Bitter harvest on the front line

From **ANNA PUKAS**
in Tenja, Croatia

THE farmers of Tenja would normally be getting the harvest in this month.

Instead, their tractors and combine harvesters are on the roads as barricades and their families have fled for their lives. The village is now the front line of a battle Croatian officials say 'will make Slovenia look like Disneyland'.

Here on the western bank of the Danube, where sizeable Serbian minorities live among Croats, clashes are common. This week it was Tenja's turn to explode, in a

LJUBLJANA: Yugoslavia was back on the brink last night after Slovene nationalists denounced a peace plan backed by the EC as 'surrender'.

Slovene president Milan Kucan was accused of conceding too much in the agreement reached early on Monday. He now faces the biggest battle of his

battle which killed at least 12 people before federal army tanks enforced a truce.

Standing in a bullet-riddled street, pig farmer Mijo Polcek, 58, says: 'We are a ghost town now. Almost everyone has gone. I sent

leadership to sell it to his parliament. Yugoslavia's federal government has accepted the deal, but Slovenes fear Belgrade has no control over its army, which has repeatedly threatened to use 'massive force' against the breakaway republic.

Slovenia also wants millions in war damage compensation.

my wife and two children away eight days ago.'

Behind the barricade some 500 yards away is another farmer with no time for his fields. Namanje Subotinovic, 29, is commanding the Serbian 'defence force'.

The division of this small place symbolises the traditional emnity — fanned by World War II atrocities — which has always threatened Yugoslav unity.

Croats say the Serbs want trouble, to give the army an excuse to move in. Serbs say the Croats want to force them out. Neither holds out much hope for peace.

Croat farmer Polcek says: 'It can't be solved. Yugoslavia is finished and so is the army.'

Serbian farmer Subotinovic insists: 'We want to keep Yugoslavia together and they want to break it up. It is that simple and that difficult.'