

СДРУЖЕНИЕ

ПОТОМЦИ НА БЕЖАНЦИ И ПРЕСЕЛНИЦИ ОТ ТЕРИТОРИЯТА НА РС МАКЕДОНИЯ
И ПРИЯТЕЛИ

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На 28 януари 2025 г. в Битоля, Република Северна Македония, за пореден път се гледа съдебното дело срещу Люпчо Георгиевски – председател на забранения местен български културен клуб „Иван Михайлов“. Съдебният процес е започнат по сигнал на крайно лявата проруска и просръбска партия „Левица“. Люпчо Георгиевски е обвинен в това, че граждани на Северна Македония се почувствали засегнати от неговите идеи, за които се твърди, че представлявали разпространяване на расизъм и ксенофобия по електронен път. За това, че Люпчо Георгиевски цитирал мисли на Иван Михайлов – последен водач на автентичната ВМРО – на подсъдимия е вменена вината, че отрича уникалността на македонската нация. Обвиняван е за това, че тези цитати и други текстове

са на книжовен български език. Има обвинения за това, че изразява съмнения относно официалните възгледи в Скопие за „историческия развой на македонския език“.

Всички тези обвинения са напълно измислени и показват липсата на свобода на мисълта и на словото в днешна Северна Македония. Тези обвинения погават основни обективни факти.

Днес последният водач на автентичната ВМРО Иван Михайлов е обявяван от властта в Скопие за престъпник, като това са твърдения, лансирани от властите в бивша Югославия още в края на 1944 г. и до днес не са променени. Държим да подчертаем, че макар и роден на територията на Северна Македония, Иван Михайлов от 1934 до 1990 г. живее в емиграция, поради което физически не е присъствал в нея, за да извърши каквото и да било. Единственото „престъпление“ на Иван Михайлов, както и на неговите предци Гоце Делчев, Дамян Груев, Тодор Александров и плеядата други борци е, че се е чувствал българин и е писал на книжовен български език, на който са написани всички издания и цялата легална и нелегална кореспонденция на автентичната ВМРО. След Втората световна война Иван Михайлов се установява в Рим, Италия, където се ползва от закрилата на италианските власти. Неговите съчинения са издавани в САЩ и демократични държави в Западна Европа, а положителни отзиви за тях са публикувани в авторитетни издания в Германия, Италия, Ватикана и други държави. В идеите на Иван Михайлов залягат два основни принципа: борба за независимост на Македония и сътрудничество и равенство на всички населяващи я етнически групи, в т.ч. и българите. (Приложение 1) Иван Михайлов е също така автор на много изложения до ООН, в които се изнася информация за потъпкването на човешките права на българите в комунистическа Югославия. (Приложение 2)

През този същия период комунистическите власти в Белград и Скопие ликвидираха цялата демократична опозиция на територията на днешна Северна Македония с обвинението, че е последовател на Иван Михайлов, а него го издирваха с идеята да го ликвидират. За целта в службите за сигурност бе създаден специален отдел. Тази политика на омраза към всичко българско продължи да се провежда и след 1990 г., когато под натиска на обстоятелствата Скопие бе принудено формално да се отдели от Белград. Това е причината Българският културен клуб „Иван Михайлов“ в Битоля да бъде подпален през 2022 г., а извършителят на това престъпление не само, че не е наказан, но днес е свидетел по делото срещу Люпчо Георгиевски. Като продължение на тази антибългарска политика, през 2023 г. в Северна Македония е приет специален закон, действащ със задна дата, по силата на който клубът „Иван Михайлов“ е забранен.

Ако бъде признат за виновен, Люпчо Георгиевски може да получи присъда от 1 до 5 години затвор. Люпчо Георгиевски не е извършвал никакви престъпления. Той е популяризировал идеи, които се разпространяват свободно във всички държави по света с изключение на Северна Македония, Сърбия и Русия. Две години след пожара той е уволнен от работа, а гоненията срещу други изявени българи в Северна Македония продължават. Тази официална политика на Скопие поражда страхове сред представителите на българската общност, а нейни активисти са принудени да се изселят от Северна Македония. Наказателното преследване на Люпчо Георгиевски е ясен сигнал към всички българи, че защитата на българската идентичност и историческа истина в Северна Македония се наказва.

