
Russian General Tells the Truth

From the sellout of Bosnia to the maelstrom of World War III

by Katharine Kanter

A little over a year ago, Helga Zepp-LaRouche wrote that "Vukovar is the future of Europe" unless the western European elites moved to stop the Balkans war. She was writing as Serbian artillery was pounding the besieged Croatian city of Vukovar, terrorizing its helpless civilians and wantonly destroying its historic monuments. Now a public statement from Russian Gen. Viktor Filatov, which one might fairly describe as "refreshingly frank," has put that writing on the wall for all to see—all that is, save the western elites who can't tear themselves away from the dirty movies on cable television long enough to read anything.

Filatov, who clearly has no time to watch cable television, chose the German daily *Berliner Zeitung* on Dec. 28, to send his New Year's greetings to the western world. "Russian oil will continue to flow to Serbia. If anyone tries to stop us, they will find all our missiles on alert. Let them try to stop us from delivering oil to Serbia. As for soldiers, we have unlimited reserves. Professionals, between 20 and 45 years of age. When the West sends Mudjaheddin in for the Muslims, and Catholics in for the Croatians, then it will happen in a flash of lightning. Our tempers are up, all we await is the signal. Watch me. When I turn up in Yugoslavia, then there will be a Russian battalion there."

According to Filatov, about 4,000 Russian soldiers have been fighting for Serbia over the past year—crack troops, including Afghantsi, veterans of the Afghanistan war—in a campaign for the Orthodox religion. Rather than send Russians to Argentina, he said, we have spoken to the Serbians, who are excited about the idea of settling a million Russians in Serbia, i.e., 300,000 families, whose men and youth can fight for "Orthodox Serbia" against Croatians and Muslims. Of course, when Filatov speaks of "Serbia," he is referring to most of Croatian, Bosnian, and Kosovan territory, which the Serbs and Russians say are "Orthodox Serbian lands, historically." Filatov boasted that "in uniform, I went to Belgrade and campaigned for Milosevic in the elections, on TV." Seselj, leader of the overtly fascist Radical Party, he described as "my friend."

In conclusion, Filatov said that the "U.S.-run occupation

government of Yeltsin, run by an American Jew called Jeffrey Sachs," would soon be replaced by "parallel structures" of the National Salvation Front, which will take over the country and place its resources at Serbia's disposal.

General Filatov was a fellow much seen around Baghdad just before the war broke out; recently, he has been sighted in Serbia accompanying groups of Russian military "volunteers" on their way to join Serbian companies. He is a member of the National Salvation Front and chief editor of the Interior Ministry's magazine, *Situatsia*. When not engaged in this refined theoretical-literary work, he shows a practical side by recruiting Russian "volunteers" to go and fight in Bosnia. It is important to understand two things: 1) General Filatov is not talking pie in the sky. He is simply describing what the Russians are actually doing, and telling, or warning if you prefer, what they are about to do. When Foreign Minister Kozyrev caused the big stir at the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) in mid-December by reading a speech about Serbia on the Filatov line, he was not lying, for once, when he said the speech had been dictated to him by nationalist circles. 2) General Filatov's charming friends are about to come to power in Moscow, very soon.

You have no doubt got the Filatov message: The Russians smell blood, they smell the sickness, the weakness of the western elites. The shoe is off, it is pounding the table, and they are shrieking: "We will bury you. We get what we want, or you get war." Americans who have not the slightest interest in Bosnia, "a far off country, of which we know nothing," might do well to think again.

It is no accident, that Filatov makes his calculated "Watch out, we are stark raving mad" move, the very week that the western powers feebly mooted the idea that at some remote time in the future, an air interdict against Serbia might perhaps be enforced. Filatov knows that he is dealing with western leaders devoid of any loyalties or moral principles, but committed to the new world order, i.e., the world as a law-free looting ground, swept by Anglo-American police operations. Indeed, following the events in 1989, the same Anglo-American think tanks which spat upon Lyndon LaRouche's

Berlin-Paris-Vienna Productive Triangle proposal to develop Russia and eastern Europe, plotted to grab chunks of the former U.S.S.R., under the cover of western "peace-making" police operations. That is the evil which the National Salvation Front seeks to deflect, characteristically, by more evil.

What could have been done

Had the western powers wanted to muzzle the Filatovs of this world, and hold Serbia back from her course of aggression, this could have been done without shedding a drop of blood. Now, after 18 months of casting away every effective measure proposed to them, with 200,000 dead, these same powers claim that only military means will stop Serbia. But what were the other means available?

