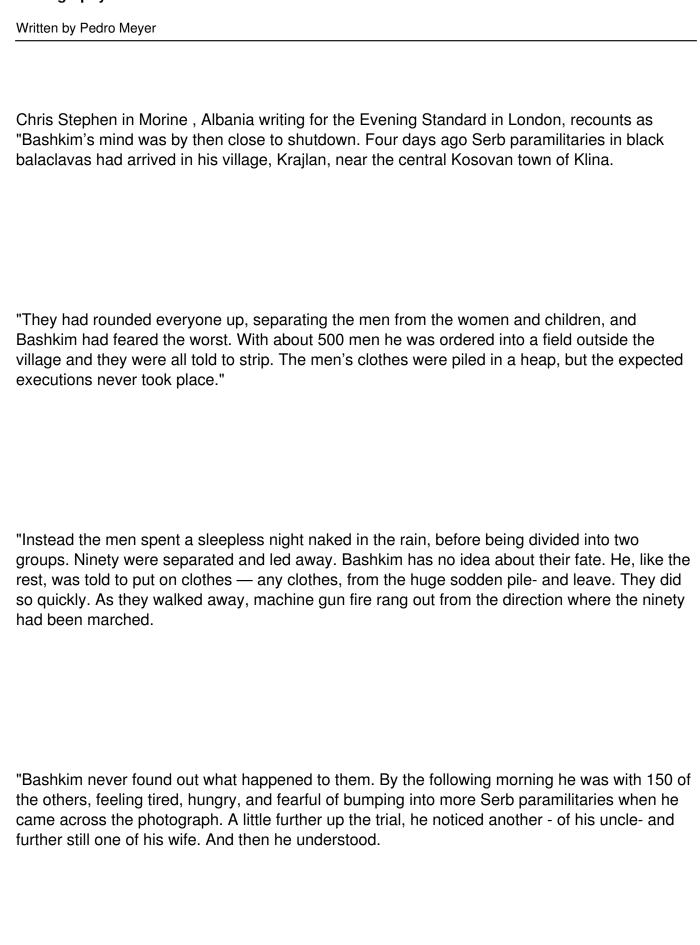


"He had been walking for two days, in someone else's clothes, trying to find a way of out of Kosovo when he came across a photograph lying, face up, by the side of the road."

"He looked, and looked again, at the pretty fair hair and blue eyes of the smiling child staring back at him from the crumpled picture. It was his daughter."

## Photography and it's trails out of Kosovo



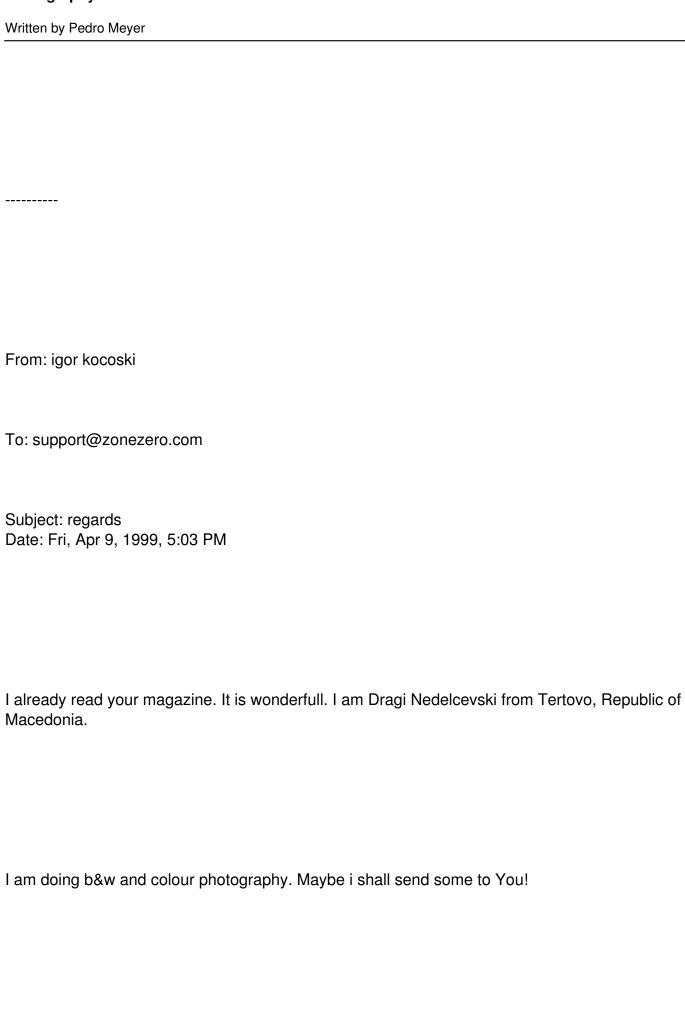
"His wife, in her desperation to guide her husband out of danger had torn up the family photo album leaving pictures to mark a path he could follow out of the country to safety. Soon other men found similar photographs on the ground or stuck to rocks and bushes, all marking a paper trail along a series of mountain tracks which led them eventually to the Albanian frontier.



