

IPO blasts Serbians at Geneva rights panel

In Geneva, at the United Nations Commission on Human Rights 49th Session on Feb. 10, the International Progress Organization, a non-governmental organization recognized by the U.N. and headquartered in Vienna, presented the following text under the agenda item, "Situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia." The text was read by Ortrun Cramer for the IPO:

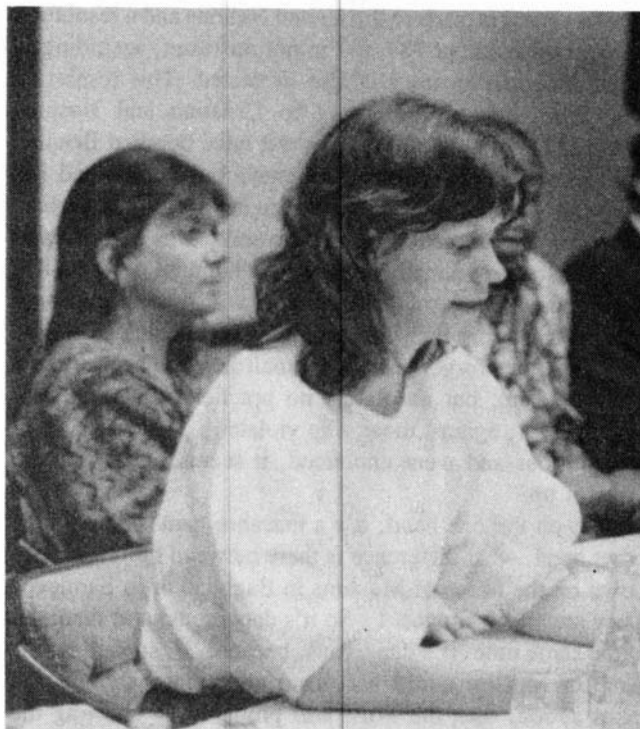
The world has been witness for over a year to the Serbian war of aggression against Croatia and an unprecedented genocide against the people of Bosnia and Hercegovina, recognized member states of the United Nations.

The International Progress Organization repeats its demands, already presented to this body in previous sessions, for decisive and rapid intervention in order to put an end to the cruel, senseless suffering and dying of the civilian population, particularly the Muslim community, of Bosnia-Hercegovina, and to bring those responsible for this genocide to justice. The IPO calls for the reestablishment of the *status quo ante* in the region, i.e., the immediate reestablishment of the borders of June 1991, the withdrawal of Serbian armed forces from the territories they have occupied, especially in Croatia, Bosnia-Hercegovina, as well as the recognition of Kosova and Makedonija as independent states, for which they are fighting.

The precondition for any steps towards ending the Serbian aggression and genocide, which have already reached apocalyptic proportions, is a thorough analysis of the causes of the war, which must include the geopolitical aspect, if intervention is to lead to a phase of rapid reconstruction and peaceful development in the whole region; otherwise, the whole of Europe will be threatened.

Against the backdrop of a clear, comprehensive analysis of the causes of the war, then, not only must those responsible for undeniable atrocities, documented by the most authoritative official bodies and information centers, systematic looting, systematic and scientifically planned and executed rapings, deportations ("ethnic cleansing") and destruction of homes, schools, hospitals, churches and mosques as well as cultural monuments, be brought before a court of law and tried for their crimes, but also those who made possible such crimes against humanity and human rights, through their support and encouragement.

The International Progress Organization demands that a full and thorough investigation be conducted into abuse of their mandate on the part of U.N. units and facilities, and



Mrs. Cramer speaking at a meeting of the International Commission to Investigate Human Rights Violations during the CSCE in Copenhagen in May 1990. Behind her is Helga Zepp-LaRouche, wife of the celebrated American political prisoner.

that those found responsible for violations be brought to account for their actions, without hesitation.

The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, the Charter of the United Nations, the General Declaration of Human Rights, but also the Guidelines of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and the additional protocol of 1977 constitute the internationally accepted legal foundations for an international tribunal against those responsible for genocide:

The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide establishes:

Article II: "In the present Convention, genocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such:

- "(a) Killing members of the group;
- "(b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;
- "(c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part."

