

CARINTHIAN SLOVENIANS
1975 - 1980

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DOCUMENTS RELEASED UNDER THE
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

Collected by VLADISLAV BEVC

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INCLUDING ADDITIONAL RELEASES OF 1987 AND 1988

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

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Introductory Note

This volume contains State Department documents concerning the Carinthian Slovenians obtained by litigation under the Freedom of Information Act, United States Code, Title 5, Section 552, conducted in the United States District Court in San Francisco from 1979 through 1982.

The documents consist primarily of declassified parts of confidential and secret telegrams from the United States embassies in Vienna and Belgrade and the consulate in Zagreb, press summaries compiled by the staff of the United States Embassy in Vienna, and extracts from the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Summaries.

The Department of State availed itself of the exemptions in the Freedom of Information Act to withheld a substantial amount of text from some of the documents. The material presented here has been declassified as a result of the court proceedings. During the course of litigation it was possible to obtain additional information such as general description of the withheld passages and documents as well as an indication as to what kind of information the Department of State considers sensitive or embarrassing. This information is presented in the form of extracts from the government's affidavits filed in Court.

On the whole, the documents provide an insight on how the United States views the obligations of the signatories of the Austrian State Treaty of 1955, particularly as it pertains to the Slovenians in Austria and gives an indication as to what the Slovenians can expect from the United States in international affairs. The present collection is released at this time in the form of a preprint because it may, in addition to its historical interest, be useful to those who evaluate the current foreign policy of the United States in Europe.

Copies of the documents released by the Department of State have been deposited in the Library of the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution and Peace at Stanford University, California, as *Bevc Collection of the Department of State Documents on Carinthian Slovenians*. Research publications using this material should, in addition to their origin, acknowledge and make reference to the collection at the Hoover Institution.

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**Following documents were released subsequent to the
1982 Freedom of Information request.**

Released 09 SEPTEMBER 1987, Case 8600763

Department of State Telegram VIENNA 00546 -- 22 JAN 1976;
Additional text of previously partly released document

Department of State Telegram VIENNA 05712 -- 09 JUL 1976;

Department of State Telegram BELGRA 04700 -- 16 JUL 1976;

Department of State Telegram VIENNA 01750 -- 04 MAR 1977;
Additional text of Previously Partly released document

Released 22 JUNE 1988, Case 8600763

Department of State Telegram BELGRA 01008 -- 07 FEB 1976;

Department of State Telegram BELGRA 07445-- 17 NOV 1976;

Released 12 AUGUST 1988, Case 8704512

Department of State Telegram BELGRA 03728 -- 07 JUN 1977;

Department of State Telegram BELGRA 04478 -- 01 JUL 1977;

Date of Document
Type of Document
Designation
Classification
Source

Subject

30 DEC 75
Telegram
VIENNA 10728
Unclassified
US Embassy, Vienna

Kreisky-Tito meeting on 28 December, 1975. Continued normalization of Austro-Yugoslav relations. Topics of the talks were minority problems, bilateral economic interests, and the situation in the Middle East.

30 DEC 75
Telegram
ZAGREB 01029
Limited Official Use
US Consulate, Zagreb

Tito meets Austrian Chancellor in Slovenia. Yugoslav press reports on the meeting at Brdo, persons in attendance. Discussion of bilateral issues, foreign policy, and economic cooperation. Tito-Kreisky press conference notes the harmony between the two governments. Kreisky receives data helpful for resolving the minority issue.

31 DEC 75
Report
CIA Report
Confidential
US Central Intelligence Agency

Year-end smiles for Austrian-Yugoslav relations. Meeting of Tito and Kreisky at Brdo on 28 December, 1975. Tito's very tactful attitude on the Slovenian minority issue. Contentious problems remain.

22 JAN 76
Telegram
VIENNA 00546
Confidential
US Embassy, Vienna

Austro-Yugoslav relations rapidly improving. Kreisky plans a state visit to Belgrade. Yugoslav observer to Austrian Socialist Party congress. Deletions in the text.

13 FEB 76
Telegram
BELGRA 01008
Confidential
US Embassy, Belgrade

Tito-Kreisky meeting. Question of road signs will not be dealt with until after the census. Yugoslav Assembly President Gligorov quoted saying that topographical signs are a minor issue. Kreisky traveled incognito to Yugoslavia because of sensitivity of minority issue. Deleted first paragraph.

