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## The Balkans

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# Global 2000 bears down on Yugoslavia

by Irene Beaudry

The old British-Venetian policy of arousing ethnic passions among small squabbling entities is well under way in its place of origin: Yugoslavia. The British-inspired Albanian separatist movement that erupted over a year ago in the Serbian province of Kosovo is still active, and still provides the capability for splintering Yugoslavia and, in the process, drawing Bulgaria and Greece into a Balkans conflict.

The plans envisaged for Yugoslavia do not differ from the Global 2000 plans for war-torn Lebanon. The Global 2000 program put together under the Carter administration stipulates devastating population reduction accompanied by zero technological growth. The idea is to dismember a country into Swiss-model cantons, each containing a specific group devoted to maintaining its own "ethnic purity."

The specifics of this plan as it applies to Yugoslavia were discussed in March 1981 at the John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio during a conference entitled "Global 2000 and the South Slavs" organized by the American Croatian Society, better known as the National Croatian Council (NCC).

The NCC is part of an international umbrella organization regrouping Croatian separatists, the World War II fascist Ustashi, and the latter's terrorist arm, the Otpor (Resistance). Following that Global 2000 conference, which coincided with the outbreak of Albanian separatist riots in Kosovo, the NCC began working together with émigré Albanian networks that had operated in Albania during World War II under the control of British intelligence officers Fitzroy Maclean, Lord Bethell, and British triple agent Harold "Kim" Philby. The NCC also made contact earlier this year with the Ayatollah Khomeini's regime in Iran for the purpose of instigating separatism among the predominantly Muslim population of Bosnia-Herzegovina, aiming at the creation of a fundamentalist Muslim state in that republic.

The U.S. head of the NCC, Matthew Mestrovic, has unabashedly made clear the plan for fragmenting Yugoslavia into "ethnically pure" regions, with Yugoslavian Albanians unified with Albania (for, says Mestrovic, the Albanians are not Slavs) while Bulgarian, Greek, and

Yugoslav Macedonians, form another entity. Bosnian Muslims (who Mestrovic says are after all Slavs) would also be unified in a Muslim micro-state. Mestrovic recently traveled to Bulgaria as official guest of that government, which is disposed to promote friction over the Macedonian question. The Bulgarian side of the operation is being overseen by an Oxford-trained British national, Marcia McDermott, who for the past 10 years in Sofia has written official histories on Bulgaria's right to Macedonia, and who is reportedly responsible for training Bulgaria's diplomatic corps.

Mestrovic's Ustashi networks have organized protests in the United States and in Western Europe together with such Albanian terrorist groups as the Red Flag, which has been named by the Yugoslavian government as responsible for fomenting last year's riots in Kosovo.

### An IMF policy

At the League of Communists Party Congress June 26-29, the first since the death of Marshal Tito, it became evident that ethnic squabbings were not merely limited to the issue of Kosovo.

The congress's official theme was an economic stabilization program to deal with Yugoslavia's 40 percent inflation rate, growing unemployment, and \$20 billion debt. The plan—put together under the supervision of the International Monetary Fund—calls for stringent austerity and increased exports.

But one of its provisions exacerbated ethnic rivalries. A new law which mandates pooling foreign currency in the domestic market was opposed by Slovenia, the most prosperous republic, and by Croatia. Both contended that local exporters would be denied their profits and that other poorer and less efficient republics and provinces would use up their foreign exchange.

Though the congress deliberately avoided dealing with the turbulent nationalities issue, a program all too congruent with Global 2000 was outlined for Kosovo. Laying the blame for the riots in Kosovo on the allegedly over-ambitious plans of industrial development in that most backward region of all of Yugoslavia, the authorities have resolved to curb industrial growth in favor of the creation of small craft enterprises and agriculture. Before the party congress the Kosovo League of Communists also pledged that "special attention will be paid to the pursuance of an active population policy in this province. In Kosovo the population registers an incomparably higher increase than in other parts of the country or the world. We will also pay attention to the need for family planning," stated the Kosovo authorities.

The congress was followed July 5 by a two-day visit to Belgrade by U.K. Foreign Secretary Francis Pym, the first official British visit in over six years.