Успоредно с това продължава политиката на сближаване на Скопие с Белград. През януари 2025 г. премиерът на Северна Македония Християн Мицкоски обяви, че това „сътрудничество е пример за това как две съседни държави могат да си сътрудничат и да създават общо бъдеще“. Това става в присъствието на изявени проруски и просръбски политици като северномакедонския вицепремиер и министър на междуобщностните отношения Иван Стоилкович, който е открит привърженик на Владимир Путин. Същият нарича сръбския геноцид срещу босненските мюсюлмани в Сребреница „некрофилски Дисниленд“ и обеща да напусне страната си, ако българите бъдат вписани в конституцията на Северна Македония.

Изнасянето на обективните факти от близкото минало на Северна Македония не представлява отричане на съвременната македонска идентичност. Това е индивидуално право и всеки гражданин на тази държава може да се нарича македонец, а езикът си – македонски. Но с такива права трябва да разполагат и тези, които въпреки репресиите продължават да съхраняват българската си идентичност. Те трябва да могат свободно да се изявяват пред обществото като българи и съответно да наричат майчиния си език български, по начина по който са го наричали всички възрожденци и революционери от територията на днешна Северна Македония. Ние възприемаме подобни забрани за изява на българската идентичност като съвременен геноцид, който няма място в демократична Европа.

Поради всичко това настояваме европейски представители да се запознаят с материалите по делото срещу Люпчо Георгиевски и при констатиране на потъпкване на правата на човека, да му окажат пълна подкрепа. В по-широк аспект апелираме отделните институции на ЕК, в чийто ресор влизат описаните проблеми, да подложат на мониторинг протичащите политически процеси в Северна Македония и да съдействат активно за нейното демократизиране.

С уважение,

СЪПРЕДСЕДАТЕЛИ:



проф. Трендафил
Митев



доц. Спас Ташев



Илия Стояновски

СЕКРЕТАР:



Димитър М.
Димитров

София, 29 януари 2025 г.

Настоящото изложение се подкрепя и от Нова политическа емиграция на македонските българи, представлявана от Благой Шаторов и Горан Серафимов.

Macedonian Liberation Movement and the Albanians

BY IVAN MIHAILOFF



Ivan Mihailoff

Ever since the launching of the Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization (IMRO) in 1893, the basic objective of its work has been respect for equality among the nationalities in Macedonia. The IMRO had made numerous declarations stating that it in no way was working against the Turkish population but only against the backward and oppressive Turkish rule.

It is understandable, therefore, why even during the Sultan's rule of Macedonia, representatives of the IMRO were meeting with the Mohammedan Albanians in Cetinje, the capitol of Montenegro, to discuss collaboration against the Turkish regime. One of IMRO's representatives attending such a meeting was Todor Alexandroff. Because of certain reasons and conditions existing then, no effective accord for joint collaboration was reached.

But the Albanians had a certain disagreement with the Young Turks government which was shaping the destiny of the Turkish empire after 1908. In less than two years after the dethronement of Sultan Abdul Hamid by a group of Young Turks officers, there erupted a major Albanian disturbance; several thousand armed Albanians from the Kossovo and adjacent Albanian districts marched and occupied the City of Skopie, while the Turkish garrison there showed no resistance. As a result of this episode, the names of the im-

prisoned Albanian leaders — Bairam Tzur and Isa Boletinetz — became more popular. But it was well known then that among the Albanians the outstanding leader was Hasan-Bey Prushtina, a cultured and politically experienced person who was also serving as representative of the Kossovo Committee.

Soon after the above mentioned disturbance, the Balkan war started — the war in which Bulgaria, Serbia, Greece and Montenegro fought against Turkey. Militarily victorious against the Turks, the Balkan states then became involved in a war among themselves mainly because of their rivalry in regard to the division of Macedonia. Notwithstanding the fact that the majority of the population in Macedonia was Bulgarian, Sofia committed a fatal mistake by abandoning the principle which the IMRO had adopted ever since its organization in 1893. This principle was: an independent Macedonian state that would include all of its districts.

The abandonment of this principle facilitated more and more the aspirations of the big Powers, and also caused quarreling among the allied Balkan states, particularly with Bulgaria which suffered loss of territory and population.

