role would have been crucial in the reconstruction of a post-war Germany. It was also consistent with the role of British and U.S.A. “air power” fanatics in the terror-bombing of Dresden, Magdeburg, etc.

The significance of the dirty British role in assisting the Gestapo against the July 1944 resistance, forces us to look at the German military leadership’s role on a deeper level, its role in the fate of General Kurt von Schleicher, during events of the interval January 28, 1933-June 30, 1934. It was the German military command’s failure to deal with the problem presented by President Hindenburg’s capitulation to the Adolf Hitler candidacy and so-called “Roehmputsch” (a.k.a. “Night of the Long Knives”), which allowed Hitler as Chancellor to consolidate his power. Hitler’s ascent to power was, at every stage, a British-directed (Montagu Norman, Hjalmar Schacht, Baron Schröder, von Papen, Averell Harriman, Oscar von Bismarck) operation, just as the doom of the July 1944 resistance was assured through British intervention on the side of Adolf Hitler. This should be seen in its totality, from January 1933 through July 1944, as a lesson in the nature of the moral limits beyond which a military can tolerate remaining complicit with the rule of “reason of state.” This is very much applicable, at the present moment, to the case of anyone who tends to demand or support a cover-up for those criminals of the NATO military command who have been

complicit in the bombing of China's Belgrade Embassy.

The only "tragic accident" in the case of this bombing is that which will befall the U.S.A. and Europe should the "only an unfortunate accident," or the "after all, it is really only Milosevic's fault" sort of pure political bullshit continue to be tolerated in the command in the U.S.A. and NATO Europe. If the Clinton administration is to survive, the Blair government must be held accountable for its criminal role, and NATO must be instantly purified by appropriate courts-martial and related actions against those responsible.

The policy of His Majesty's Churchill and earlier governments, in promoting the build-up of Hitler, and in seeking to delay victory against him, must be seen as part of a larger picture of that time.

From the beginning, U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt was fighting two wars: one to defeat Hitler, and a second, to ensure that British "free trade" and the legacies of the Portuguese, Dutch, British, French, and Belgian empires were eradicated from the post-war world order. During the course of the actual war-fighting, the Soviet Union and China represented the principal strategic partners of the U.S.A. in the post-war defeat of the British Empire and its assets. Prolonging the war in Europe, to maximize the ruin suffered both by the Soviet Union and the other nations of continental Europe, especially Germany and France in the west, was an integral part of the secret war between Churchill on the one side, and Roosevelt, MacArthur, et al., on the opposing side. Preventing a coalition of the Kuomintang and Chinese Communist forces, was a key part of the effort to weaken China's immediate post-World War II role, just as the British restored Indo-China to French colonial status to the same general end.

Today, the same dirty British game is echoed in the role of Her Majesty's Blair government behind the bombing of China's Belgrade Embassy. (Let any who deny that to be the fact of the matter, go into the lavatory and keep washing their mouths out with soap until their foolish mouths cease to emit the disgusting offal of their immoral quibbling.) The attacks on China from the dirtiest parts of the London-directed U.S. establishment (e.g., the so-called "Christian Solidarity" accomplices of the genocide against six millions or more in Central Africa), the right-wing intelligence games attempting to pit Taiwan and complicit elements of Japan against China, the British efforts, as in NATO's bombing of China's Belgrade Embassy, to play currents within China against the present government's policy, are echoes of the same British China policy we have seen since the days of the British Opium Wars.

The present British monarchy has always been the deadly enemy of the U.S. patriotic tradition. Henry Kissinger said as much, on May 10, 1982, in his London Chatham House address. Even on the rare occasions that monarchy has been accidentally a U.S.A. ally, it has also been, always, a deadly enemy, the most deadly enemy of the U.S. The definition of an intelligent U.S. patriot is a person who recognizes this to be true.

The recent public displays of Prime Minister Blair and his cabinet (not counting those which have occurred on Clapham Common), have been extreme in this respect. The lunatic outpourings from Blair's filthy mouth, the matching effusions from the dirtiest of all British Commonwealth press, the Hollinger Corporation's London *Daily Telegraph*, and the recent conduct of the British-controlled U.S. General, NATO's Clark, in the matter of the bombing of the Belgrade Embassy, are but the latest phase in the not-so-secret war of Her Majesty's government against the most vital strategic interests of the U.S.A.

Documentation

China demands thorough, public investigation

On May 12, Chinese President Jiang Zemin and Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji met German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder in Beijing. This was the first meeting between Chinese leaders with the head of a NATO country since the May 7 NATO bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade.