Article III: "The following acts shall be punishable:

- "(a) Genocide;
- "(b) Conspiracy to commit genocide;
- "(c) Direct and public incitement to commit genocide;
- "(d) Attempt to commit genocide;

“(e) Complicity in genocide.”

Article IV: “Persons committing genocide or any of the other acts enumerated in Article III shall be punished whether they are constitutionally responsible rulers, public officials or private individuals.”

Accordingly, those responsible for the political and military leadership of Serbia must be accused for the following crimes against humanity:

- Planning and carrying out wars of aggression;
- Planning and carrying out of genocide, or aiding genocide;
- Provoking or aiding countless war crimes on the part of Serbian units, such as killing prisoners or non-combatants, torture and the scientifically planned and executed mass rapings;
- Massive material destruction, which in Croatia alone amounts to about DM 20 billion.

We emphasize once again our demand, that not only the Serbian criminals be brought to justice, but also and especially those political representatives of several countries who encouraged and supported the Serbian war of aggression. Leading politicians of the former Soviet Union and Russia, Great Britain and the United States, France as well as other EC states, and those responsible in international organizations like the United Nations, are to be charged with aiding and abetting the Serbian war of aggression as well as neglecting to provide aid and comfort to the Croatian and Bosnian victims thereof. This must be done, if the fundamental principles of international law are to remain binding. In the war in former Yugoslavia, it is not a question of “interests” or “sympathies,” but of the basic substance of the culture and civilization of the European continent.

The International Progress Organization reiterates its demands for the lifting of the embargo against Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina, whose continued implementation, according to respected international law experts, represents a violation of the right of the Bosnian and Croatian people to self-determination, and provides unilateral advantage to the Serbian aggressor.

We reiterate our reference (previously made in other documents) to Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, in which it is stated: “Nothing in the present Charter shall impair the inherent right of individual or collective self-defense if an armed attack occurs against a Member of the United Nations, until the Security Council has taken measures necessary to maintain international peace and security. . . .”

We appeal to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights to immediately take all required and possible steps to put an end to the genocide in the Balkans, and to prevent the conflict from assuming broader, perhaps even global, dimensions. The spirit and mission of the United Nations Organization are at stake, if valuable principles are sacrificed in the interests of power politics.

Yeltsin presses for Asian alliance in visit to India

by Susan Maitra

A new Friendship Treaty, minus the security clause of the 1971 Indo-Soviet treaty, and nine other pacts were inked during Russian President Boris Yeltsin's three-day visit starting on Jan. 28, to set the groundwork for Indo-Russian relations in the post-Soviet era.

Yeltsin, who arrived in New Delhi barely a month after his spectacular trip to Beijing, stressed that Russia's new bilateral relationship with India, its friend of long standing, was part of an independent foreign policy which eschewed blocs and sought to balance relations with East and West. Just how independent that policy is will soon be tested. Yeltsin stated categorically that Russia would fulfill its commitment to supply cryogenic rocket engines and technology to India. In Washington, where the deal has been blackballed as a violation of the Missile Technology Control Regime, senior State Department officials ridiculed Yeltsin's “tough talk,” and told India Abroad News Service that such a move would put U.S. aid to the beleaguered former Soviet Union in jeopardy.

Russian Foreign Ministry spokesmen explained that like the trips to South Korea and China, the Yeltsin visit to India was aimed at quelling apprehensions of a pro-western bias in Russia's foreign policy. And, in Yeltsin's own words, a “purposeful East policy” is not possible without India.

In a press conference later, President Yeltsin said that Moscow has no intention of playing the so-called India card against “world imperialism” or against “Chinese hegemony.” Instead, Yeltsin pointed to a Russian interest in forming a strategic alliance of sorts among the three land-mass giants of Russia, China, and India. “Mutual trust, good neighborliness, in a purely peaceful form, of the three largest nations in the world could become a stabilizing factor not just in Asia but worldwide,” Yeltsin said. “In the past few years there has been a shift in relations between India and China. The inertia of decades of distrust is being overcome. Russia applauds this, especially since for 35 years we did not have trust.” Yeltsin stressed throughout his trip that he was aiming for a world condition in which “axes, triangles, polygons, and blocs” of the Cold War no longer exist.

Nuclear proliferation?

Although Yeltsin said Russia's new independent foreign policy was in part due to Moscow's concern over nuclear