This multi-media resource list, compiled by Paul Bareno of the San Diego Public Library in partnership with the American Library Association, provides a range of perspectives on the issues raised by the upcoming P.O.V. documentary "The Brooklyn Connection" that premieres on July 19th, 2005 at 10 p.m. on PBS (check local listings at www.pbs.org/pov/).

It's common knowledge that buying weapons in the United States is surprisingly easy. But what about outfitting a foreign guerilla army? Meet Florin Krasniqi, one of the driving forces behind Kosovo's fight for independence. He lives in Brooklyn, N.Y., where he runs a successful roofing company. But he is leading a double life. "The Brooklyn Connection," based on material from Stacy Sullivan's book, Be Not Afraid, For You Have Sons in America, shows the terrifying ease with which this charming businessman raised $30 million during the Kosovo War, purchased weapons across the USA, and shipped them legally to Albania to be smuggled into Kosovo. The war ended in 1999, but Krasniqi warns that there could be another struggle with arms provided by this Brooklyn roofer.

ADULT NONFICTION

**GUN CONTROL**

Crooker, Constance Emerson. *Gun Control and Gun Rights (Historical Guides to Controversial Issues in America).* Westport, CT: Greenwood Press. 2003. Attorney Constance Crooker traces the debate over gun control laws in America from its origin to the present day.


Guns in American Society: An Encyclopedia of History, Politics, Culture, and the Law. 2 v. ABC-CLIO, 2002. This anthology covers the legal and social aspects of guns in America and attempts to bring together research on all sides of an often murky and divisive issue to educate readers.


KOSOVO


Judah, Tim. *Kosovo: War and Revenge.* New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2002. This book reveals the hidden story of the Balkan war, looking at the historical background, the immediate run-up to the war, the controversy over the NATO bombing, the background to the cease-fire and the NATO peacekeeping operation.


Delve Deeper into "The Brooklyn Connection"
A film by Klaartje Quirijn


Mertus, Julie. Kosovo: How Myths and Truths Started a War. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1999. This study blends political analysis, history and interviews conducted in Kosovo, Serbia and Macedonia between 1993 and 1998 to argue that the international community’s years of inaction pushed the Kosovo Albanians away from a posture of passive resistance and toward Serb repression and militant demands for an independent state.


Sullivan, Stacy. Be Not Afraid for You Have Sons in America: How a Brooklyn Roofer Helped Lure the U.S. into the Kosovo War. New York: St. Martin’s Press, 2004. Sullivan tells the story of Florin Krasniqi, a Kosovar Albanian who emigrated illegally to the U.S. via Mexico in 1988, and took it upon himself to get the Kosovo Liberation Army off the ground, luring the world’s most powerful military alliance into fighting a war.

Bieber, Florian & Zhidas Daskalovski, eds. Understanding the War in Kosovo. London: Frank Cass Publishers, 2003. This is a comprehensive survey of developments in Kosovo leading up to, during and after the war in 1999. Also provides the international and regional framework to the conflict.


SERBIA


Taylor, Scott. Inat: Images of Serbia and the Kosovo Conflict. Ottawa: Esprit de Corps Books, 2000. This book chronicles the NATO air raids; the on-again, off-again peace talks; Russia’s sudden race into Kosovo, the NATO (KFOR) deployment; the retreat of the Yugoslavian army; the flight of Serbian refugees; and the bitter aftermath of the war on a bomb-ravaged Serbia.

ALBANIA


Trix, Frances. Albanians in Michigan: A Proud People from Southeast Europe. Ann Arbor, MI: Michigan State University Press, 2001. Trix explores the ways in which Michigan’s Albanian community has forged an unusual cohesiveness and unity, and thus has remained more traditional in its orientation than have large, immigrant Albanian communities in other parts of the United States.

Vickers, Miranda. The Albanians: A Modern History. New York: St Martin’s Press, 2001. This is the first full account of a country that, following decades of isolation, has undergone unprecedented changes to its political system: the collapse of communism, the progression to multi-party elections and the upheaval that followed the March 1997 uprising.

THE BALKANS

Glenny, Misha. The Balkans: Nationalism, War and the Great Powers, 1804-1999. New York: Viking, 2000. Glenny provides a narrative account of the last two centuries of Balkan history, focusing on wars and political conflicts. Includes biographical material, with portraits of key individuals, and contemporary documents and sources to give the reader some idea how people thought and felt at the time.

Hockenos, Paul. Homeland Calling: Exile Patriotism and the Balkan Wars. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2003. Hockenos investigates one crucial factor that has been overlooked in attempts to make sense of the Balkan wars—the major, often decisive, role played by exile groups and émigré communities in fanning the flames of nationalism and territorial ambition in their native homelands.

