

April 1994: "If any Bosnian Serb attacks involving heavy weapons are carried out in the U.N. safe areas . . . these weapons and other Bosnia Serb military assets, as well as their direct and essential military support facilities, including, but not limited, to fuel installations and munitions sites, *will be subjected to NATO air strikes*, in accordance with the procedural arrangements worked out between NATO and Unprofor." . . .

Bosnian Ambassador to the United States Sven Alkalaj, speaking on July 12 at luncheon for Parliamentarians for Global Action in Washington, D.C. Transcribed by Federal News Service:

. . . Forty to fifty thousand civilians are now being subject to genocide. Serbian forces have overrun Srebrenica and have entered Potocari, the town nearby, where tens of thousands of refugees fled. . . . These scenes are reminding us of the scenes of the Second World War, of the deportation of thousands of people, innocent civilians, who didn't support fascism. We wrote and expected that these scenes we wouldn't see ever again, and we said never again, but it seems that all this is happening in front of cameras, in front of media of the 20th century, and the world is standing still. . . .

We are in a situation like in Munich, 1939, when appeasement prevailed, and we knew what happened during the Second World War. And I'm so amazed that genocide can happen in front of the world's eyes without consequence for those who are carrying out the genocide. . . .

We hope that the conscience of the international community will be waking up and some immediate action will take place. We hope this might happen immediately, without delay, because we would experience thousands of thousand deaths, additional hundreds of rapes, and new concentration camps—not even to talk about mass graves. . . .

Bosnian Ambassador to the United States Sven Alkalaj issued the following statement on the Serb offensive on Srebrenica on July 10:

Terrorist Serb military forces yesterday launched a strong offensive on the so-called U.N.-declared "safe area" of Srebrenica using infantry troops, heavy weapons, and tanks. More than 1,000 shells, fired by the aggressor Serb forces, landed in the city center. In the past three days, eight civilians have been killed in Srebrenica. The Serbs also overran a U.N. observation post and detained 20 Dutch U.N. peacekeepers. U.N. spokesman Rida Ettarashany confirmed that the Serbs "have encroached 3 km into the safe area." In some areas, Serb forces are now at least 5 km into the enclave.

The Dutch battalion's calls for NATO air strikes to stop the Serb offensive were denied. The U.N. did allow NATO close air support.

The humanitarian situation in Srebrenica is catastrophic. Of the 77 humanitarian convoys slated to go to Srebrenica this year, only 19 made it. For the past 45 days, Srebrenica's civilians have received only about seven pounds of food from

UNHCR—only 15% of the minimum amount necessary. Because convoys carrying seeds were barred by Serbs from reaching Srebrenica, local food production will only amount to 50% of what was expected.

Though there is a humanitarian catastrophe going on in Srebrenica, Srebrenica is not a "natural" humanitarian crisis. It did not just happen. The more than three-year-old siege of Srebrenica and its humanitarian consequences are no mistake. They are the deliberate and direct results of the aggression and genocide carried out by Belgrade and its proxies to militarily create a greater Serbia and to change European borders by force. . . .

Pope John Paul II, reported by Reuters on July 9.

Pope John Paul II called for an end to the war in Bosnia, saying basic human rights were being trampled underfoot. He asked those responsible how they could ever justify their conduct before God. In one of the strongest appeals he has made for peace in the former Yugoslavia, the pontiff said rights "including the right to life, continue to be trampled in such a barbarous manner," and suggested that the guilty would be damned. "What excuse could someone make after preventing food from reaching the mouths of thousands of starving men? How can those who have turned their neighbors out of their houses enter eternal heaven?" he asked.

Interview: Nedzib Sacirbey

Air strikes are needed for peace

Nedzib Sacirbey is Bosnian ambassador-at-large and the spokesman of President Alija Izetbegovic in the United States. He spoke with Umberto Pascali on July 5 and on July 11, immediately after the fall of Srebrenica.

EIR: A few hours ago, Srebrenica was taken; the U.N.-authorized air strike came 40 minutes later.

Sacirbey: The air strikes were too late and were organized in a way to be too late. The situation is like it was for Hitler. [Bosnian Serb leader Radovan] Karadzic is conquering and advancing. The world is appeasing him. He will not stop. It is only the beginning.

We did advise the U.N. Protection Force [Unprofor] and the U.N. administration about the pending problem and suggested the use of air strikes in time to protect civilians and Dutch Unprofor soldiers. Karadzic does not believe that Unprofor has the will-power to fulfill its obligations, according

to the U.N. Charter and mandate of the Security Council. What can we expect now? More deaths, more killings, more bloodshed of innocent people and more degradation for Unprofor soldiers by Karadzic's Serbs. They [the Serbs] humiliate them and try to send a message to the world. They are nothing other than hostages and bargaining chips in Karadzic's hands. . . . Whatever happens to them happens because those who lead left them exposed and did not protect them. It is cynical to say we have to call the air strikes off because night is coming. . . .

