

Faris Nanic Tours U.S. for Balkan Reconstruction

Faris Nanic, Secretary General in Croatia of the Party of Democratic Action (S.D.A.) and former Chief of Staff to President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, conducted a two-week tour of the United States in late September, calling on this nation to adopt Lyndon LaRouche's economic development policies, as the only basis for real reconstruction of the Balkan nations. The tour was co-sponsored by the Schiller Institute.

Nanic is a co-initiator, together with Schiller Institute founder Helga Zepp LaRouche, of an international call for "Peace through Development for the Balkans," which was drafted for worldwide endorsement during NATO's bombardment of Serbia last spring.

A Balkans Marshall Plan

That statement calls for a Marshall Plan for the Balkans regions; a New Bretton Woods policy for the world economy (including fixed exchange rates, protection of national economies, and sovereign credit generation for economic development); a sharp, immediate break with the I.M.F. and World Bank practice of imposing austerity measures and unacceptable financial conditionalities on sovereign nations; debt moratoria for the economies of the region, which have been ruined by war and enforced shock therapy; use of the model of the *Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau* during the post-World War II reconstruction of Germany; joining the initiative for a Eurasian Land-Bridge in cooperation with all interested nations; and inclusion of all Balkan and Southeastern European states in the Eurasian Land-Bridge project.

During his tour, Nanic spoke at town meetings in Chicago, Los Angeles, Houston, Philadelphia, and New York City. He also addressed seminars in New York City and Washington, D.C., attended by U.N. and foreign embassy officials. And, in Northern Virginia and



Left: Faris Nanic speaks with reporters during intermission between press conference and forum in Washington, D.C. Below: Nanic addresses Town Meeting in Los Angeles.



Baltimore, he addressed events co-sponsored by local mosques and the Schiller Institute.

On his tour, Nanic told his American audiences: "I've been talking so much about Balkan reconstruction and the failures of the Dayton Accords, that I realize that we have to observe all of these things from a broader perspective. I'm trying to look at solutions, and I'm thinking that radical ideas have to be introduced. My only hope is that the shift will happen here in the United States of America—not because the U.S. is the only remaining superpower, but because of the tradition, which is the tradition of all of mankind."

U.S. Role Necessary

The United States has the "unique chance" to initiate the necessary global reconstruction, Nanic said. "You cannot expect from small, terrified states," such as Croatia or Bosnia-Herzegovina, "to initiate radical changes. This has to be done from key nations, mainly the U.S."

Nanic focussed on Lyndon LaRouche, as the key American who can carry out the needed policy: "The only person I know who is, from a political standpoint, based on ideas, and is capable

of addressing each and every crisis, is the leader of your movement. I've known Mr. LaRouche from 1993, when I interviewed him when he was in jail. You have to understand that the global political leadership is not acting on ideas, but acting on public opinion. He is a man who represents the historical continuum of the best ideas that have shaped the world. For all the world, you have to give him support, to put him in position to become a decision-maker. He's the only person who can address the crisis."

Institute Reps in

A Schiller Institute delegation travelled to Hungary and Slovakia at the end of June, to report on two human rights issues: first, the need for immediate postwar reconstruction in the Balkans; and second, the gross violations of human rights in the U.S. justice system.

The delegation held a press conference on June 28 in Bratislava, Slovakia, which was well attended by the major press. Anno Hellenbroich described NATO's war against Yugoslavia as a violation of human rights, as well as of the

Colombia's Bedoya Calls for Alliance vs. Drugs

General Harold Bedoya (ret.), former Commander of the Armed Forces of Colombia, gave an extremely successful news conference Sept. 7 at the National Press Club, where he briefed an international contingent of 40 reporters from government-linked and private news services, on the nature and scope of the narco-terrorist threat to Colombia and other nations, and what must be done to vanquish it.

According to the senior military leader, the way the situation in Colombia is portrayed, as a 40-year political struggle, "is false." What you have, is a drug cartel—a known drug cartel—attempting to seize power. Bedoya noted that the drug culture could have been defeated, had the will existed to do so. But the previous government was beholden to the Cali cartel, and this current government was installed by the narco-terrorist FARC cartel.

Using maps to address the group, the General stressed three interrelated points in his remarks.

First, he called for a Marshall Plan for development of Colombia, specifically *without* any conditionalities or involvement of the I.M.F. He attacked Richard Grasso, the head of the New York Stock Exchange, for visiting the FARC drug region recently, and talking of collaboration. General Bedoya pointed out that what's involved are drug money flows, and that Grasso knows



General Harold Bedoya (ret.) addresses Washington, D.C. National Press Club.

this. These are speculative money flows to Wall Street, which needs this dirty money. Wall Street is facing a crash. But, Bedoya pointedly added, even if they were not, they would still need this kind of money to keep their system going.

Second, he said, we must change the situation in Colombia. The current government has been in power for one year, but "it feels like a hundred." They are destroying the country and the territory. He said that Colombians "are mobilized" for a change. We cannot stand the government for the next four years. We must have change. We can't have the indebtedness we do now. We must have no more I.M.F.

He also called on Washington to change its current policy of support for the Colombian government's "absurd" negotiations with the FARC cartel, in pursuit of an illusory peace that will not come through this kind of capitulation.

General Bedoya spoke of the need for a "change in the culture." The state has but a single function—to look out for the welfare and progress of its people. But the most basic norms are now being violated. He pointed to the 4,000 Colombian children who have been kidnapped by the narco-terrorists, and made to carry grenades, guard drug labs, and do the narco-terrorists' bidding. We cannot have children treated this way.

Hungary, Slovakia

principle of national sovereignty, presenting Lyndon LaRouche's proposal for an immediate Marshall Plan for the region.

Margaret Greenspan reported on human rights violations in the United States, concentrating on the cases of Lyndon LaRouche, who, although now free on parole, served five years in prison despite his innocence; and of her brother Michael Billington (currently serving a 77-year sentence in Virginia) and two other LaRouche political prisoners, Paul and Anita Gallagher.



Margaret Greenspan (left) and Anno Hellenbroich discuss human rights issues with a Hungarian journalist.