This is the reason why the Macedonian liberation movement, not only then but even now, is decisively condemning the concluded Treaty of March 13, 1912, between Bulgaria and Serbia which had considered the division of Macedonia. By this division, under the pretext of a "contested zone", Serbia had acquired the northwestern part of Macedonia with the City of Skopie; along with it she was allowed to seize the bigger part of the Albanian provinces extending to the Adriatic Sea.

The Albanians had every reason to be enemies of the Serbians. During the Balkan War (1912-1913), and even after the war was over, many Albanians were mercilessly killed by the Serbs. In western Macedonia near the frontiers of the Albanian state, the Albanian inhabitants revolted and together with the Macedonian Bulgarian fighters inflicted a humiliating defeat on the Serbian military and police units.

Here it would be proper to mention the formal agreement between the Albanians and the Macedonian Bulgarians, reached in November, 1920, for a joint action against the Serbian oppressors. In negotiating the agreement with the Albanian leaders, the IMRO was represented by Alexander

Protogeroff. The latter had met Dr. Philip Athanasoff of the Kostour district, who had wronged the IMRO and because of it had to go abroad. However, Dr. Athanasoff had previously met with several formed Macedonian workers and agreed to study the terrain near Albania so that they might carry on revolutionary activity in some western Macedonian districts. Seeing such a desire on the part of Dr. Athanasoff, Alexander Protogeroff had agreed that they both should participate in starting the discussions with the Albanians for coordinative action against the Serbs not only in Macedonia but also Kossovo.¹

And, indeed, the Albanians showed readiness for such discussions. As a result a protocol with the following provisions was signed:

1. The Macedonian Revolutionary Organization and the subjugated Macedonian Bulgarians, and the Albanian Revolutionary Organization and the Albanians from Kossovo and Macedonia shall have as their goal the fight for the liberation of Macedonia in its ethnographic borders and also the liberation of Albanians of Kossovo and Chamouria.

2. The frontiers between Albania and Macedonia shall pass over Kachanik, elevation 560, following Shar mountain to the present (1920) Serbo-Albanian frontier.

3. Since the cities of Ohrid, Struga, and Resen are Bulgarian, they shall remain within the frontiers of Bulgarian Macedonia.

4. For the city of Debr, a plebiscite shall be held which will decide to whom this city would belong.

Signed:

For the Macedonian Revolutionary Organization: General Alexander Protogeroff, Dr. Philip Athanasoff.

For the Albanian Revolutionary Committee and the Albanian Nationalists: Hasan-Bey Prishtina, Hodja Kadri, Bedri Piani, and Seifi Vlamasi.

The negotiations had started while Pandeli Vangeli was Prime Minister; it continued when Hasan-Bey Prishtina became Prime Minister for a short period, and terminated when Ahmed Zogu became Prime Minister of Albania. Mr. Zogu had personally invited the negotiators to come to the home of Redjeb-Bey Mitrovitsa, the then minister of Education. It was at his home that the agreement was reached and the text of the provisions of the protocol were written. Ahmed Zogu had also invited 25 leading Albanians to witness in their presence the progress of the negotiations.

¹Alexander Protogeroff made an error by asking Dr. Athanasoff to participate in the negotiations with the Albanians. Dr. Athanasoff had wronged the IMRO beyond forgiveness. He had no connection with Macedonia and his main work consisted of creating obstacles to IMRO's work. Todor Alexandroff, the IMRO's leader at that time, was displeased with Protogeroff's decision to have Dr. Athanasoff with him.

Hasan-Bey Prishtina, as mentioned above, was for quite sometime the most prominent individual in the Kossovo Albanian Committee.

Hodja Kadri was also once President of the Albanian Kossovo Committee.

Bedri Piani was an Albanian statesman.

Seifi Vlamasi was President of the Albanian Committee for the liberation of Chamouria province from Greek bondage.

Of the other Albanians who had either participated or kept close contact with the development of the discussions, we might mention the following: Redjeb Mitrovitsa, a well known statesman who became Prime Minister of Albania during the Second World War; Yashar Erebara, a prominent statesman; Arni Roustem, who also participated in the above negotiations.

