

Editorial

The next test for Clinton: Bosnia

October 15 is the day on which the Haitian military leadership has agreed to resign their command, but it is also the day on which the United States is scheduled to initiate action to lift the arms embargo against Bosnia. Now with the situation in Haiti apparently under control, President Clinton should feel free to act upon the mandate from the Senate, despite British opposition.

Not only does he have a moral imperative to act, but the authority of an impressive number of diplomatic successes. Of course such an action will bring the United States into a direct policy clash with the British; but this is to be welcomed as long overdue.

The cynicism and brutality of Serbian forces is only matched by that of their British sponsors. It is absolutely extraordinary that a distinction is being made between Serbia and the so-called Bosnian Serbs, who are being treated as a distinct entity, although it is well known that they are still being supplied through Serbia, if by a somewhat more indirect route, by way of the Krajina region in Croatia. With that area under the control of United Nations Blue Helmet force, the Croats have been prevented from policing this Serbian-dominated region.

Not only has British U.N. commander Gen. Sir Michael Rose been complicit in opening this new supply route to the Serbian forces operating within Bosnia, but he has gone so far as to threaten NATO air strikes against the Bosnians. This he justifies on the basis that the Bosnian attempt to defend their nation is provocative toward the Serbians. This, in face of the arrogant rejection of U.N. peace initiatives by the "Bosnian" Serbs; and the fact that they have again cut off gas, water, and electricity to Sarajevo. Worse yet is the continuing policy of genocide, politely known as "ethnic cleansing."

Thus, at the recently concluded Cairo conference, and on the ground in Bosnia, the British have a coherent foreign policy; a policy more blatantly genocidal than similar such eugenics policies practiced by Hitler's SS.

The United States—and Bill Clinton as U.S. President—is morally obligated to end the brutally unfair

arms embargo against Bosnia. That such an action is being bitterly contested by the British makes it even more necessary. The untimely death of President Roosevelt in 1944 allowed the British far too much leeway in shaping the infamous so-called special relationship between the United States and Britain. One aspect of this has been the attempt to transform the United Nations into a world federalist police force. Just as insidious is the role assumed by Britain's royal family as the leadership of an international oligarchy which would resurrect Prince Metternich's Holy Alliance of 1815.

In 1943, so Elliott Roosevelt reported in his book, *As He Saw It*, President Roosevelt and his son Elliott were attending a Big Four summit conference in Casablanca. One day, when they were alone together, Roosevelt confided to his son:

"When we've won the war, I will work with all my might and main to see to it that the United States is not wheedled into the position of accepting any plan that will further France's imperialistic ambitions or that will aid or abet the British Empire in its imperial ambitions."

This was not the result perhaps of a momentary irritation with Winston Churchill, as is made obvious by the consistency with which Roosevelt had expressed similar convictions even immediately after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, when FDR told dinner guests that Winston Churchill had to be made to understand the depth of anti-British feeling among the American people.

On May 10, 1982, Henry Kissinger gave an address at the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London entitled "Reflections on a Partnership: British and American Attitudes to Postwar Foreign Policy." Here, Kissinger derided Franklin Roosevelt for his "naive" rejection of British Metternichian balance-of-power politics.

Taking up the challenge of opposing British support to Serbia, will give President Clinton the opportunity to demonstrate that the traditions of the United States, as exemplified by President Roosevelt's rejection of British colonialism, are still viable today.