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The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and Its 2,000-Member Multinational Force: Doing Milosevic's Dirty Work

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Most journalistic commentary has focused on whether the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) will be able to field all 2,000 members of the multinational force scheduled to observe Yugoslavian and Serbian Government forces in Kosovo. Other Issues of concern include (1) how the OSCE multinational force can be extracted if the Government forces reinstate hostilities, (2) whether the OSCE force may serve more as likely Government hostages to deter North Atlantic Treaty Organization bombing of Government forces, (3) how the OSCE force may impact on political negotiations between the Serbian Government and appropriate representatives of Kosovars of Albanian ethnicity, (4) who appropriate representatives of Kosovars of Albanian ethnicity are, and (5) various Kosovar humanitarian issues.

All of the above seems to suggest that the OSCE multinational force is designed to protect the Kosovars of Albanian ethnicity. Yet the force is equally supposed to serve an observatory function to dissuade against and report violence perpetrated by the Kosovo Liberation Army and other representatives of the Albanian Kosovars against Serbs, other Yugoslavs, and still others including Kosovars who are viewed as accomplices of and collaborators with the Yugoslav and Serbian Governments. In other words, the OSCE is de facto working to support the consolidation of the gains made through the Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic's military, paramilitary, and police attacks.

The intense negotiations between plenipotentiary Richard Holbrooke and Mr. Milosevic leading to the agreement for deploying a OSCE force has been billed as a Milosevic concession. Instead it is the United States and NATO who have conceded to Mr. Milosevic personnel to support his power. Is this a victory for peace, the war that preceded it, or the war that will surely follow? (See Karan, M. (1975). Psychoanalytic approach to the problems of blood feud. *Psihijatrija Danas*, 7, 63-73; Levy, J.S. (1998). Misperception and the use of force: A commentary on Ralph White's "American Acts of Force." *Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology*, 4, 129-136; Mayer, T.F. (1986). Arms races and war initiation: Some alternatives to the Intriligator-Brito model. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 30, 3-28; Modell, J., & Haggerty, T. (1991). The social impact of war. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 17, 205-224; Perlez, J. (November 11, 1998). Guerrillas in Kosovo rebound, provoking concern. *The New York Times*, <http://www.nytimes.com>.) (Keywords: Albania, Kosovo, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, OSCE, Richard Holbrooke, Serbia, Slobodan Milosevic, Violence, Yugoslavia.)