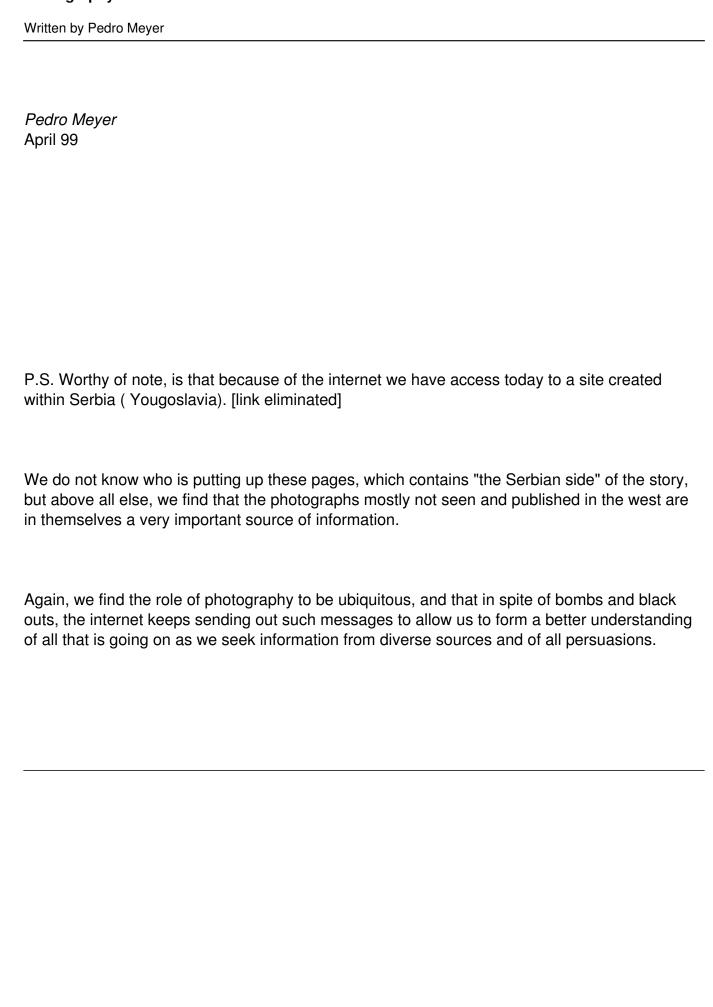
In another newspaper, the Daily Record from Scotland, we discovered yet another of the trails recorded by photography in this mass exodus of Albanian nationals. We are told that " after a tortous drive across the continent the men thought they would find sanctuary when they finally emerged from their secret hideaway. But yesterday, French customs officials caught them on a X- ray image as they waited inside the lorry (truck) for a Chunnel freight train at Calais."

In one instance we have the ingenuity of humans using photographs in an almost fairy tale manner by leaving a trail of pictures amidst the war stricken region of the Balkans; in the other instance we have high tech x-ray images of an entire truck to detect the presence of humans as they are hidden away among a load of wares. It is uncanny how photography is at the heart of both stories. Images are with us every where in these wars, they are to be found on the monitors that pilots use to scan what they are going to bomb on the ground 15 000 ft. below or on the television newscast reporting on those same events. Pictures are used by the military establishment to confirm that their missions have been accomplished. The news industry use images to communicate to the public what is happening. Pictures are taken of refugees for identification papers. But all this we more or less already know, what struck me however as quite different and surprising this time was to receive an email from someone in Macedonia, in the middle of the war torn Balkans, commenting on his visit to ZoneZero as he was looking at photographs.

## Photography and it's trails out of Kosovo



## Photography and it's trails out of Kosovo



## Photography and it's trails out of Kosovo Written by Pedro Meyer http://zonezero.com/editorial/abril99/april.html