Chancellor Schröder had voiced dissatisfaction with the explanation of the bombing given to him by NATO Secretary General Javier Solana, who briefed Schröder just before he left for China. In Beijing, Chancellor Schröder communicated Germany's profound regret and condolences to the Chinese leadership and people for their losses, and expressed his desire to see a full, satisfactory investigation of the NATO action carried out.

Statement of President Jiang Zemin

The following summary is from the Chinese newspaper, People's Daily:

"We are at a crucial point in history," President Jiang told Chancellor Schröder. "The two world wars of the 20th century caused great catastrophes for mankind. . . . After World War II, the German people took the path of peace and development. This is an important cause of Germany's postwar economic success. [According to a Chinese saying:] 'Don't forget past things, they are the teachers of future things.' I hope Germany will have far-sighted politicians, won't forget the lessons of the two world wars, and will treasure the hard-earned period of peace.

"People did not expect that at the end of this century the U.S.-led NATO would launch a regional war in the Balkans, causing tragic losses to the Yugoslav people. The clouds of war are gathering over Europe, and this is a shock to the whole world. From the start the Chinese government and people have resolutely opposed this. . . . European peace and security

and world peace and security are linked together. Every attempt to single-handedly manage world affairs, and to dictate other people's destiny in an overbearing manner, will get nowhere, but inevitably start with losses and end with destruction.

"Amid the dropping of bombs one cannot negotiate. . . . The bombing of the Chinese embassy has aroused the violent indignation of 1.2 billion Chinese people. During modern times, the Chinese people suffered invasions and insults from the great powers of the West, so that defending national sovereignty and national dignity is a glorious tradition to us. Present-day China is no longer the poor, weak China of the past. Whoever thinks they can have a replay of the history of bullying and humiliating us, will inevitably break their foot on a rock."

Statement of Premier Zhu Rongji

China's People's Daily also reported that a tough-speaking Premier Zhu Rongji talked about the Kosovo crisis and the embassy bombing in his meeting with Chancellor Schröder. Premier Zhu stated the position of China as follows:

1. The Kosovo problem is a domestic internal affair of Yugoslavia. There are many complicated and intricate ethnic, religious and other contradictions involved, which can only be settled politically and in a peaceful manner. Military action only aggravates the problem.

2. The NATO military actions are not authorized by the UN Security Council and we condemn them.

3. Fifty days of savage NATO bombing of Yugoslavia have led to huge losses of innocent lives and hundreds of thousands of people dislocated. This war, launched in the name of "guarding humanitarian rights," has led to the greatest humanitarian disaster in Europe since World War II.

4. NATO has not only constantly expanded the bombing, but brazenly bombed the Chinese embassy, violating Chinese sovereignty. Claims of a so-called "mistake" cannot convince the Chinese people, and foreign public opinion doesn't believe them either. We demand a complete and thorough investigation followed by full publication of the results, and severe punishment of the schemers and troublemakers who engineered the attack.

5. China supports the UN peace process toward a political solution of the Kosovo crisis. The Chinese government takes note of the G-8 declaration. We consider the stopping of the bombing as a precondition for a political solution. As long as bombing is going on, what is there to talk about? As a permanent member of the UN Security Council, China cannot agree to discussing any peace plan, while the bombing is continuing. Furthermore, any UN Security Council resolution or peace plan must be agreed to by the sovereign nation of Yugoslavia, otherwise it cannot be realized and has no significance.

6. We again demand a stop to the U.S.-led NATO bombing of Yugoslavia, and we call on Germany and all other peace-loving peoples and nations to do the same.

Clark: 'Take my word on this'

On May 9, NATO's Supreme Allied Commander (SACEUR) Gen. Wesley Clark made a number of comments to ABC News reporter Sam Donaldson and columnist George Will via telephone about NATO bombing of the Chinese Embassy. Clark has consistently taken military positions that *agree* with Her Majesty's Tony Blair government, and which *disagree* with the position taken by his own President, Bill Clinton. Since the April 23-25 NATO summit when the Blair/Clinton rift became most obvious, Clark took the British side on two major issues: Clark advocated bombing ships making deliveries to Yugoslavia (including Russian ships); and he drew up a plan to use "ground troops" in a "semi-permissive" environment in Kosovo, without the agreement of Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic. Both positions had been already ruled out by Clinton.

The statement quoted below has already been identified by U.S. Democratic Presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche as grounds for court-martial proceedings.

