

Yugoslavia

# CROATIAPRESS

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## DR. ANTE PAVELIĆ IS FREE

ON May 16th, press dispatches carried the news that the Italian authorities had released the leader of Croatian Independence Movement, Dr. Ante Pavelić, and Eugene Kvaternik, who were imprisoned in Torino, Italy, to the great rejoicing of all the Croats.



DR. ANTE PAVELIĆ

Leader, Croatian Independence Movement

Because of the necessity of struggling for freedom from Serbian despotism, the entire Croatian people, both at home and in other lands, unanimously approve the militant policy of Dr. Ante Pavelić, who is the acknowledged leader of the Croatian Independence Movement.

## TERRIBLE CONDITIONS OF CROATIAN PEOPLE UNDER SERBIAN YOKE.

IN the heart of Europe reside Croatian people, who by their high culture, brilliant history and by the enormous merit with which in the past they have guarded Europe from barbaric invasion, now suffer under the barbarous yoke of Serbia.

European statesmen worry more over Mongolians, Ethiopians and other primitive people than they do over Croatian people who reside near them.

After the World War with unfair post-war treaties, the Croatian people against their wishes and through political fraud and treachery were forced into Serbia; this same Serbia, who by its false propaganda in the world provoked the World War and was the sole reason that tens of millions of young people lost their lives or were wounded.

Under the terroristic rule of Serbia, along with Croatian people are Macedonians, Slovenians, Montenegrins, Hungarians, Germans and Albanians. All these people—some more and some less—suffer under Serbian domination.

All these peoples, but especially the Croatian nation appealed to the League of Nations, politicians and statesmen of Europe pleading that they solve the Croatian question, but all in vain. They all turned a deaf ear. Among them there were a few that sympathized and would have helped, were they not prevented by others and influenced that they do it for their own political reasons.

Even though Europe turned a deaf ear and was indifferent towards the righteousness of Croatian demands, the Croatian people did not and will not discontinue their struggle for liberty. When European statesmen refuse to solve the Croatian question, the Croatian people will solve it in their own way; they should not be blamed if it causes another World War, but the blame should be placed on those statesmen who tolerated and even helped the terroristic rule of Serbia over the Croatian people.

Every individual or nation has the right, in self-defense, to reach for any means to save themselves from destruction even if it is unpleasant to them. The world at large should not be surprised when they hear that the Croatian people arose and revolted to save themselves from destruction and to abolish Serbian tyranny forever. In this struggle for self-government there will be other nations that are now under Serbian oppression.

In the present struggle of the Croatian people for their freedom, their enemies, in the forefront of which is the Serbian government, are spreading false and misleading statements. Croatian leaders and patriots

are accused of being terrorists and criminals. In their insinuations they throw slander mainly on the leader of Croatian Independence Movement, Dr. Ante Pavelić, who is respected and worshipped by all Croats.

It happened in the same way to the immortal George Washington and other American leaders and patriots, who struggled against English oppression, for the freedom and independence of the American people. Like them, the Croatian people will gain their freedom and will establish a Free and Independent Croatian State.



## HRVATSKI DOMOBRAN (Defenders of Croatia)

Because of the Serbian terroristic rule in Yugoslavia, all public protests of the Croatian people are forbidden. In protest to these unbearable conditions in present day Yugoslavia, and in defense of Croatian territory and national freedom, a strong liberation movement has been organized secretly throughout the land.

To free Croatia of this Serbian barbarism, and suppress Communistic propaganda, Croatian patriots throughout the world are organized in a patriotic organization "Hrvatski Domobran" (Defenders of Croatia). Under this organization living in freedom, Croatian exiles are morally and financially supporting their brethren in the homeland with all the means at their disposal, so that they may free themselves of the Serbian yoke and establish a free and independent Croatian state.

The leader of the Croatian Domobran and founder of the Croatian independent movement is the well known Croatian patriot, Dr. Ante Pavelić. In North and South America and various countries of Europe—Belgium, Germany, France, Austria, etc.—Croatian immigrants are organized in branches of "Defenders of Croatia."