Holbrooke, Richard. To End a War. New York: Random House,
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Ramet, Sabrina P. Balkan Babel: The Disintegration of Yugoslavia from the Death of Tito to the Fall of Milosevic. Philadelphia, PA: Westview Press, 2002. Ramet traces the steady deterioration of Yugoslavia's political and social fabric in the years since 1980. He argues that while the federal system and multiethnic fabric laid down fault lines, the final crisis was sown in the failure to resolve the legitimacy question, which was triggered by economic deterioration, and pushed towards war by Serbian politicians bent on power.

Silber, Laura and Alan Little. Yugoslavia: Death of a Nation. New York: Penguin, 1997. This book draws on hundreds of interviews with politicians, soldiers, and citizens to bring readers behind the scenes of Europe's bloodiest conflict since World War II.

Udovicki, Jasminka and James Ridgeway. Yugoslavia's Ethnic Nightmare: The Inside Story of Europe's Unfolding Ordeal. Chicago, IL: Lawrence Hill Books, 1995. This volume provides a useful introduction to the issues that led to the bloodbath in the former Yugoslavia and gives a broad overview of the parties involved.

WAR


MAGAZINE ARTICLES


NONFICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS


Harris, Nathaniel. The War in Former Yugoslavia. Chicago, IL: Raintree, 1998. Grades 6-8. Describes the events that led to the breakup of the former Yugoslavia and the outbreak of war.

Honovich, Nancy. Immigration from the Former Yugoslavia (Changing the Face of North America). Broomall, PA: Mason Crest Publishers, 2004. Contains up-to-date statistical charts and information, and provides a comprehensive overview of how the arrival of new immigrants from the former Yugoslavia has changed the United States and Canada and how coming to America has changed the immigrants.


FICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS

Mead, Alice. Girl of Kosovo. New York: Yearling, 2003. Grades 5 and up. Although Zana, an eleven-year-old Albanian girl, experiences the turmoil and violence of the 1999 conflict in her native Kosovo, she remembers her father's admonition not to let her heart become filled with hate.

VIDEOS/DOCUMENTARIES

"Collateral Damage: The Balkans after NATO's Air War.” A documentary by Gary...
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Dempsey and Aaron Lukas. 2000, (53 min.) Six months after NATO ended its air war against Yugoslavia, two of Washington’s new breed of hands-on policy analysts, Gary Dempsey and Aaron Lukas, flew to the Balkans to document the "unintended consequences" of NATO’s bombing campaign.

www.freetrade.org/aaron/video.htm

“Crucible of War: A Journey Back to the Balkans.” A film by Leon Gerskovic. Crucible of War Productions. 2003, (45 min.) Armed only with small DV cameras, Gerskovic and his team journey into the heart of the Balkans to seek out stories of ordinary people: people who had long since been marginalized.

www.crucibleofwar.com/

“Dangerous Legacy: Bloodshed in the Balkans.” Ambrose Video. 2002, (52 min.) Follows the lives of selected Serbs and Kosovar Albanians from the onset of the current war to the Post-Milosevic Balkans, in order to see whether the people of the Balkans can ever reconcile their differences.

www.ambrosevideo.com/displayitem.cfm?vid=999

“Frontline: ’War in Europe: Nato’s 1999 War with Serbia over Kosovo.’” PBS. 2000, (2 hours.) “War in Europe” offers the first in-depth examination of what led to the war, how it was fought, and what it achieved using hundreds of hours of news footage, home videos filmed by the Kosovan Liberation Army, Kosovar refugees, and gun camera footage in NATO archives.

www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/kosovo/

“Heroes of Hope: Crisis in Kosovo.” A film by Beth Murphy. Principle Pictures. 2000, (60 min.) Tells the dramatic story of relief workers who risk their lives to help refugees survive the horror of war. When fighting ended in June 1999, these tireless workers helped refugees return to their homeland and rebuild from the rubble.

www.globalpro.com/kosovo.htm

“Human Tragedy: The Faces of Kosovo with Harry Smith.” A&E Home Video. 2001, (50 min.) As the conflict in Kosovo wore on, correspondent Harry Smith visited the refugee camps of Macedonia, interviewing the people who had been forced to leave their homes and lives behind. What emerges is a gripping, personal look at the cost of war.

store.aetv.com/html/product/index.jhtml?id=17480

“Kosovo: Fragile Peace.” National Film Board of Canada. 2003, (53 min.) As Director of Democratisation for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, OSCE, Canadian lawyer Carolyn McCool is trying to build bridges between Kosovo Albanians and Serbs. Her greatest challenge is to ensure Serb participation in the region’s first free central election. Her daughter documents her adventures in a video diary. Through the eyes of mother and daughter, this film offers a rare glimpse into the frontlines of democracy building and the subtleties of life in a postconflict society.

www.nfb.ca/trouverunfilm/fichefilm.php?id=511278v=h&lg=en&exp=${Kosovo:} AND ${Fragile} AND ${Peace}.