Date of Document
Type of Document
Designation
Classification
Source

Subject

09 JUL 76
Telegram
VIENNA 05712
Confidential
US Embassy, Vienna

Austrian Parliament passed Minorities and Language Census legislation. Minorities benefits are linked to census information. Slovenian leaders remain opposed to census. Chancellor's plan required three-party agreement the price of which were major accommodations. Kreisky believes that Slovenians will eventually resign themselves to the implementation of the Minorities Act. Yugoslav protests are *pro forma* only and limited to exchange of diplomatic notes. Carinthian Heimatdienst contends that the legislation is not sufficiently restrictive and views pro-Yugoslav Slovenians as a threat to territorial integrity of Austria. Slovenian minority had no part in the development of the adopted legislation.

The language census scheduled for the fall. Slovenian leaders announce intention to boycott the census and call on the Austrian government to open discussions concerning Article 7 of the Austrian State Treaty. Controversy is moving toward major confrontation between the Slovenians and Austro-Germans. It is expected that Kreisky will be able to manage the situation. Should the confrontations escalate to violence they might disturb Austro-Yugoslav relations.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
<p>16 JUL 76 Telegram BELGRA 04700 Confidential US Embassy, Belgrade</p>	<p>Yugoslav reaction to Austrian minority and census laws. Aide-memoire protesting minority legislation. Intensive press and political pressure campaign. Austria's special representative sent to Belgrade. References: Yugoslav note verbale of 29 October, 1974; Yugoslav Aide-memoire of 1 July, 1976; Statement by the Government of Yugoslavia of 12 July, 1976; Aide-memoire of the Austrian Government of 14 July, 1976; Austrian note verbale of 13 August 1976; Yugoslav note verbale of 11 November, 1976; Austrian note verbale of 1 December, 1976. Diplomatic exchanges published in: <i>The Legal Status of Ethnic Groups in Austria</i>, pp. 56-107, The Federal Chancellery, Vienna, 1977.</p>
<p>17 NOV 76 Telegram BELGRA 07445 Confidential US Embassy, Belgrade</p>	<p>American Charge d'Affaires in Belgrade called to Yugoslav Foreign Ministry and informed of the contents of the Yugoslav note to Austria. Yugoslavia asked for no action from other signatories of the treaty. Other signatories to be informed. Deletions.</p>
<p>03 DEC 76 Telegram VIENNA 09987 Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Austrian reply to Yugoslav note on minorities expresses astonishment over the attacks on Austria in the Yugoslav press and expresses desire for expanded and best possible relations between Austria and Yugoslavia.</p>
<p>11 JAN 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (01) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Slovene minority: Slovene organizations demand an early meeting of the minority contact committee. <i>Die Presse</i>, 11 January, 1977.</p>
<p>21 JAN 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (02) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Minority Summit: Tripartite meeting of Austrian political parties with chancellor Kreisky on the proposed bilingual ordinance. <i>Die Presse</i>, 11 January, 1977. Bomb Plot: Secretary of the Council of Carinthian Slovenes is arrested on allegation he planned to blow up a transformer station in Celovec. <i>Die Presse, Kurier</i>, 22, 23 & 24 January 1977.</p>