The Croatian Domobran is a nationalistic organization, and in all the countries of both North and South America and Europe, where these branches exist, they are in harmony with the laws and governmental principles prevalent in those states. On all occasions they express their whole-hearted loyalty and gratitude for the friendliness of those states in which they live.

The Croats foster an exceptional friendliness and loyalty toward the American people and this government, because of the fact that President Wilson gave to the world the principles of "Self-determination of Nations," and defended the rights of small nations.

The Croatian nation is not yet free, but that is not the fault of the United States, but of those governments who formulated the various post-war treaties without the co-operation and consent of this Government.

With the American principles—"Freedom and independence to all nations, great or small,"—the Croatian people justly feel that they have a friend and sympathizer in the American nation.

The democratic principles of the American people will give the Croatian nation moral support in their struggle for national and political freedom and in establishing a *Free and Independent Croatian State*.

## FRENCH "JUSTICE"

**The French Court Sentenced the Leader of the Croatian Independence Movement, Dr. Ante Pavelić, and Five Other Patriots Who Struggled for Justice and Freedom of the Croatian People.**

Geneva.—The whole civilized world now knows the unbearable situation of the Croatian people under Serbian despotism. By the ruthless command of the late king Alexander, thousands of Croatian and Macedonian patriots were either killed or tortured, while Croatian institutions—political, cultural and philanthropic—were destroyed, institutions which have taken the Croatian people centuries to build and expand.

Under these conditions and to save themselves from total destruction, the Croatian and Macedonian people passed sentence on the "Iron Hand" ruler and executed the sentence in Marseilles, France, on October 9th, 1934. For this assassination which was a natural sequence to the atrocious crimes committed against the Croatian people, the French and Serbian governments blame the leader of Croatian Independence Movement, Dr. Ante Pavelić. At the time of the assassination, French officials arrested on French soil three Croat Ustashes: Zvonimir Pospisil, Ivan Raić and Mio Kralj, as being accomplices in the Marseilles assassination.

American Croats from the Croatian National Fund financed this trial and found a capable attorney, Dr. George Desbons, to defend them at the trial.

The trial began on November 18th and lasted only four days. From the beginning, it could be seen that the trial was under the influence of the Serbian government. The fourth day of the trial ran turbulently. The attorney, Dr. Desbons, protested against all this but in vain. Because of his determination, the president of the French court disbarred him, and the trial was postponed until February 5, 1936.

When the trial was again resumed at the request of Dr. Desbons, the three Ustashes were defended by Dr. Saint-Auban. The trial ended on February 12. Without considering the privations and hardships which the Croatian people endured under the late king's rule, the French court pronounced a horrible and unjust verdict. The three Ustashes were sentenced to death, which later was changed to life imprisonment on Devil's Island. They also sentenced to death, though in absentia, Dr. Ante Pavelić, Eugene Kvaternik and Colonel Ivan Perčević. Since the latter were not in the custody of the French officials, the sentence could not be performed.

With this verdict the world was astounded at the French "justice," and the Croatian people were furious, not only against Serbia but also against France, which was proved by the demonstrations which the Croatian people held in Zagreb, the metropolis of Croatia. When they learned of the verdict thousands of people assembled on the streets and squares and bitterly cried: "Down with the Serbian rule! Down with the unjust verdict of the French court!"

## THE DEMANDS AND PLATFORM OF THE CROATIAN PEOPLE

That the World's peoples be informed as to the demands and platform of the Croatian people at home and abroad, we bring the following upon which the whole Croatian people stand energetically:

The whole historical and ethnographical territory of Croatia from Zemun, Rivers Drava and Drina, to the Adriatic Sea and Kotor (Provinces of Dalmatia, Herzegovina, Bosnia, Croatia and Slavonia).

That the whole above mentioned territory shall be incorporated into the STATE OF CROATIA. And that the State of Croatia be a free and independent State, recognized as such by the other Free States of the World.