1) **Recognition.** Had the western powers wanted to prevent Serbia from moving outside her borders, that could have been done, easier than falling off a log in June 1991, just by recognizing Croatia and Slovenia right after the popular vote in favor of independence from Yugoslavia. But, given what Msgr. Tauran called in *Le Monde* on Dec. 27, "a terrifying lack of political will in Europe," it was child's play for England, France, and the United States to block recognition until finally, the Vatican forced everyone's hand in December 1991. By that time, Vukovar had fallen, tens of thousands had died, and Croatia had lost 30% of her territory.

2) **The blockade.** After Serbia's winter skiing holidays were over, she fell upon Bosnia, as the entire world knew she would, in March 1992. There was a simple, elegant, bloodless way to stop Serbia in her tracks within a fortnight: Enforce the blockade over the Serbian stretch of the Danube. Enter England, France, and the United States, playing the European Commission and the U.N. Security Council for all they were worth, obstructing every attempt to enforce the blockade, secure in the knowledge that as soon as the U.N. got involved as arbitrator, Russia and China on the Security Council would veto every move against Serbia.

3) **Financial strangulation.** The British-run isle of Cyprus is, as this magazine reported a few weeks ago, the center for all Serbian overseas trading operations today. Were the western powers to close down, in a stroke, the whole Cyprus banking system, Serbian procurement would grind to a halt within a fortnight. Nothing whatsoever has been done to seal off Cyprus.

4) **Allow Bosnia and Croatia to defend themselves.** Instead, England, France, and the United States added Bosnia and Croatia to the arms embargo against Serbia. Had Bosnia and Croatia access to the international arms market, they could push Serbia back to her June 1991 borders without any outside "help." The U.N., by taking over the "cease-fire" zone in Serbian-occupied Croatia, has physically prevented the Croatian Army from going to the aid of Bosnia. On Dec. 29, as it became public that the Bosnians were about to launch a large force from Mount Igman, in "Operation

Labyrinth" to free Sarajevo, Cyrus Vance's spokesman Fred Eckhardt stated that Vance and Lord Owen are "greatly concerned" by this Bosnian move, as it will jeopardize their "negotiated rather than military" solution.

So we see, that the so-called western superpowers, namely England, France, and the United States, all of whom possess nuclear weapons and have little to fear from Serbia, have purposefully rejected every bloodless means of putting an end to Serbia's war of aggression. Neither Bosnia, nor Croatia, is anything to them. Their care is, first, to blow up continental Europe and drive a wedge between Russia and Germany. Second, to tear up the law, and re-write it as they go along, turning Bosnia, like Iraq and Somalia, into a "law-free" playground. National sovereignty is to disappear, except of course, for England, the United States, and Russia.

Bosnian government is right

And so we have the government of Bosnia, a lawfully elected government of a nation, recognized by most nations on this planet, and this government, in classic international law, is responsible for defending the lives of its citizens by upholding Bosnia's sovereignty. This government of Bosnia does not want 12 or 15 different foreign armies, in the flimsy disguise of U.N. soldiers, but in reality under the sway either of Russia or the Anglo-Americans, stomping all over their territory. They simply want arms to defend themselves, and the back-up of a blockade against Serbia. That is denied them. This government wants Tuzla Airport opened, so Bosnia might receive foodstuffs and weapons, and reestablish their authority over Northeastern Bosnia. The British forces and the U.N. denies that to them. This government does not want Bosnia to become a U.N. Protectorate, but now hears that this solution "may have to be imposed." This government has rejected every single demand that the Republic of Bosnia be partitioned and yet, we are told, by Vance's spokesman Eckhardt in Geneva, that "map-drawing is making progress along roughly ethnic lines." The government of Bosnia is right, and law, natural law, is on its side.

Now we are supposed to believe that NATO, or the U.N., or my great-grandmother, can start blasting Serbian installations into the dust, or blowing their planes out of the air, without declaring war on Serbia, and this will be the law, because this week, the British and the Americans feel like it—but maybe next week, Zagreb will be in the line of fire, if they "feel like it." Just as on Monday, Dec. 28, French "U.N." troops stopped 500 Bosnian men from leaving Sarajevo at gunpoint, because the French "felt like it." In fact, the Bosnians are believed to have been wending their perilous way up toward Mount Igman, to rejoin Operation Labyrinth.

The most fundamental right is the right to life, and the most fundamental law, the positive duty to protect the weak against the strong. Bosnia can still be saved, Serbia stopped, and Russia rolled back. But not by our present leaders, for whom law means their whims, and rights, their lusts.