Asked, "How did we mistakenly hit the Chinese embassy?" Clark replied, "Well, the target was mistakenly identified. There was no pilot or crew error, as has been noted. And it was a case of the selection of the target and the process that was involved there. We've looked at that process, we've got confidence in it, we think this was an anomaly and we're going to continue to intensify this air campaign. We're not going to let an incident like this deter us from doing what we think is right and necessary. . . . We've looked at the process. We think this was an anomaly. We've got confidence in the process and we're going to continue to target."

Confronted that it was "a fairly large intelligence breakdown," Clark said again he'll just forge ahead. "You're going to have to take my word for it on this program that we're pretty confident in what we know. . . . And we are dealing out some very strong blows."

Cohen: Forget all the earlier lies

On May 10, U.S. Defense Secretary William Cohen, a member of the British-dominated "Principals Committee," took the stage at the Pentagon to personally give the "official, in-depth" lies on why NATO bombed the Chinese embassy. Cohen was followed by two unnamed "senior intelligence officials" from the CIA and the Defense Intelligence Agency. Here are excerpts from the briefing:

"In simple terms, one of our planes attacked the wrong target because our bombing instruction was based on an outdated map. . . . There were several mistakes made in identifying and locating this [correct] target [Federal Directorate for Supply and Procurement]. . . . the Directorate was near the building they had targetted. . . . The building they did target turned out to be the Chinese embassy, but their maps inaccurately located the embassy in a different part of Belgrade."

Elaborating this "theory of two errors"—that the Directorate was mapped at the wrong place, and the Chinese embassy was mapped at the wrong place from an earlier map—

Cohen confirmed that “embassies are on a list of no-strike targets.” Cohen said the targetting had been done with a 1992 map, which, he claimed, had been updated in 1997 and 1998.

Cohen said “he believed” that the bomber was a U.S. plane. He also said that the DIA (which is under his control at the Department of Defense), the CIA, and the National Imagery Mapping Agency (NIMA) were jointly responsible for updating the maps.

Asked how he justified continuing the bombing after this massive mistake, Cohen defensively said that “roughly 12” out of 4,036 combat strikes “have involved unintended casualties,” which he called, “an outstanding record of achievement.”

Therefore, continued Cohen, based on this “outstanding record of achievement,” “they’re reviewing the maps, but they’re satisfied, given the rate of accuracy that we’ve had during the past 45 days, that the record has been pretty outstanding. . . . They still are very highly confident of the imagery that they have and the maps that they have.”

When asked if those responsible would be punished, Cohen stonewalled, “We have to wait for the investigation to find out why . . . then we’ll take whatever measures are necessary at that point.”

Cohen announced a series of corrective measures: Changes in foreign embassy locations will be reported by the State Department to the DIA, CIA, NIMA; procedures to rapidly update databases will be instituted by the DIA and NIMA; and other targeting methods will be strengthened.

Cohen was followed by two anonymous senior CIA and DIA officials, who claimed that the CIA had chosen the target. The CIA had the correct street address for the Serbian directorate, they said. But because its 1997 base map of Belgrade did not show street addresses, the CIA extrapolated the coordinates using “other sources” and targeted the wrong building.

One of the senior officials said, “Nobody can assure anybody that it’s going to be a hundred percent accurate and up to date. It’s what we strive for but the reality is it’s difficult and impossible to achieve. . . . Databases have always been a challenge to keep current. . . . We have been through some fairly significant targetting evolutions, especially since last November. Iraq, Belgrade.”

There were a number of startling admissions in the answers to questions from reporters. Among the admissions were that this location *was known* to be the Chinese Embassy: “I’m sure that people from our [U.S.] embassy had been in that building [the Chinese Embassy] over the last three years,” and that there were other systems to check the targetting. “There’s a multi-stage check, both within the intelligence community and at DOD, to make sure that there is no—that this is the correct location. It’s a multi-step process. None of those fail-safes worked.”

Cohen hopes to slam the lid on the cover-up with the simple statement, “In this particular case, it was not a human error or mechanical error. It was an *institutional* error.” But it is clear that his report completely contradicted earlier “offi-

cial” statements by U.S. and German NATO generals (see article, p. 54), and has been rejected by military experts from active duty high-ranking NATO officers like Germany’s Deputy Defense Minister Walter Stuetzle, and by highly decorated U.S. veterans.

British blueblood insults China, UN

At the emergency session of the UN Security Council called by the Chinese regarding the bombing of their embassy, Britain’s Sir Jeremy Greenstock warned the Security Council that China’s “selective concern” was inappropriate. The official press release from the UN Security Council in New York says:

“Greenstock said . . . he wished to restate some essential points. The Kosovo crisis was ‘unpleasant.’ Over one million people had been beaten out of their homes, and several thousand had been killed, as a result of President Milosevic’s decisions, and yet midnight Council meetings had not taken place concerning this. NATO had taken forceful action to reverse this tragedy. The Council should not be in the business of selective concern.