I believe that I have properly stated the policy of the Macedonian liberation workers in the following words which I incorporated in 1939 in my book, *BY THE THORNY ROAD of the MACEDONIAN LIBERATION WORK*, published under the pen name of "Bregalnishki":

"In connection with the giving to Serbia almost the whole of the Albanian lands, it is, perhaps, proper to point out here that in this respect Bulgaria has committed an act with complete disharmony with the spirit that had imbued all Bulgarian struggles from the Bulgarian Renaissance to the present. The Bulgarians have been fighting and appealing only for justice and freedom. By the Treaty of 1912, Bulgaria has recognized the right of Serbia to subjugate nearly 1,000,000 Albanians. Have they forgotten the Albanian people whose enslavement was largely due to the Bulgarian arms which, in 1912, drove the Turks out of the Balkans? Even today we have not ceased to reproach any state which has, directly or indirectly, contributed for the enslavement of Bulgarians, as we do not even forgive Russia, the liberator of Bulgaria . . .

"At the beginning of this century the Albanians had started to shape their national consciousness by often rebelling against the Sultan of Turkey. They were now struggling for their autonomy. Some of their leaders were already thinking and proposing joint efforts with the IMRO for the freedom of Albania and Macedonia. Abroad there were prominent individuals defending the cause of the Albanians. Notwithstanding all of these, it was strange, indeed, that the Bulgarian government had affixed its signature to the death warrant not only of the hopes for self-determination, but also to a high degree on the physical existence of the Albanian people. The Serbians have hardly ever contemplated the idea of granting some sort of privileges to the Albanians even such as the

right of national and cultural development. The provisions of the Serbo-Bulgarian Treaty in regards to Albania strikes a blemish on their undertaken liberation action. But this blemish reflects more on Bulgaria since she was more powerful and in reality had launched a war for liberation, while Serbia in fact campaigned for conquest. It seems to us that if the Sofia statesman were more thoughtful on this question, perhaps, the provisions of the Treaty of Alliance with Serbia would have been different. At least there would have been no subsequent quarrels of depriving Serbia of the Albanian territory. We might even suppose that the government of the Narodniastsi party, headed by Mr. Gueshoff, would not have gone so far as to promise the Serbians Macedonian lands extending to Vardar and Bregalnitsa. One would even suppose that in the absence of this situation they could have considered the autonomy of Macedonia.² I was convinced that the highminded Albanians could not have opposed the idea for an independent Macedonia.

I had the opportunity to meet Hasan-Bey Prishtina who was one of the noted Albanian leaders. He had arrived in Sofia as I recall, during 1933. Through our friends in Sofia, I was notified that Hasan-Bey wished to see me.³ Accompanied by an interpreter, he arrived in a Macedonia village and there we were together for several hours. As a conversationalist, he impressed me very much. He had a pleasant disposition, wit, and a good sense of humor; he was calm and tactful, with the appearance of being trained in a Turkish-Oriental political atmosphere. After our conversation, I accompanied him for quite a distance from the village house where we held our meeting. Mounted on a saddled horse, he constantly waved his hand bidding me good-by until he was out of sight. He was escorted, of course, by one of our companions. As I returned to the house, I noticed that he had forgotten his walking cane. I immediately dispatched another one of my companions to overcome Hasan-Bey and give him his cane. He did so, but the kind Albanian gentleman did not take his cane, explicitly asking my man to give it to me as a token of appreciation for our cordial meeting.

Of the question which most interested me, he said:

"If it concerns the unity of Macedonia with Bulgaria, we Albanians would insist that the Macedonian districts where the majority of the population is Albanian be incorporated in the Albanian

²"Bregalniski" (Ivan Mihailoff), *By the Thorny Road of the Macedonian Liberation Work* (In Bulgarian), 1939, Pages 132-133.

³At this time Mr. Ivan Mihailoff as the leader of IMRO was, of course, in hiding with his armed liberation workers. Few people were able to locate his whereabouts.

state. But if an independent Macedonian state is created, these districts should remain within its frontiers; that is, we shall all act in the same way as was the case with Switzerland.

"In that case", I interjected, "the several hundreds of square miles of Macedonian territory now incorporated in Albania should be included in Macedonia."

"That is not a very tragic question", replied Hasan-Bey laughingly. "For the sake of the good neighborly relations between Albania and tomorrow's liberated Macedonia the several villages could remain either in Albania or in the Macedonian state . . ."