**Includes telegram BELGRADE 07445 dated 17 November 1976
which was released on 22 June, 1988**

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
24 JAN 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (03) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Bomb Plot: Arrest of Slovene official Filip Warasch used to divert attention from Austria's unfulfilled obligations toward the minority. <i>Salzburger Nachrichten</i> , 24 January 1977; <i>Volksstimme</i> , 25 January 1977; <i>Oberosterreichische Nachrichten</i> , 24 January 1977.
24 JAN 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (03) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Austrian Institute: Austrian National Committee on the US Bicentennial netted 12 million Austrian schillings (\$600,000) to be matched by the government for establishing a chair on Austrian studies in the United States. <i>Die Presse</i> , 25 January, 1977.
28 JAN 77 Telegram VIENNA 00707 Confidential US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Minority Controversy: Slovenians are emphasizing use of their language in schools, courts, and media. Maneuvering with respect to the 1977 Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) meeting in Belgrade on human rights. Forthcoming meeting of the chancellor and leaders of the Slovenians and the three political parties. Austria is reported committed to the fulfillment of the terms of Article 7 of the Treaty and seeking renewed contacts with Yugoslavia. Language census was unreliable as it showed only four communities having over 25% of Slovenians and thus qualifying for bilingual status. Minorities act takes effect on 1 February, 1977. Slovenes eschew the minority councils established by the act and declare that the Helsinki agreement also applies to them. Warasch case may be a provocation by German nationalists. Warasch was released on 27 January, 1977.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
31 JAN 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (04) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Minority Issue: Meeting of Chancellor Kreisky today with the representatives of three parties is expected to achieve agreement on the ordinance on bilingualism. The arrest of Slovene official Warasch is considered a provocation planned to weaken the position of the Slovenians. <i>Kurier</i> , 31 January 1977; <i>Salzburger Nachrichten</i> , 28 January 1977.
07 FEB 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (05) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Minority Issue: Socialist quarters in Carinthia accuse the Freedom Party of lacking responsible leadership with respect to the Slovene issue. <i>Kaerntner Tageszeitung</i> , 8 February, 1977.
10 FEB 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (06) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Minority Problem: Carinthian Governor Leopold Wagner rejects the Slovene demand for required instruction in the Slovene language in Carinthia. "Apartheid" proposals for separate schooling of Slovenes. Wagner dismisses the possibility of international intervention by Treaty signatories as Austria's minority law is "the best in the world." Chancellor Kreisky meets with Croat leaders in the Province of Burgenland. <i>Kaerntner Tageszeitung</i> , 9 February, 1977; <i>Die Presse</i> , 9 February 1977.
14 FEB 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (07) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Diplomatic Notes: Novak Pribicevic is appointed Yugoslav Ambassador to Austria. <i>Volksstimme</i> , 15 February, 1977. Minority Issue: Carinthian Deputy Governor Bacher would accept a maximum of nine towns for the setting up of bilingual road signs. <i>Die Presse</i> , 15 February 1977; <i>Volkszeitung</i> , 13 February, 1977.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
18 FEB 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (08) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Issue: Chancellor Kreisky expects promulgation of the bilingual ordinance before the summer. Slovene leaders refuse to join the minority advisory council and say they may take their case to the Constitutional Court. <i>AZ, Die Presse</i> , 22 February 1977.
28 FEB 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (09) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Minority Issue: Carinthian Freedom Party Organization agreed to tolerate bilingual road signs in eight local communities and to recognize the Slovenian as an official language in a total of 14 communities.
28 FEB 77 Pres summary FOIA 720271 (10) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Comment: The Carinthian Freedom Party's decision seen as opening the road to the peaceful settlement of the controversy. <i>Die Presse, Volksstimme</i> , 1 March, 1977.
02 MAR 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (11) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Issue: Chairmen of the three parties in the Carinthian legislature inform Chancellor Kreisky of their agreement on the extent to which they will tolerate bilingualism in Carinthia. <i>Wiener Zeitung</i> , 2 March, 1977; <i>Volkszeitung</i> , 1 March, 1977. <i>Kaerntner Tageszeitung</i> asserts the State Treaty is definitely fulfilled, 1 March, 1977; <i>Volkszeitung</i> notes the settlement headed off intervention of State Treaty signatories, 1 March, 1977.
03 MAR 77 Pres summary FOIA 720271 (12) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Minority Issue: Heimatdienst is dismayed over the three party agreement. Slovene organizations reject the agreement because it means a virtual extinction of the minority in many areas in Carinthia. <i>Volkszeitung</i> , 2 March, 1977; <i>Volksstimme</i> , 3 March, 1977.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
04 MAR 77 Telegram VIENNA 01750 Confidential US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Minority Controversy: From impasse to political crunch for Slovene minority leaders. Austrian government and party leaders persuaded the party organizations in Carinthia to accept the arrangement on bilinguality. Bilingual road signs will be allowed in nine and use of the Slovenian language in courts and administrative proceedings in 14 communities. The arrangements to be enacted by the Parliament are not acceptable to the Slovenes who demand Slovene signs in 25 communities and bilingual education in primary schools. The Slovenes intend to challenge the arrangements in courts and will not take part in the advisory councils which are not foreseen by the State Treaty. Heimatdienst decries the arrangement as not in accord with the 1976 language census which would restrict the use of the Slovene language even further. Extensive deletions.
