

## Editorial

### *New Bretton Woods or genocide*

The reports from the Balkans on the June 15 “Determined Falcon” military exercise, the televised images of the NATO planes, ready for war, flying over Albania and Macedonia, have made the name Kosova a little less “exotic.” The NATO exercise was officially aimed at forcing Serbian Duce Slobodan Milosevic to withdraw his army and “special police” from Kosova. But still, for most Americans, Kosova remains one of those faraway places where people are killing each other for reasons that seem impossible to understand. At best, Americans rightly perceive that there is a new dictator in the area—Milosevic—who has been implementing genocide for the last several years.

Yet this characterization of Milosevic, by itself, does not explain what has really been happening in former Yugoslavia: in Croatia, Bosnia, and now in the southern province of Kosova. A campaign of terror, military assaults, gang-counter-gang fighting, and wanton destruction has triggered a biblical exodus of Kosovars (the ethnic Albanians who represent 90% of the population), civilians who have been “convinced” to abandon their homes, escaping wherever they can, trying to cross the borders with neighboring Albania, Montenegro, or Macedonia. According to some estimates, already 10% of Kosovars have been reduced to the status of desperate refugees.

Above all, Americans—except readers of the publications associated with Lyndon LaRouche—have not been told the *cause* of the genocide. Without understanding the real causes, and without an answer to the question, “What does this have to do with me?,” we are left with either the liberal-philanthropic attitude of “let me help the less fortunate, if I have some spare change,” or, more commonly, “I have enough problems of my own to worry about.”

But, what is happening in Kosova has a great deal to do with us, and the future of our posterity.

If one looks for the ultimate torturer of Kosova, one finds, beyond the psychotic grin of Milosevic, the much eerier smile of International Monetary Fund Managing Director Michel Camdessus. The policy that led to the genocide in former Yugoslavia is the same that has burned out the physical economies of the United States,

Europe, and Japan.

First of all, Milosevic was given the green light for his genocidal drive, after the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, by an oligarchical coalition led by the British. With the end of the Cold War and its division (and control) of the world, this oligarchy had a glimpse of its historical death. A period of unprecedented peace and development was potentially within the reach of the world’s nations.

But the oligarchy struck back with its financial tentacles, above all the IMF and the World Bank. The vacuum left by the Soviet empire was filled, not with economic development, but with looting. Camdessus and Co. launched a financial gunboat policy. Their instruments: shock therapy, economic and political conditionalities, total support for financial pirates such as George Soros and the “hedge funds.” Any government, any institution that tried to resist, was savaged. As the financial bubble grew, the remains of the real economy were being dissolved.

The Balkans, crossroads between East and West, North and South, was a key focal point for potential development, especially in the context of Lyndon LaRouche’s program for a Eurasian Land-Bridge. Milosevic was told to burn that crossroads, and he did so. Kosova is the latest act of the drama. The IMF had already taken care of burning up Albania; its economy and existence as a sovereign nation were destroyed, when it was forced to follow the IMF recipe in 1996-97. A speculative explosion ripped through the country for a few months, only to be followed by a total collapse, leaving behind a feudal state, under the domination of organized-crime gangs.

If Kosova is to be spared that fate, and the Balkans is to realize its positive potential, then we must defeat the IMF and the financier oligarchy. That means reorganizing the bankrupt world financial system, and forming a New Bretton Woods system, as LaRouche has demanded. With a financial system oriented toward productive investment, not speculation, and with a Eurasian Land-Bridge program for infrastructure development into the next century, it is not only Kosova that will benefit, but all of us.