### TERROR OF SERBIAN "CHETNIKE" OVER CROATIAN PEOPLE.

GENEVA, Aug. 3.—Serbian chetniks is a notorious organization who together with the secret Serbian officers' organization "White Hand" and "Black Hand" perform acts of terror and kill all the prominent men who oppose the Serbian expansion. The leader and protector of chetniks and Serbian officers' clique was the late king Alexander, who, on account of the terrible terror which he practised over the Croatian and Macedonian people, was assassinated by a Croat Ustasha on October 9, 1934 in Marseilles, France.

In 1914 by the order of Serbian secret society and Serbian chetniks, Austrian Crownprince Franz Ferdinand and his wife were assassinated in Sarajevo, Bosnia. This caused the World War.

These Serbian organizations murdered many prominent Croatians, Macedonians, Albanians and Bulgarians; even Bulgarian King Boris was in danger of being assassinated by them.

During the last three months, Serbian chetniks, heavily armed attacked and killed many Croatians in various parts of Croatia. With the financial assistance of the Serbian government they also go into foreign countries to kill all the prominent men that are in the way of Serbian imperialism. Dr. Ante Pavelić, leader of Croatian Independence Movement, was several times attacked by them with the intention to kill him.

The activities of chetniks outside the border of Yugoslavia proves the statement given by a Serbian minister, George Jankovich, to the newspaper reporters in Dubrovnik on April 14, 1936. This statement is as follows: "The rules and purpose of Serbian chetniks is action outside the border of Yugoslavia."

Because of the danger that threatens many prominent men from brutal attacks of Serbian chetniks, it is necessary that the World authority restrain and prevent all their movements.



### Bitter clashing among the Serbian generals.

ZEMUN, Aug. 1.—The Serbian officers are divided into two different secret military organizations. Both of these organizations have as leaders generals who are in opposition to each other and vie for the political control of the country.

Because of the above mentioned facts the Serbian generals had such a bitter strife, that there exists an open armed struggle among the officers, which can lead into a riot and the fall of the Yugoslav army.

### DR. ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIĆ, CROATIAN PATRIOT.

During the assassination of the Serbian king, Alexander Karadjordjevič in Marseilles, Dr. Artuković lived in England. At the demand of the French government, England surrendered Dr. Artuković to the French police.

Because Dr. Artuković is a great patriot and leader in Lika, province of Croatia, the Serbian government again demanded the

French government to turn Dr. Artuković over to the Serbian authorities. Arriving in Yugoslavia, the Serbs immediately jailed this famous leader in the Belgrade jail, known as the worst institution in the Balkans. Here they kept him for several months, torturing him terribly. Finally he was released because the Serbs were afraid to hang him as the situation in Croatia



DR. ANDRIJA ARTUKOVIĆ

was very dangerous and tense. Although they released him, they instructed the Serbian "chetniks" to kill him before he arrived home.

The same day Dr. Artuković arrived in Lika the Serbian "chetniks" were ready to assassinate him, but fortunately they did not find him. Instead of killing Dr. Artuković, they murdered a Croatian peasant leader in Lika, Karlo Brkljacić. Dr. Artuković being advised that an assassination was contemplated, he secretly escaped over the border without even seeing his parents and relatives.



### KING EDWARD IN CROATIA.

ZAGREB, Aug. 11.—Croats upon learning that King Edward VIII will spend his vacation in their beautiful Dalmatian country and that he will pass thru the Croatian capital Zagreb, hurriedly prepared to extend a hearty welcome to the young British monarch. They also made outbursts of protest against Serbian rule in Croatia, demanding their Independence.

## Croatian and Macedonian soldiers rebel.

### REFUSE ALLEGIANCE TO SERBIAN OFFICERS

ZAGREB, July 30.—Among the Croatian and Macedonian soldiers there exists mutiny and refusal of obedience to Serbian officers. The Serbian government in Belgrade is trying to keep these conditions in the army secret and forbids any news to be printed about such conditions.

Among the Croatian and Macedonian soldiers there exists such a feeling that any minute there is a danger of a revolt.

In case of war, it can be heard from soldiers, they will turn their arms against their Serbian officers and march to Belgrade to settle forever with the Serbian government who oppress the Croatian and Macedonian people.