08 MAR 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (13) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Minority Issue: Carinthian Governor Wagner urges all Carinthians to accept the three party agreement on bilingualism as failure to do so could lead to grave consequences. <i>Kaerntner Tageszeitung</i> , 5 March, 1977.
10 MAR 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (14) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Comment on Carinthian Bomb: The explosion that damaged a railroad bridge is presumed to have a political background. The majority of Carinthians reject terrorist methods. <i>Kaerntner Tageszeitung</i> , 10 March, 1977; <i>Volkszeitung</i> , 10 March, 1977.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
16 MAR 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (16) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Issue: Yugoslavia warns Austria that the Carinthian arrangement is impairing the relations with Yugoslavia. Slovenes declare the arrangement to be the most drastic attack on the life of the minority because it reduces the Slovene territory by two-thirds. Slovenes are placing their hope on continued support of Yugoslavia. People's Party considers Yugoslav protests a gesture to placate the Slovenes and that Austrian legislation could stand the test of international review. Yugoslavia uses strong words but desists from internationalizing the issue. <i>Volkszeitung</i> , 15 March, 1977; <i>Volksstimme</i> , 16 March, 1977; <i>Kaerntner Tageszeitung</i> , 15 March, 1977; <i>Kleine Zeitung</i> , 16 March, 1977.
24 MAR 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (15) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Minority Talks: Slovene organizations were invited to the Chancellery to discuss the financing of a planned Slovene language dictionary notwithstanding Kreisky's earlier insistence that contacts with the minority be through the minority councils only. <i>Salzburger Nachrichten</i> , 23 March, 1977.
25 MAR 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (17) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Minority Issue: Slovene organizations rejected the Chancellery's invitation saying that if the government wants political talks it should hold them openly. <i>Salzburger Nachrichten</i> , 25 March, 1977.
29 MAR 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (18) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Issue: Carinthian governor says there is a sufficient number of persons meeting the qualifications for appointment to the minority councils. The boycott of Slovene organizations could thus be bypassed. <i>Volksstimme</i> , 29 March, 1977.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
31 MAR 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (19) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Pahr statement claiming the minority legislation exceeds Austria's international obligations. <i>Wiener Zeitung</i> , 31 March, 1977. Slovene Demonstration: A car parade around Hofburg in Vienna where the UN Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination meets is planned. Vienna's mayor warns that all traffic regulations will be strictly enforced. <i>AZ, Volksstimme</i> , 31 March, 1977.
31 MAR 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (20) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	US Slovenes: <i>Slovenska Narodna Podporna Jednota</i> (Slovene National Benefit Society) in Burr Ridge, Illinois, sends memoranda to UN Secretary-General Waldheim, President Carter, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, and US Congress concerning Carinthian Slovenes. <i>AZ</i> , 1 April, 1977.
23 SEP 76 Resolution and Memorandum Slovene National Benefit Society (SNPJ) Resolution	Resolution of <i>Slovenska Narodna Podporna Jednota</i> (Slovene National Benefit Society) of Burr Ridge, Illinois, and Memorandum calling on the United Nations to ensure that Austria fulfill its State Treaty obligations toward the Slovenes. Copies sent to the Department of State, US Ambassador to the UN, and various US Senators.
05 NOV 79 Department of State Affidavit C-79-2787 Docket # 7, US District Court, Northern District of California	Affidavit of Sharon Kotok of the Department of State stating that extensive searches of the Department's record systems could not retrieve a copy of the SNPJ Resolution and Memorandum sent to the Secretary of State.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
01 APR 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (21) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Demonstration: Some 400 Slovenes demonstrated at the opening of the meeting of the UN Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in Vienna. <i>AZ, Volksstimme</i> , 3 April, 1977.
05 APR 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (22) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Petition: Two major Slovene organizations submit a petition to the UN Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Petition lists Austria's violations of State Treaty provisions, points to the deterioration of the situation and refers to earlier inquiries by the Committee into the status of the Slovenes in Austria. <i>Wiener Zeitung</i> , 5 April, 1977; <i>Volksstimme</i> , 5 April, 1977.
06 APR 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (23) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Language Census: November [1976] census results show 13,283 Slovene speakers throughout Austria. Only 1.9 of 7.2 million Austrians participated in the census. <i>AZ</i> , 6 April, 1977; <i>Volksstimme</i> , 6 April, 1977.
11 APR 77 Memorandum FOIA 7903512 Document No. 14 Confidential Department of State	Background notes and talking points for the meeting of the Deputy Secretary of State Christopher with the Austrian Ambassador Schober concerning Carinthian Slovenes.
29 MAY 80 Department of State Answer to Interrogatory C-79-2787, Docket 41 US District Court, Northern District of California	Description of the Department of State FOIA 7903512 Document No. 14 giving the author(s) and purpose.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
