

2,000 rockets, mortars, and artillery strike the city, which is bombarded from the air and besieged by tanks.

"David and Goliath—that's how everyone defines the struggle of the defenders of Vukovar against the Serbian aggressor. Food is coming to an end, there are no more medical supplies. Medicines are lacking above all for wounded and sick civilians, who are holed up in the cellars.

"Vukovar itself is living in cellars. The city is totally destroyed. There are no more supplies, and there is no possibility of leaving. The convoy with food relief and medicine did not get through.

"The nearly 2,500 defenders are completely completely exhausted and underfed. The last stocks are divided up—one can among several guardsmen.

"The defense of Vukovar is amazing; it borders on a miracle. Already several times the Serbian side has reported Vukovar has fallen, but 'the city stands,' goes the refrain of a song about Vukovar, which originated in the last few days.

"Vukovar knows, the defenders and inhabitants of Vukovar know, that the city has become a legend. And they will never give up.

"How miraculously the rubble puts up resistance. The blackened walls fight doggedly on, the buried cellars throw the aggressors back.

"If Vukovar falls, Croatia falls, but above all, Europe will fall.

"On Thursday, Oct. 10, it seemed to have gone that far. The aggressor announced victory. But once again Vukovar could say: 'Still here!' How much longer?"

weather, and a lot of chit-chat. Not a word on the "Dalmatian Florence," which is dying. Nothing on the monstrous warlords who are annihilating a defenseless people only 120 kilometers from [the Italian port of] Ancona. I left Fiume under a torrential rain, and while the ship was leaving the port, I saw a hill behind the city blow up: 50-meter-high flames, there was a concert of explosions, and the forest caught fire. I later learned from Croatian radio that the generals had ordered the big Katarna barracks to be blown up, because they feared it might fall into Croatian hands. Later, they started talking about a lightning strike.

Meanwhile, beings who appear to be invaders from another world, inhuman and brutal, are destroying the coast, woodland by woodland, city by city. Their actions show that the Slovenes and Croats are right: How can they go on living together with such creatures? But Europe will catch on when it is too late. Perhaps when Dubrovnik, the ancient, has become a charnel house.

Croatian Information Minister

Is U.S. playing at divide and conquer?

"The international community has strongly criticized Serbia for aggression, but in terms of real politics, it has, in fact, helped the aggressor," Croatian Information Minister Branko Salaj charged in Frankfurt, Germany during an Oct. 10 press conference. "This weapons embargo against Yugoslavia only hurts the Croats, while, on the ground, it gives strong support to the aggressor, telling him he should go on. The political declarations of support for Croatia are for the galleries, but it is the real politics that counts." Salaj said that the policies of most governments in Europe, including those like Germany and Austria which have been verbally pro-Croatian, are far behind their own people. "Even in Britain, which has the most pro-Serbian government in Europe, the mood among the population, or among British journalists I meet, is different."

Branko Salaj was asked by *EIR* whether he agreed that the Bush administration, in order to build its "new world order," would want to keep the Serbs and Croats at each others' throats for as long as possible, as a way to ultimately undermine continental Europe. He answered: "There's something in what you're saying. But it is a risky business to undercut Europe. It would lead to many difficulties in the years ahead; it could lead to a confrontationist attitude. Of course, there are understandable apprehensions in Europe, given American behavior after the invasion of Kuwait, when American ambassadors went to European capitals not only asking for, but demanding contributions, in cash, for the Gulf war. But in the long run, American policy, the policy of that new world order, would probably be less of direct confrontation and more of a *chef d'orchestre*, assigning the various roles to play to the various players as an orchestra conductor does. It would be a kind of divide-and-rule diplomacy toward Europe, playing different countries off against each other."

EIR's reporter asked the minister whether he would agree with the comparison of Serbian dictator Slobodan Milosevic to Cambodia's Pol Pot. "We are pretty much of the same opinion," he said. "They are destroying not only our people but our identity, our culture, our religion. Look at the huge attacks on our churches, for example. These are attacks we have not seen before in any war in Europe. Our prime minister said in his recent speech that Hitler and Mussolini didn't inflict the kind of damage of these objects, that the Serbians have in this dirty war. They are destroying not only our heritage, but our dignity. Why else systematic attacks on ambulances, on vehicles marked with Red Cross markings?"