He insisted that there should be closer relations among the three most-threatened national groups in Yugoslavia — the Macedonian Bulgarians, the Croations, and the Albanians. He talked to me in the spirit of the following understanding, which the Croations also insisted to be adopted as a basis for joint and more effective action:

1. The Albanians, the Croations and the Macedonians shall concentrate all their effort for a joint action directed not only against the present Yugoslav regime, but also against the Pan-Serbian tendency for Balkan hegemony; its goal shall be the liberation of all the nationalities which are currently under Serbian rule as well as the creation and the enlargement within their historical and geographical frontiers of Croatia, Albania and Macedonia.

2. The frontiers between these states will be as follows: a. The border of Albania at the Kossovo province shall be the Turkish frontier before the Balkan War. The City of Novi-Pazar shall remain in Albanian territory. The Croatian-Albanian frontier shall subsequently be delineated through a strategic point.

b. The northern border of Macedonia begins from Rila and Osogov mountains to the summit of Pateritsa; from there on west it follows the watershed between the rivers Vardar and Bulgarian Morava to the Skopie Chernagora near Skopie; then it follows the ridge to the groge of Kachanik, continues to the main chain of the Shar mountain to the Black Drin and the Lake of Ohrid, including the reservoirs of the Ohrid and Prespa Lakes, passes by the watershed of the Devol and Bistritsa Rivers and ends at the Gramos mountain.

3. It is understood in itself that the independent states of Albania, Croatia, and Macedonia shall guarantee by their constitutions and statute laws within their frontiers full freedom of language, religion, and conscience, not only to their citizens but also to the citizens of the allied states.

4. The three contracting countries mutually

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Looking over the magazine *Cultural Life* of November, 1964, Number 8-9, published in Skopje, Yugoslavia, one reads on page 29 that the above mentioned Protocol had guaranteed not the rights of the Bulgarian minority but of some kind of "Macedonians" under Greek rule. But by this assertion there is not only something comical but also a degree of baseness, because the Greeks living in southern Macedonia consider themselves as Macedonians. The baseness, however, consists in the fact that the Bulgarians alone are changing the name of their ethnic belonging in harmony with the spirit and intent of the denationalization policy of contemporary "Yugoslavia."

During 1924, the Yugoslav kingdom was quite disturbed and reacted violently against the Protocol Kalfoff-Politis. Yugoslavia even threatened Greece that she would terminate the existing alliance between them should Greece recognize the existence of Bulgarians in her Macedonian territory. At that time much was written about Belgrade's suggested measures against Greece; the *Times* of London made extensive comments about it. But since the above mentioned Tito's periodical published in Skopje indulges in preposterous lies and maintains that the Kalfoff-Politis Protocol "recognized a separate Macedonian nationality", we shall see what the British scholar, Prof. H. R. Wilkinson of the University of Liverpool, has to say about this matter. In his book, *Maps and Politics, A Review of the Ethnographic Cartography of Macedonia*, Prof. Wilkinson writes:

On the occasion of the Yugoslav protest over the Graeco-Bulgarian Protocol of September, 1924 (which placed the Bulgarian minority in Greece under the protection of the League of Nations), the Yugoslav Foreign Minister, M. Marinkovic, stated categorically to the Greek Minister in Belgrade: "We do not wish nor can we wish to rely on arms alone for the defense of Serb Macedonia. For us it is essential that no third party should be able to dispute the Serb character of that territory. Therefore, the dogma that the Slav inhabitants of Macedonia are Serbs in a basic principle of our policy. We cannot admit that north of the frontier these Slavs are Serbs while beyond that frontier these same people are Bulgars. To recognize that the Slavs of Edhessa and Florina are Bulgar would be to destroy the very foundations of our policy in regard to Serb Macedonia. That is the basis of our policy, and should Greece be unwilling to back us up on this question, then we shall regretfully be compelled to change this basis and ask an agreement with Bulgaria by dividing up Greek Macedonia into spheres of influence." (pages 258-259).

Therefore, what Tito's magazine, *Cultural Life*, writes about the Macedonian Slavs is an absolute fiction. The Graeco-Bulgarian Protocol of September, 1924, was conserved only about the Bulgarian minority in Greece. If the question was about "Macedonians", which also the native Greeks consider themselves to be, but only in a geographical sense, that would be a total nonsense. For there is no reason why a Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs should be signing an agreement with his Bulgarian counterpart to respect the national rights of the Greeks in a Greek state.

