

said to have been an early proponent of bombing the Serbs. This position no doubt contributed to the fact that Blair nominated Smith for Deputy SACEUR in November 1998. As Deputy SACEUR, Smith would also have operational oversight over the bombing list. Furthermore, as a veteran of Royal Army's Parachute Regiment, he, like General Shelton, has spent much of his career in the Special Forces.

It should be also noted that U.S.-British cooperation in the recent bombings against Iraq, no doubt has led to similar cooperation in Kosovo.

As for dropping bombs, the only nations known to be in this business are the United States, Britain, and France. There are complaints that the French are not doing their fair share. The other air forces, such as the Germans, Dutch, and Italians, are involved in mostly protection missions for the bombers and are not involved in actually bombing.

Fail safe, is fail safe

The attempt by Defense Secretary Cohen to put responsibility for the bombing on an "institutional failure," can only be judged an extremely poor excuse for a cover-up. The assertion that the Defense Intelligence Agency and the National Imagery and Mapping Agency were not informed about the new Chinese Embassy, is as much of a bald-faced lie as it is ridiculous.

According to one military source with experience in target confirmation, targets are in fact confirmed on the ground. Since the bombing of a nation's embassy is an act of war, these are priority targets to avoid. Their positions are not left to bureaucrats maintaining a database at the National Imagery and Mapping Agency, but are the responsibility of those in charge of the operation. This was the case even in Iraq, where far more bombs were dropped than over Belgrade, with no hits on embassies. This is no doubt the case in Serbia. In fact, there have been press reports that British Special Air Services units which would be responsible for confirming these targets, have been deployed into Serbia and Kosovo.

Furthermore, there are no such things as old maps. The first task any air force pilot must carry out before he gets into his plane, is to check the date on his map. It cannot be more than 30 days old. If this is the case, are we to believe that those planning the missions use maps that are a year old?

Based on two previous bombing campaigns, planning for the bombing of Serbia and Belgrade did not start a few weeks or even a few months before the bombing commenced. The United States began planning for the 1995 Operation Deliberate Force no later than 1993, long before NATO and the UN dared to even contemplate air strikes against the Bosnian Serbs. It is safe to assume that planning for a bombing campaign against Serbia was begun on a contingency basis at the same time or shortly thereafter, allowing for on-the-ground confirmation of bombing targets

long before the air war was launched.

The fact that the type of munition used has not been released also points to a cover-up. Although precision-guided weapons were said to be used, what type has not been confirmed. There are various types of guidance systems that utilize laser designation. While several of these systems use the Global Positioning System, the GPS can be programmed so as to prevent a lock on forbidden targets, including embassies. If such a munition was used, the system must have been tampered with as well. Other laser-guided systems lock onto some form of laser designator, either generated by another aircraft or even from the ground.

Kosovar Albanian tours U.S. for 'LaRouche Doctrine' for Balkans

by Marianna Wertz

Feride Istogu Gillesberg, born in the Drenice region of Kosovo, conducted a three-week emergency tour of the United States for the Schiller Institute in May, to discuss with Americans "The Truth About the War in the Balkans" and Lyndon LaRouche's proposals for resolving that crisis (see *EIR*, April 16). She was joined by her husband, Tom Gillesberg, who is a member of the Danish-Kosovar Society; both are active with the Schiller Institute in Denmark, where they live.

From April 29 to May 17, the Gillesbergs addressed hundreds of Americans in Virginia, Washington, D.C., Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Illinois, California and Texas, at meetings of the Schiller Institute, as well as gatherings in schools, churches, and mosques.

While Feride has numerous relatives who today are missing or refugees, as a result of the "ethnic cleansing" policy of Serbian strongman Slobodan Milosevic, her appeal was not simply to stop what she called the "human and humanitarian catastrophe" for Kosovars, but that Americans understand the deeper, strategic crisis unfolding in the Balkans under British direction, which is leading the world toward war. Indeed, her charge that it is British Prime Minister Tony Blair and the British-American-Commonwealth faction in NATO and the United States — not the Clinton administration per se — which are responsible for the strategic mess in the Balkans, provoked heated discussion and debate at every stop.