13 APR 77 Memorandum FOIA 7903512 Document No. 15 Confidential Department of State	Conversation of the Deputy Secretary of State with the Austrian Ambassador concerning Austria's gift for the US bicentennial and the Slovene minority question. The entire record of the conversation on the FOIA 7903512 (119)(120) Slovenes has been withheld.
10 APR 80 21 APR 80 Affidavit C 79-2787 Docket # 30 US District Court Northern District of California Department of State	Description of the Department of State FOIA 7903512 Document No. 15 and reasons for the withholding of the document.
05 OCT 81 Affidavit C 79-2787 Docket 154 US District Court Northern District of California ---- Department of State	Description of the Department of State FOIA 7903512 Document No. 15 and reasons for the withholding of a portion of the document. Portion of the document released upon review. Deputy Secretary of State is Member of the Board of Trustees of Stanford University which benefitted from Austria's bicentennial gift. The ambassador gave his government's comments on the Slovene question in light of certain allegations from nongovernmental sources in the US.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
23 OCT 78 Letter Unclassified Austrian Ambassador	Letter of the Austrian Ambassador to Congressman George Miller of California giving the Austrian government's version of the situation of the Slovenes in Austria. The letter refers to an article in <i>Naš Tednik</i> quoting comments of Lee Hamilton, Chairman of the House Foreign Relations Committee on the position of the US Department of State with respect to the Slovenes in Austria.
25 APR 77 Memorandum Ethnic Groups in Austria Austrian Embassy	An update of the <i>Ethnic Groups in Austria</i> , published by the Austrian Federal Chancellery, stating that use of the Slovene language would be permitted in 14 Carinthian communities.
08 OCT 81 University Catalog Austrian Studies Stanford University	The Distinguished Visiting Professorship in Austrian Studies. Austrians bicentennial gift to the US was the establishment of two professorial chairs, one at the University of Minnesota, the other at Stanford University. The total endowment provided by Austria was \$450,000.
13 APR 77 Press summary FOIA 720271 (24) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Minority: Carinthian governor warns Slovenes against radicalization, calls the threats to internationalize the issue ridiculous and objects to Slovene leader's criticism of those Slovenes who are willing to collaborate in the minority advisory councils. <i>AZ, Kurier, Die Presse, Kleine Zeitung</i> , 13 April, 1977.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
22 APR 77 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (101) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Trial Series: Prosecution of Slovenes for allegedly disturbing the peace and other minor infractions is related to political demonstrations. Destruction of bilingual topographical signs is not considered a criminal offense under the Austrian law. <i>Wiener Zeitung</i> , 22 April, 1977; <i>Kurier</i> , 22 April, 1977. Croat Minority: Croat minority organizations nominate six members to the minority advisory council. <i>Wiener Zeitung</i> , 22 April, 1977.
25 APR 77 Telegram VIENNA 03247 Confidential US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene minority Controversy: Current Status and Outlook. Slovenes and Yugoslavia reject Austrian attempt to restrict use of the Slovene language to a small territory in Carinthia. Slovene letter writing campaign. Increased political tensions. Use of the Slovene language demanded on the territory decreed by the British occupation authorities which included up to six times more communities as Austria would allow. Austria promotes ethnic assimilation. Slovene protests sent to international bodies irritate Chancellor Kreisky. Austria gives priority to satisfying the German nationalists regardless of international repercussions and only seeks a formally defensible legal position. Demonstrations at the Helsinki accord review conference feared. Yugoslavia considers Austrian measures unsatisfactory but does not wish the situation to get out of hand. Embassy opinion on the possible action of a foreign government deleted.
10 APR 80 21 APR 80 Affidavit C 79-2787 Docket 30 US District Court Northern District of California Department of State	Description of the Department of State telegram VIENNA 03247 of 25 April, 1977, and reasons for the withholding of a portion of the document.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
<p>27 APR 77 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (102) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Slovene Rebuff: Slovene organizations decline Austrian Chancellor's invitation to nominate four members to the minority advisory council on grounds that the membership would not serve the interest of the Slovenes. <i>Salzburger Nachrichten</i>, 26 April, 1977.</p>
<p>03 MAY 77 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (103) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Yugoslav Relations: People's Party deputy Ermacora cites possibility of a Yugoslav military intervention in favor of Carinthian Slovenes which might be tolerated by the United Nations. (Cf. FOIA 7903512 Document No. 13, 20 May 1977) <i>O.O. Nachrichten</i>, 2 May, 1977; <i>Volkszeitung, Kaerntner Tageszeitung</i>, 1 May, 1977. Minority Councils: Three months after the enactment of the Minorities Law, the advisory councils are still not functioning. The Slovenes boycott the council outright. <i>Die Presse</i>, 3 May, 1977.</p>
<p>05 MAY 77 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (104) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Slovene Action: Slovenes will contest the Minorities Law because it revises the Austrian State Treaty. Foreign minister Pahr questions whether the Slovene leaders are the legitimate spokesmen for the minority. <i>Salzburger Nachrichten</i>, 5 May, 1977; <i>Wiener Zeitung</i>, 6 May, 1977.</p>
<p>18 MAY 77 Intelligence cable FOIA 7903512 Document No. 16 Secret Not identified</p>	<p>Account of Yugoslav position on human rights issue and dispute with Austria on minority issue given by intelligence source. Contents of the documents are not disclosed.</p>