Ever since a number of Greek statesmen and journalists have been talking and writing that the Kalfoff-Politis Protocol of 1924 conserved the Bulgarian minority living in southern or Greek Macedonia. It would be necessary to write a whole book to bring forth the Greek opinions on this question.

In conclusion, one might say that with such falsifications the rulers of contemporary "Yugoslavia" are shaping their policy and "culture".

Macedonian Liberation Movement and the Albanians

(Continued from Page 5)

guarantee the inviolability of the present agreement and solemnly obligate themselves to pursue jointly the realization of the ideal of independence by helping each other in every possible way even in case of a liberal change of the Yugoslav regime.

Soon after this agreement was reached, the newspaper announced that Hasan-Bey Prishtina was assassinated in Salonika.

The Macedonian Problem

(Continued from Page 7)

settlement of grave and gruesome matters today; it is high time for Europe and America to realize that there are enormous abuses exercised over small nations; that cry for relief in the most possible humanitarian manner. The removal of this injustice would be a most glorious achievement and would serve the peaceful development of our continent better than any army in the world.

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The Declaration on the Situation in Yugoslavia Presented by the Croatian and Macedonian Liberation Movement to: U Thant, Secretary General of the United Nations in New York, N. Y.

FOR THE RIGHTS AND DEMANDS OF THE CROATIAN AND MACEDONIAN BULGARIANS UNDER THE RULE OF YUGOSLAVIA

His Excellency
U THANT
Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York, New York

YOUR EXCELLENCY:

Confident that we are expressing the will of our people, we deem it our duty to submit to the United Nations Organization and its constituent member states, and also before the world public opinion, the following statement:

"It is well known that in Yugoslavia, since its creation after the first World War in 1918, and also, prior to that, when Serbia existed as an independent state, there have existed acute irreconcilable national conflicts.

"The present chief of state in Yugoslavia, the Communist dictator Joseph Bruc Tito, does not hesitate to publicly announce that the single-party system in the country, that is, the deprivation of dissent, must be preserved, since this is the only way to guarantee the existence of the state; otherwise, there would immediately appear nationalist parties of the different national groups in the country, and thereby signify the end or eventual downfall of present Yugoslavia. Thus, Tito has vividly described the 'strength and worth' of his artificially created mosaic state which would disintegrate if it were not for its dependence on the harsh police power and certain foreign economic assistance. Foreign powers are helping a brutal Communist tyranny in complete contradiction to the elementary principles of international law, as well as the obligations under the provisions of the U. N. O. charter.

"The national oppression within the borders of today's Yugoslavia is well known ever since 1912, when Serbia occupied the Macedonian province with a predominantly Bulgarian population.

"Many books have been published and many newspapers have carried reports on the frightful acts of the Serbian authorities against the Bulgarian people living in this province.

"The lawlessness committed by the Serbian administrative authorities is amply described by competent foreign observers of cultural nations. We shall mention only the famous 'Report of the Carnegie International Commission of Inquiry into the Causes and Conduct of the Balkan Wars,' published in Washington, D. C., in 1914. Details of Serbian lawlessness are also found in the archives of the diplomatic chancelleries of all Great Powers.

"Long is the list of names of Macedonian Bulgarians that have been either killed or thrown into prison or completely impoverished in the effort to Serbianize them. The schools, the churches and every sign of social and cultural life among the Macedonian Bulgarians were either taken over or destroyed.

"After the first World War by the arbitrary will of the victorious Powers, instead of resurrecting Serbia, there came into being in 1918 the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes. Later on the Serbian King Alexander arbitrarily renamed the country with its present name: Yugoslavia.

"But in this state, which is in reality an expansion of Serbia, as far as the Macedonian Bulgarians are concerned, lawlessness and coercion have become the law of the land. Nowhere in Western or Middle Europe (except the Macedonian provinces occupied by Greece in 1912) could one find anything to resemble the oppressive action of the Yugoslav regime.

"In Croatia, which was illegally included in the Yugoslav state in 1918, that is, without the free will of the people, there, too, was inaugurated the reign of lawlessness and harsh police power, and economic plunder.