EIR: What does Bosnia need now?

Sacirbey: Bosnia needs to fight for the physical existence of its people. We have to protect them; we need arms. We will call our friends to come to our aid because it is a question of survival, biological existence. And we do believe that we enjoy the sympathy of simple people all over this planet.

EIR: There are reports, confirmed by Karadzic's number two, that a deal for the Unprofor hostages was struck by U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali and Karadzic, that the U.N. would not react to violations of Bosnian air space.

Sacirbey: This information is coming from neutral sources, not from the Bosnian government. [Bosnian Serb commander Gen. Ratko] Mladic and Karadzic warned the world in advance that in case something happened that they did not like, they would take hostages. Unprofor didn't prepare itself for this situation. I am surprised that these hostages became a sort of trade between Unprofor and the U.N. secretariat, and Karadzic's Serbs and Mladic. It is sad, because they are selling Bosnian civilians. They are selling the dignity of the U.N., they are selling the mandate of the U.N. in Bosnia. It is something that history will not forget.

If [U.N. Special Envoy Yasushi] Akashi believes that his duty is to appease Karadzic and his followers, it will be noticed. If he believes that supporting the Serbian side and trying to extort everything from us because we in Sarajevo are in a weaker position, without food and medicine, it is something very important. If Karadzic's Serbs capture Sarajevo, what will they do with the population? Akashi is wrong; he is not promoting an agreement, he is promoting advantages for an aggressor. Consequently, he is promoting the goals of aggressors.

EIR: Akashi sent a letter to Karadzic, which was denounced by Bosnian Foreign Minister Muhamad Sacirbey.

Sacirbey: The U.N. Security Council voted a general resolution regarding the situation in Bosnia—safe areas, no-fly zones, humanitarian aid. Akashi and some other people were more concerned to appease the Serbs than to implement that resolution.

The role of the U.N. is not to protect the Bosnian government, but it definitively is not to appease Karadzic either. The role of the U.N. is minimally to bring humanitarian aid

and try to promote the cause of peace. If we do not have enough food, we have to try to break the siege of Sarajevo. If you cannot treat your wounded and your sick, cannot feed your population, you have no choice. . . . Consequently, the non-implementation of the U.N. resolution by Boutros-Ghali is one of the reasons for the fighting, and he who stops air strikes for the protection of Sarajevo encourages the killing of our civilians. There is not a confrontation between two armies in Sarajevo. It is terror and brutality over civilians by Karadzic's Serbs, using cannons, tanks, and all kind of destructive means in order to terrorize them, to brutalize them. . . . Unfortunately, the world does not understand that ethnic cleansing is the ideology of Karadzic; extermination of Bosnians who are not Serbs is the goal of the aggressors. . . .

I have to express my gratitude . . . to the soldiers of Unprofor. . . . We have reservations about their leaders; in particular, a dark memory is the name and behavior of Gen. Michael Rose of the U.K., who behaved as a servant of Karadzic. Unfortunately, the name of Mr. Akashi will be added to it. . . .

We are not asking anyone to support Bosnia because we are Bosnians, but because we are defending international law. . . . We are saying, "Come to our side because we are on the right side." . . . In Sarajevo, we have 50 to 60,000 Serbs . . . fighting on the side of the Bosnian government. More Serbians in Bosnia are on the side of the Bosnian government than on the side of Karadzic. . . .

Many Serb refugees from Bosnia and Krajina are in Serbia in the area under the control of Milosevic. These young people are collected and shipped against their will to Bosnia and Krajina, mobilized to fight on the side of Karadzic and Martić. They consider these acts illegal. It is like during the last Nazi period.

I saw the picture of the American Army entering the concentration camps in 1945. I see the picture of Bosnians in Serbian concentration camps in 1992, and now I see these hostages of Unprofor in the hands of Karadzic.

EIR: You do not need to send massive numbers of soldiers into Bosnia, but you can use air power to neutralize the heavy weapons of the Serbs. This is technically possible; what is lacking is a political decision. U.S. statesman Lyndon LaRouche, in a call to President Clinton, has urged that such action be taken.

Sacirbey: Yes, we know that air strikes on Karadzic's Serbs, and on Serbia proper, would solve all these problems in 24 to 48 hours. We are not asking for air strikes so that we can claim victory, but to defend the population. We are asking for air strikes in order to have peace. We would have a diplomatic solution. . . . It is not a question of having 50 or 60% of the territory, but to have peace.