“NATO did not target civilians or embassies, he said. It was a distortion to suggest that the Embassy had been deliberately attacked. . . .”

UN Security Council war crisis meeting

On May 7, UN Secretary General Kofi Annan issued a statement about the bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade. The statement said he was “shocked and distressed to learn that NATO air strikes apparently hit civilian buildings in Yugoslavia on Friday, including a hospital in Nis and the embassy of the People’s Republic of China in Belgrade, with attendant loss of life and many injured.” He reiterated his conviction that “an urgent political solution must be found to the present crisis.”

On May 8, at 3:43 a.m., the UN Security Council member countries—China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, the United States, Brazil, Canada, Gabon, Gambia, Malaysia, Namibia, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Argentina, and Bahrain—convened an emergency meeting at the request of the government of China. Later that day, the Security Council issued an official press release on the meeting. Here are excerpts:

“On midnight of 7 May, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), led by the United States, flagrantly attacked the embassy of China with three missiles causing deaths, injuries and serious damage, the Chinese representative told the Security Council early this morning as it met at China’s request.

“The bombing of Yugoslavia by NATO had caused enor-

mous damage and now China's sovereignty had been violated as well, as had the basic norms of international relations. . . . China registered the strongest possible protest.

"Speaking again at the end of the meeting, he said the argument that NATO did not intentionally bomb the embassy and therefore it had not contravened the convention on diplomatic protection, was absurd. Whether deliberate or not, the incident was a blatant transgression of international law, and NATO must take responsibility for its actions. . . .

"The U.S. representative said that the facts had not yet been confirmed, but that NATO was investigating the matter. NATO did not target civilians, or embassies. If it was responsible for the incident, he was deeply sorry. However, one man alone was responsible for the crisis: Slobodan Milosevic.

"The Russian representative asked, 'How many people must die or be left homeless, and how many countries destabilized to punish one person? . . .'

"The representative of the Netherlands said he could not accept comparisons of accidental casualties with systematic killings, rapes, intimidation and the burning of houses [by] Belgrade. . . . Collateral damage was always deplorable . . . but it was, by definition, accidental.

"A diplomatic solution was still possible, Belarus' representative said. The Council had a key role to play, in accordance with its powers under the Charter. NATO's actions

were contrary to international law.

"Iraq's representative, calling for immediate cessation of NATO's acts, said the U.S. flouted international law and the rights of nations and peoples. In Iraq, 'smart American bombs' had spared no church, school or hospital. . . . The country had withstood the assault and rebuilt . . . Yugoslavia would do so as well.

"Cuba's representative said he hoped it would not take 20 years for the war to be viewed as a mistake. That had happened in the past, and only after 4 million Vietnamese and 50,000 United States citizens had died."

China and Namibia

Several members of the Security Council made statements. Here are fuller versions of the statements of the representatives of China and Namibia.

"**Qin Huasun** (China) read a statement from the Chinese government that said that at midnight of 7 May, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), led by the United States, flagrantly attacked the embassy of China with three missiles from different angles and caused serious damage. Two people had died, two were missing, and many were injured. Flagrant bombing by NATO, led by the United States, had already caused enormous casualties and now it had gone so far as to bomb the Chinese embassy. . . . China expressed the utmost indignation and severe condemnation of this barbaric activity. It made the strongest protest. NATO, headed by the United States, must assume the responsibility. China reserved the right to take further measures.

"The working buildings and the residence of the embassy in Yugoslavia — indeed the whole embassy from the fifth floor to the basement — had been destroyed, he said. All embassy staff had either been sent to hospital for treatment or had been withdrawn to hotels. That was a serious incident and deserved the utmost indignation and the strongest condemnation. Even in times of war it was recognized that diplomatic institutes should not be violated and diplomats should be protected. . . . It was a crime of war and should be punished. China demanded a NATO investigation of the incident and that NATO account for it. The frenzied bombardment by NATO, led by the United States, of Yugoslavia over the last 45 days had resulted in civilian casualties. It had now violated a mission. This was shocking. NATO should stop the air strikes immediately and unconditionally."

"**Martin Andjaba** (Namibia) said he was dismayed and shocked that just when diplomatic efforts had consolidated toward a much needed political solution for Kosovo, military action had intensified resulting in loss of life and destruction of property. He recalled the recent successful humanitarian visit to the region by the Reverend Jesse Jackson, resulting in the release of the United States prisoners of war. . . . Namibia had underscored that continued hostilities in Yugoslavia would have unimaginable consequences."

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