"For a quarter of a century the tyranny of King Alexander's regime raged over the Croatian people. While after the second World War, as a result of the Yalta agreement, our people were deprived of their national rights by the brutal Communist dictatorship. And with no right or delegated authority, there currently speaks in behalf of our people a conspiracy and adventurous group which relies on police power and the single party apparatus.

"Yugoslavia is a typical state that is greatly disliked by the vast majority of its constituents.

"The Croatian people have never voted for the creation and existence of this state. The Macedonian Bulgarians on the other hand despise her and always curse Yugoslavia. And there is hardly a case among the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, or the German, the Hungarian, the Romanian or other national minorities, to have expressed itself in favor of Yugoslavia.

"Many Western authorities admit and know that this mosaic state would have been dissolved long ago by the oppressed peoples themselves, if it had not been for the foreign help which she receives.

"Favorable to her existence, Yugoslavia has always stood for the principle of non-interference in her internal affairs; and that for very good reasons. She is worried and attempts in concealment to hide the fact that the included nationalities are rising her. The government of Yugoslavia is fearful of the provisions of the United Nations Charter and the promises of the Atlantic Charter. She trembles by the very idea that the people should be given the right to decide their political destiny and also elect their national representa-

tives. "Since they were included in the borders of Yugoslavia, our people have at numerous times presented reports and memorandums concerning their political situation. Complaints of violations of their Human Rights and demands for rectifications have formerly been sent to the League of Nations in Geneva, and after the second World War to the United Nations in New York; but all of this without any effect.

"The peoples there have fought with every possible means against the imposed political misfortune.

"The national question of our peoples stand above everything else. The only salvation they can visualize is secession from Yugoslavia in which country they were incorporated against their will. It would be desirable that this separation take place by peaceful means. Such a solution would not only be in the interest of Balkan, and even world peace, but also in the harmony with human justice.

"It is the right of the Croatian people to create an independent and sovereign state of their own not only on the principle of self-determination, but also on the basis of the 10-century-old historical state right from which the Croatian people have never renounced themselves.

"Although geographically connected with their brothers in the Bulgarian state, the Macedonian Bulgarians during their nearly seven decades of fighting for liberation have often declared that they would, in the name of Balkan peace and harmony, make sacrifices by accepting the creation of an independent Macedonia organized on the example of Switzerland, with equal civil rights of all nationalities living in the country — Bulgarians, Turks, Greeks, Romanians, Albanians and others.

"Recalling that the Yugoslav Constitution itself provides for self-determination of its peoples, and also stipulates the right to secede — but let anyone speak of secession and he would be exposed to a death penalty.

"The division of Yugoslavia into six republics and two autonomous provinces, even though subjected to the rigid Serbian government in Belgrade, in itself points out that there exists no such a thing as a Yugoslav nation. Conversely, in the Yugoslav state there exist well-established historically, ethnographically and culturally separate nationalities — Croats, Slovenes, Serbs, Macedonian Bulgarians, and others, with their own national aspirations.

"There should be a cure for the active and open wounds in the body of Europe, as there are still unsolved national questions, among the foremost those of the Croats and the Macedonian Bulgarians.

"A happy future of the world would be assured only by removing the existing national injustices, since there would always be danger of despair and a resort to means of violence.

"For the cause of justice and Balkan peace, the dissolution of Yugoslavia is indispensable.

"In an eventual unified Europe, our people should figure as members of rightful national independent states rather than be represented by Belgrade, Serbia or some kind of Yugoslavia.

"On this anniversary of the proclamation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in the name of the principle of freedom, equal justice, and the national right of self-determination of nations, we are presenting to the United Nations Organization and of all its member nations, and world public opinion, our demand for a peaceful separation from Yugoslavia of all historical and ethnic territory of the Croatian people (the present republics of Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina), and of the Macedonian Bulgarians and the creation of independent and sovereign states of Croatia and Macedonia."

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Societies in Europe
DR. ANĐELIJA BJEK, Pres.
JOSEF BUDIC, Secy.

The Central Committee of the United
Croats in Canada
OVID NEGOVETIC, Pres.
GOROSLAV MANJIC, Secy.

The Central Committee of the Croatian
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ING. IVAN ANŠTAR, Pres.
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The Central Committee of the Croatian
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FOR THE MACEDONIAN LIBERATION MOVEMENT IN SUBJUGATED MACEDONIA

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