

that's not all. Fox also agrees with Cárdenas with respect to the Zapatista policy of territorial partitioning, and in their opposition to the nation's Armed Forces. Also, Cárdenas accepts the PAN's anti-constitutional proposal, and that of the Ernesto Zedillo government, to modify Article 27 of the Constitution—which proclaims the mineral and other resources on national territory to be property of the state, i.e., of all Mexicans. Zapatista former Bishop Ruiz also shares this view.

Nor is Cárdenas's relationship with Castro especially unique, because Fox recognizes an open similarity with Castro due to their common Jesuitic education. And, of course, Castro declared himself both friend and protector of Salinas de Gortari, during the first stage of his self-exile. What's going on here?

All this can be explained. In the current crisis, the strategy of the oligarchy includes dismantling the institutions, and dismembering the territory, of nations such as Mexico. To understand the apparent mish-mash, one must remember the historic roots of the formation of the modern republican nation-state, something to which Mexico aspired years ago, but which in the last few decades, it has abandoned.

For the first time in all of recognized human existence, Christ's ministry gave reality to the Mosaic principle that all people are equal, in that all men and women are made in the image and likeness of God. Beginning with 15th-century Europe, there emerged a new anti-feudal form of society, the sovereign nation-state, consecrated to the Christian principle that there are no races.

We are all equal in our nature and needs, by virtue of the divine spark of cognition, and it is that capacity to make validatable creative discoveries which sets us apart and absolutely above lower forms of life.

This new form of renaissance government of the 15th century demonstrated how, by their very nature, slavery, servitude, and, therefore, free trade, are Satanic. The oligarchic forms of government, in which there are no citizens, only subjects, base themselves in their battle to rule, on promotion of forms of pagan religions as instruments of mass manipulation. In the oligarchic model, these are called low churches, and in the case of Samuel Ruiz, with his autochthonous church and his Zapatistas, they are very, very low.

This is the key to understanding the perverse symbiosis of Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, which runs parallel to that of the Jacobin Fidel Castro, which pairs him with the autochthonous church of Samuel Ruiz, and which unites him to the right-wing Jacobin rapture of Vicente Fox. They come together to promote the disintegration of the Mexican Republic under the slogan of "let's destroy existing society," for the benefit of the oligarchy. If Cárdenas were to reach the Presidency of Mexico, he would do as much damage in 18 months as the last three PRI government's have done in the past 18 years.

Balkan Intrigues Raise Threat of Renewed War

by Umberto Pascali

"Milosevic should be gone within five days from now!"

This concise, clear-cut statement appeared on May 29 in the leading Italian daily *Corriere della Sera*. Its author was not some minor member of the Serbian opposition to President Slobodan Milosevic, but rather, it was one of the most influential and powerful among the Western diplomats dealing with former Yugoslavia: United Nations Balkans envoy Carl Bildt. Why is Bildt so confident in his expectations? The main reason, he explained, is that "Moscow is not in love with Milosevic."

In fact, "the relations between Russia and Serbia have changed," and thus it is now just a question of time, and above all, of obtaining a clear "signal" against Milosevic from Russian President Vladimir Putin, and the deal would be done, Bildt said. "Russia is skeptical about NATO unilateralism, but if Putin gave a signal, the impact would be strong."

Bildt went on to detail what appears to be a quite precise scenario of what is supposed to happen in Serbian Montenegro and Kosovo. "It is necessary to arrive at a confederation between Serbia and Montenegro: It is the only way to prevent a new war. The same is true for Kosovo—we are not talking about independence, this must be clear, but an intermediate solution," he said.

This whole "offer," however, is predicated upon a condition: a "signal" from Putin, and the unloading—through exile or some other way—of Milosevic.

Yugoslav End-Game?

Bildt's initiative was worked out to a very precise deadline: the June 4 summit in Moscow between Putin and President Bill Clinton. Britain's *The Economist* magazine was explicit: "When Mr. Putin holds his first summit meeting with President Bill Clinton on June 4th, both sides will be conscious that Russia will be very helpful—or unhelpful—in what could turn out to be the Yugoslav end-game." There is no doubt that one of the key issues discussed at the summit will be the Balkan situation, and in particular, the destiny of Milosevic.

Well-informed sources have stressed that, despite all the propaganda to the contrary, Moscow's influence over Belgrade remains "huge," and that the Russian leadership could

indeed decide on a possible “exit” of Milosevic. For quite some time now, Moscow has been putting out signals that it could change its Serbian policy. The head of the main opposition force, Serbian Renewal’s Vuk Draskovic, visited Moscow several weeks ago, and, for the first time, was received by Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov. In interviews published at that time in the main Russian press agencies, Draskovic accused Milosevic of being a “terrorist,” and of having been directly responsible for the deaths of several of his collaborators, including his brother-in-law, victims of a suspicious automobile accident.