The context for her trip, Feride told her audiences, is "the possibility of building up the New Bretton Woods system in the spirit of Mr. LaRouche, and the realization of the New

Silk Road,” as the global financial crisis continues to escalate. “The real possibility that the United States of America will join with other nations to build a New Bretton Woods system, and join this big alliance, is what is driving the British oligarchy and their friends on Wall Street crazy. . . . This is the context in which NATO began their air strikes against Yugoslavia.”

While condemning the Serbian actions as “genocide,” Feride asked, “How does the bombing of Serbia help to stop the genocide? The bombing of Yugoslavia cannot have the aim of saving Kosovo. It is killing it. They are bombing Serbian factories, refineries, bridges, and other infrastructure. . . . The NATO strikes have to stop right away!”

The KLA is a British operation

One of the real eye-openers of the Gillesbergs’ tour was their unmasking of the British role in the creation of the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA), the drug-running, terrorist outfit which is backed by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Blair as the next government of Kosovo, in opposition to the non-violent “shadow government” elected by the Kosovars under the leadership of historian and author Ibrahim Rugova in 1992. Rugova is now in Rome, preparing to aid in negotiations for a return of the Kosovars to their homes once the bombing and killing has stopped.

In 1991, Feride said, Kosovar intellectuals formed a party called the Democratic League of Kosovo (LDK), and in 1992, a general election was held, with more than 97% of the population voting for Rugova as their leader. Rugova’s method to achieve freedom for his people was to create a non-violent civil rights movement and to organize a shadow government. They established a fund, and organized all working Kosovars living abroad to pay 3% of their income into it. This money went to finance equipment for hospitals, to buy food and medicine, and to pay wages for doctors, nurses, and teachers. “The continuation of teaching has been one of the kernels for LDK organizing and for the population in general,” Feride said. “ ‘It is true that the Serbians could put us in prison,’ they said, but for each school opened, one prison would close.”

“The belief in Rugova’s peaceful method was very strong,” Feride said. “When the media began to talk about a Kosovo Albanian liberation army in 1997, it was clear to most Albanians in Kosovo, that this must be a Serbian set-up. They had to have a pretext to intervene militarily—they created a so-called liberation army. ‘Fighting terrorism in Kosovo,’ then became that pretext. They increased the number of military and paramilitary troops, which was followed by sending heavy artillery and tanks into Kosovo, and they began to kill civilians. Ironically enough, the mouthpiece of the KLA was the British Broadcasting Corp.”

Listen to LaRouche

In conclusion, Feride told her audiences that to stop the war in the Balkans, “We must not allow the United States to



Feride Istogu Gillesberg gives a briefing to EIR staff at the start of her U.S. tour.

go along with the new NATO doctrine. The United States must join the alliance with Russia, China, and India to build the New Bretton Woods system and the Eurasian Land-Bridge. Without the Russians, we cannot stop the Serbian genocide and establish a transitional protectorate for Kosovo. This phase has to be filled with an intensive reconstruction program, which lays the basis for Kosovo to again be a place which is livable. Already now, we need to mobilize for a Marshall Plan for the entire Balkan region, which also should be connected to the Eurasian Land-Bridge, which is the catalyst for the industrialization of the whole world economy. President Clinton should listen to Mr. Lyndon LaRouche, and implement the New Bretton Woods system, so that we can make all of this possible.”

Perhaps the most important outcome of this tour is that it provoked hundreds of Americans into thinking strategically, in many cases for the first time, about what otherwise is just a series of pictures in virtual reality on their television screens. In many cases, including a campus meeting at the University of Maryland at Baltimore, a majority of the audience could not even find the Balkans on a map, let alone think strategically about the events there. In other cases, as with some participants at the meeting of the Baltimore Baptist Ministerial alliance, the evil influence of the British oligarchy behind the NATO policy *and* Milosevic was already known, and the only real question was what to do about it. The question of LaRouche’s leadership then became the real—and urgent—subject of the meetings, as with each passing day, the crisis moves closer and closer to global war.