## Terrible conditions in Macedonia.

SKOPLJE, Aug. 1, 1936.—Last month Serbian chetniks and gendarmes performed many acts of violence in Macedonian villages over Macedonian people. Serbian chetniks simply confiscate the cattle. This they perform in the name of king and government. If anybody dares to object, he is found guilty of high treason and immediately arrested. There are hundreds of Macedonians in Serbian dungeons awaiting trial.

These terrible conditions of the Macedonian people is beyond endurance, and it will be no surprise to hear that the Macedonians will break into a general uprising, to save themselves from the brutal Serbian government.



## Croatian metropolis Zagreb celebrates the birthday of Croatian leader Dr. Vladko Maček.

ZAGREB, July 29, 1936.—Glorious manifestations and ovations were accorded to the Croatian leader, Dr. Vladko Maček, on the anniversary of his birthday.

This celebration soon turned out to be a manifestation of the Croatian metropolis for the establishment of a Free and Independent Croatian State. Great processions of about 100,000 people from all walks of life paraded thru the streets and the public square of Zagreb shouting: "Long live Dr. Maček and Dr. Pavelić," "Down with Serbia and her despotic rule!"

## Serbian terror over Montenegro.

CETINJE, July 15, 1936 (by Mail).—At the end of the World War, Serbia thru fraud and treachery seized Montenegro. Since that time until now Serbian soldiers, gendarmes, police and different Serbian bandit cliques killed hundreds of Montenegro's patriots and their wives and children. Many of Montenegro's villages were burned, leaving hundreds of families destitute.

In the latter part of June, Montenegro's patriots called a meeting in their metropolis, Cetinje, to protest against the Serbian despotism and to appeal to different countries of the world to assist them in gaining their freedom and erect an Independent Montenegro and Petrovich dynasty. Since no freedom exists in Jugoslavia, this meeting was forbidden by the Serbian government. Because of this the Montenegrins sent their delegation to protest to the Serbian governor in Cetinje. He refused to hear their pleas and ordered Serbian gendarmes to open fire on them. They did so and killed or fatally wounded 50 patriots.

This barbaric act of the Serbs over Montenegro patriots provoked a revolt among the Montenegrins against Serbian violence. In the general revolt of the Croatian and Macedonian people against Serbian terroristic rule, there will also be Montenegrins to lend aid against the common enemy, the tyrannical Serbian government.



## Croats from Bosnia and Herzegovina for Independent State of Croatia.

SARAJEVO, Aug. 2, 1936.—Because of these two Croatian provinces, Serbs precipitated the World War, in order to unite them with Serbia as two of their provinces. Anybody that studied the World's history knows that Bosnia and Herzegovina are purely Croatian provinces. The first Croatian King Tomislav was crowned in 925 A. D. in Bosnia.

Along with 600,000 Croatian Catholics in Bosnia and Herzegovina reside 750,000 Croat Mussulmans. Both of them regard themselves as part of the Croatian nation and struggle against the Serbian terrorist rule and demand a Free and Independent State of Croatia.

Meanwhile the Serbian government is doing everything in its power to separate the Croat Mussulmans from Croat Catholics. In order to be more successful they made two Croat Mussulman ministers, but it has not made any difference with the Croat Mussulmans; they still demand, together with the Croats of Catholic religion, a Free and Independent State of Croatia.

## Attention! Readers of CROATIAPRESS and Friends of the Croatian People

About two years ago we had started publication of CROATIAPRESS, in San Francisco, Calif., placing on our mailing list all the most prominent men in America and Europe, the largest newspapers on both Continents, and also various political, and cultural institutions and libraries.

Because of the truthful comments and objective standpoint with which CROATIAPRESS comes before its readers, regarding the situation in Central Europe, we are receiving many acknowledgments from our readers.

Publication of CROATIAPRESS has been transferred from San Francisco, Calif., to 200 E. Ohio St., Pittsburgh, Pa. We beg our friends and readers of CROATIAPRESS and also all those that send us different papers and magazines to forward them to the above address.

Editor, CROATIAPRESS.