

The Future of Kosovo

The New York Times

Letters to the Editor

December 3, 2005 Saturday

To the Editor:

Re "In Meeting With Rival Factions, U.N. Envoy Paves Way for Kosovo Talks" (news article, Nov. 26):

Recognition of Kosovar independence would only reward Albanian terrorism in that region and encourage an independent Kosovo to pursue the annexation of western Macedonia and areas in the Presevo valley in Serbia where there are Albanian majorities.

It would also encourage separatist movements in other parts of Europe, including Montenegro.

If Kosovo is allowed to be independent, then why not Republika Srpska, and why not the Croatian-controlled region of western Bosnia? And why shouldn't Bosnia have some of the Adriatic coast that belongs almost exclusively to Croatia? And on and on, ad infinitum.

If Kosovo is not to be partitioned, then it must be autonomous within Serbia.

Phillip Corwin New York, Nov. 26, 2005

The writer is a former official in the United Nations' department of peacekeeping operations.

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