“Kosovo: Of Blood and History.” Films for the Humanities and Sciences. 1999, (41 min.) Using eyewitness accounts, maps, and footage both of historic events and of Serbian life, this program examines the ethnic nationalism and religious extremism that have resulted in the long-standing hatred between Serbs and Kosovar Albanians—a hatred that continued to destabilize the Balkans during the Milosevic regime.

www.films.com/id/11264

“Kosovo: Rebuilding the Dream.” Bullfrog Films. 2003, (27 min.) This installment of LIFE examines the success of UN efforts through the eyes and experiences of local families - both Serbian and Albanian - in Kosovo.

www.bullfrogfilms.com/catalog/l13krt.html

“No Man’s Land.” Directed by Danis Tanovic. Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. 2001. (94 min.) Ciki (Branko Djuric) and Nino (Rene Bitorajac), a Bosnian and a Serb, are soldiers stranded in No Man’s Land - a trench between enemy lines during the Bosnian war. They have no one to trust, no way to escape without getting shot, and a fellow soldier lying on the trench floor with a bomb set to explode beneath him if he moves. With the two men stuck in a bizarre predicament, Ciki and Nino try to keep their humanity amidst the insanity of war.

www.unitedartists.com/nomansland

“Our Road to Kosovo.” A film by James Saldana. International Documentary Coalition (IDC). 2002, (26 min.) This digital documentary chronicles two years of the refugee crisis during the 1999/2000 Kosovar conflict through the eyes of six American college students. From mainly a Kosovar Albanian standpoint, we learn about life in a refugee camp and the process of reclamation that the refugees must go through, when they find that their once familiar society has become only livable under constant military supervision.

idc.siu.edu/

“20th Century with Mike Wallace: Death in Yugoslavia.” A&E Home Video. 1999, (50 min.) Examines the deep roots of the modern conflicts in Yugoslavia, then plunges into the heat of battle with extensive footage of the wars that have once again brought chilling accusations of “crimes against humanity.” See how a former Communist functionary seized power by recasting himself as a strong-armed nationalist, and
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trace the fumbling efforts of the UN in this troubled region.

store.aetv.com/html/product/index.html?id=50054&browseCategoryId=&location=&parentcatid=&subcatid=

“Vukovar.” Directed by Boro Draskovic. Boulevard Films. 1994, (1 hour, 36 minutes.) A film about childhood friends - one Croat, the other Serb - who marry, only to be torn apart by the war that ravages their native Yugoslavia.

“Yugoslavia: The Avoidable War.” Films for the Humanities and Sciences. 1999, (3 hours.) This provocative documentary investigates how serious errors and misjudgments made by Western powers, particularly Germany and the U.S., helped spark the violent breakup of the former Yugoslavia and continue to destabilize the region.

www.films.com/id/880

WEB SITES

www.state.gov/www/regions/eur/kosovo_hp.html
US Department of State page on Kosovo.


www.nytimes.com/learning/general/specials/kosovo

www.booknoise.net/benotafraid/author
Information about Stacy Sullivan, author of “Be Not Afraid, For You Have Sons in America.”

slate.msn.com/id/1002637
Slate article explaining the Kosovo Liberation Army.

www.albanian.com
Information about the Albanians and the lands where they live: Albania, Kosova, Macedonia, Montenegro and others. Created to aid in the promotion of peace and economic development in the Balkans.

www.nato.int/kfor/welcome.html
Official page for the NATO led peace-enforcement force in Kosovo.

www.unmikonline.org/civpol/
Website for the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and its police activity there.

Timeline of events in the Kosovo crisis.

www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/1999/05/11/MN2012.DTL&hw=Kosova r+Crime+Network&sn=001&sc=1000
San Francisco Chronicle article about Albania’s role in the Kosovar Crime Network.

www.zmag.org/Zmag/kosovo.htm
Features a collection of essays and links related to NATO action in Kosovo. From Z Magazine.

www.naac.org/
National Albanian American Council.

www.frosina.org/
Albanian immigrant and cultural resource.

www.aawomq.org
Albanian American Women’s Organization.

www.columbia.edu/cu/sipa/REGIONAL/ECE///vacomment.htm l
“Kosovo Fascism, Albanians’ Shame” by Veton Surroi.


www.americansforgunsafety.com/the_issues_gun_loop.asp
Article about gun show loopholes and illegal arms trafficking.

www.vpc.org/
The Violence Policy Center. Based in Washington, D.C., the VPC is a national non-profit organization that approaches gun violence as a public health issue. Learn more about the gun industry, the gun lobby and much more.