The mandate of Unprofor is not to have hostages. The young brave men of Unprofor came to help civilians, but

Unprofor is acting against the U.N. resolution. Unprofor is just there to appease, castrated on one side by Karadzic, on the other by their own leadership.

EIR: The war is part of British geopolitics.

Sacirbey: . . . Major is for the embargo; he cannot escape condemnation of history for this. We will have a dark memory of [former French President François] Mitterrand. . . . [Former U.N. negotiator Lord] David Owen is the author of apartheid.

What would happen if in the United States someone tried to divide Catholics from Protestants, or from other ethnic groups? . . . The idea of racial apartheid is an idea from *Mein Kampf*—it's Karadzic's idea of the superior Serb race.

All Catholic and Muslim places of worship under the control of Karadzic have been destroyed. All Greek Orthodox places of worship under Bosnian control have been protected and preserved . . . [as have] human rights, the dignity of human beings.

EIR: Are there signs that France and Russia could go in a different direction than Britain?

Sacirbey: I believe, yes . . . Russia and Serbia are historically friends and we are in favor of that friendship, but we do not want Russia to identify Serbia with Karadzic's deeds and followers. They should realize that they are not supporting the cause of the Serbian people. It is the fascist conception of Karadzic that every human being has to condemn.

EIR: What is the reality of the attempt to free Sarajevo, your capital?

Sacirbey: Since April 8, no plane has landed at the Sarajevo airport with humanitarian aid. For more than two months, no convoy, no delivery of food, has come through the so-called blue road to Sarajevo. We don't have enough medicine, and there is no water. The situation is impossible for us and the Unprofor forces.

Consequently, we have no choice but to attempt to open Sarajevo in order that food and medicine can be brought in. We are not making a general attack on Serbian lines, for military reasons that I do not want to discuss here, but we have to try to cross Serbian lines and to eventually bring in food, medicine, and electricity. We would prefer that this would be done by peaceful means. . . . It is generally known that our soldiers are better motivated, but our hands are almost tied because of the arms embargo. The arms embargo, imposed against Yugoslavia in 1991, is basically implemented only against Bosnia and Hercegovina. We do not have arms.

When our Army tried to do something, Karadzic reacted by bombing Sarajevo, which is held hostage to their brutality, people who ignore international law and the norms of war. The Geneva Convention says that civilians should be protected; unfortunately, the peace forces are observers, and history will remember who did what.

Egypt, Algeria steered toward confrontations

by Muriel Mirak-Weissbach

When assailants mounted an assassination attempt against Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on June 26, just prior to the opening of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) summit, Lyndon LaRouche denounced it as an operation orchestrated by British intelligence, aimed at setting the Egyptian President on a confrontation course with neighboring Sudan. Furthermore, LaRouche detailed in an *EIR* interview, the incident was geared to sabotage several high-level meetings which would have taken place at the Adis Abeba summit, including talks between Sudanese President Gen. Omar Al-Bashir and Mubarak, as well as discussions related to the Algerian civil war, around perspectives for finding a solution through government talks with the opposition movement Islamic Salvation Front (FIS). Both processes of rapprochement, crucial to the stability of the region, have been aborted in the wake of the assassination attempt, and a dynamic leading to escalated military confrontation has been unleashed. The name of the game in both, is the "Clash of Civilizations," the term coined by British geopolitician Bernard Lewis to designate the scenario for destabilization run under the rubric of "religious" conflict.

Since the Adis Abeba assault, President Mubarak has fanned the flames of conflict by charging Sudan, and specifically Sudanese spiritual leader Dr. Hassan al-Turabi, with responsibility for the assassination attempt. Sudanese government spokesmen cautioned against attributing blame until investigations conducted in Ethiopia had yielded evidence, but Mubarak used the mass media to trumpet his charges, whipping up the population against their southern neighbor, and creating tensions also with Ethiopia. The investigations carried out by Adis Abeba authorities contradicted Mubarak's claims, indicating that the assailants had been not Sudanese, but Egyptian nationals. At Mubarak's insistence that the assailants had nonetheless been "sent by and from" Sudan, the Ethiopian authorities responded that the assailants could have entered the country by any of the five bordering nations with which it maintains open borders. Furthermore, Egyptian investigators who had travelled to Adis Abeba to provide assistance, were so heavy-handed in their attempts to steer the direction of inquiry, and, according to one source, to bribe the Ethiopian officials, that the host country sent them packing back to Cairo. Instead, it was