However, it is premature to conclude that we are at the end of the “Yugoslav game.” Two events tend to throw cold water on the expectations of Bildt and *The Economist*. First, a delegation, including the three Serbian opposition leaders—Vuk Draskovic, Zoran Djindjic, and Vojislav Kostunica—was indeed in Moscow on May 29. It looked as if the opposition had finally found unity, the lack of which has always constituted the Milosevic regime’s key advantage. Furthermore, they expected to get a sort of political investiture from Moscow. A meeting with Foreign Minister Ivanov had already been scheduled, and the three opposition leaders expected the minister to issue a call demanding that Milosevic accelerate the already-announced elections in Serbia. A strong condemnation of Milosevic, for his crackdown against the opposition, including the shutting down of the television station Studio B in Belgrade, was also expected.

However, things did not happen as expected. At the last minute, Ivanov refused to receive the Serbian delegation, who met instead with the Deputy Foreign Minister and with other, lower-level officials. A moderated statement issued by the Foreign Ministry called for “the stabilization of the situation,” and for a “constructive dialogue” between Milosevic and the opposition.

Murder in Podgorica

The second event that cooled expectations of those wishing for a prompt “end-game,” was the murder in Podgorica, the Montenegro capital, of Montenegro President Milo Djukanovic’s security adviser, Goran Zugic. Zugic was assassinated on the night of May 31, in front of his apartment building.

Though a wave of political assassinations has eliminated several top officials in Belgrade, this was the first time that a high Montenegro official had been murdered.

In fact, Djukanovic is a crucial element in the “Yugoslav end-game” scenario, as elaborated by Bildt. The scheme would involve the creation of a new kind of federation between what remains of Yugoslavia, i.e., Serbia and a Montenegro now on the verge of secession. Since last August, Djukanovic has called for a “different kind” of relations with Serbia, and has been presented in Western media as the leader who could take the place of Milosevic in the whole Yugoslav Federation.

A conference on May 27 in Kosovo was supposed to launch Montenegro’s leadership role; but, it ended abruptly after a few hours, when Montenegro Foreign Minister Branco Lukovac and his delegation left to attend an emergency meeting in Podgorica, amid rumors of an impending coup d’état, after Yugoslav troops in Montenegro had been placed on a state of alert.

Milosevic and Lord Robertson’s Campaigns

On May 30, another political shock was delivered. The Prime Minister of Montenegro, Filip Vujanovic, went on record stating, “No one in Yugoslavia, Montenegro, or the international community could seriously expect Montenegrin authorities to arrest Slobodan Milosevic and extradite him to The Hague,” where the war crimes tribunal has indicted him.

The defensive statement was made after Milosevic supporters in Montenegro had announced that Milosevic would visit there. Such a visit would put Djukanovic in an untenable position, because he would be expected to arrest Milosevic, thus precipitating a civil war confrontation in Montenegro and almost surely a restart of a broader war in the Balkans.

And suddenly, Milosevic is again campaigning publicly in Serbia. After a long period when he made no public appearances, he addressed a large crowd in the city of Novi Sad, where he inaugurated the reconstructed railway bridge over the Danube River that had been destroyed by NATO bombings. Playing the keys of emotional rhetoric, Milosevic denounced the “NATO aggression: one of the cruelest against humanity. The entire world must know it shall be a target—as Serbia has been a target—if it doesn’t resist violence and humiliation.”

Paradoxically, it was NATO Secretary General Lord George Robertson who, on May 31, responded to this statement in a way that should have greatly pleased Milosevic: Robertson unleashed a verbal provocation that went straight to heighten Russian fears of “NATO unilateralism.” Speaking in Mitrovica, Kosovo, Lord Robertson stressed: “The message I have for the Serb community is that the UN Resolution 1244 does not expire this month.”

Resolution 1244 is the UN Security Council resolution that put an end to the Kosovo war, and was accepted also by Russia and China. It expires in June. It stated that Yugoslavia retains sovereignty over Kosovo. This issue constitutes the heart of the question of national sovereignty, opened by the NATO bombings on Kosovo, that took place without an explicit mandate from the United Nations.

The NATO bombings against Kosovo are thus seen by Moscow and Beijing, and in a less public way by several other countries in the Third World and also in Europe, as a dangerous precedent that undermines the very foundation of national sovereignty and opens the way to destabilizing military interventions all over the world.