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“A dinosaur down but not out; Slobodan Milošević, Serbia's president”

They don't make leaders like Slobodan Milošević anymore. Square headed, chunky faced, narrow eyed, the Serbian president reads text speeches to rhythmically clapping crowds just like the old communist bosses who, elsewhere in Eastern Europe, have slunk into the woodwork. Serbia's entire apparatus, from Belgrade down to the tiniest village, is in his personal grip. He controls the media, runs a decrepit Marxist state economy and sets tanks on students as if there had never been free elections three months ago... In short, Milošević is a dinosaur...

But Milošević, who is 49, is not a logical man, and the last people he listens to are those who disagree with him. He is intemperate, irrational, violent, intolerant, and bitter. Some speak of mental instability and point to his family history: his father, a [Christian] Orthodox priest, abandoned the family, disappeared and committed suicide. His mother, a fanatical communist and schoolteacher, killed herself, too. An uncle is said to have done the same. Milošević's wife, Mirjana, a childhood sweetheart and professor of sociology, is an extremely powerful politician in the new hardline Communist Party