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
10 APR 80 21 APR 80 Affidavit C 79-2787 Docket 30 US District Court Northern District of California Department of State	Description of FOIA 7903512 Document No. 16 dated 18 May, 1977, and reasons for the withholding of its contents.
29 MAY 80 13 JUN 80 Affidavit C 79-2787 Docket 41 US District Court Northern District of California Department of State	Description of FOIA 7903512 Document No. 16, dated 18 May, 1977, reasons for the withholding of its contents, and date when it may be reviewed for possible declassification.
20 MAY 77 Memorandum and Paper FOIA 7903512 Document No. 13 Confidential Unidentified foreign government	Memorandum and a paper prepared by a foreign government on possible reactions of other foreign governments to action of another foreign government.
10 APR 80 21 APR 80 Affidavit C 79-2787 Docket 30 US District Court Northern District of California Department of State	Description of FOIA 7903512 Document No. 13, dated 20 May, 1977, and reasons for the withholding of its contents.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
29 MAY 80 13 JUN 80 Affidavit C 79-2787 Docket 41 US District Court Northern District of California Department of State	Description of FOIA 7903512 Document No. 13, dated 20 May, 1977, reasons for the withholding of its contents, and date when it may be reviewed for possible declassification.
27 MAY 77 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (105) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Bilingual signs to be set up by July 1, 1977. Authorities will take preventive measures to prevent raids and destruction of the signs.
07 JUN 77 Telegram BELGRADE 03728 Limited Official Use US Embassy, Belgrade	Yugoslav-Austrian Relations. Yugoslav press commentaries on the Austrian policy of repression of the Slovenes, provocations in the form of meetings of German nationalist organizations and reduction of the territory where the Slbvene language may be used. Yugoslavia appears content to keep the issue alive in its press until Austria complies with the treaty and may raise the issue at the Helsinki review conference in Belgrade (1977). Both Austria and Yugoslavia were discouraged by other countries to raise the issue at the conference. Deletions in the text.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
10 APR 80 21 APR 80 Affidavit C 79-2787 Docket 30 US District Court Northern District of California Department of State	Reasons for the withholding of a portion of the document BELGRADE 03728 dated 7 June, 1977.
29 MAY 80 13 JUN 80 Affidavit C 79-2787 Docket 41 US District Court Northern District of California Department of State	Reasons for the withholding of a portion of the document BELGRADE 03728, dated 7 June, 1977, description of the type of withheld information, and date on which the information may be reviewed for possible declassification (7 March , 2010).
01 JUL 77 Telegram VIENNA 06220 Confidential US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Minority Controversy: Minority Legislation became effective July 1, 1977. Bilingual road signs are to be erected in 8 municipal districts and the Slovene language will be used in administrative matters in 13 districts. Austria maintains it has fulfilled Article 7 of the treaty, the Slovenes and Yugoslavia maintain the treaty has not been fulfilled. The treaty requires bilinguality without respect to the numerical strength of the minority. The 1972 decision provided for road signs in 36 districts (now 8) and 205 villages (now 91). Slovene leaders suggest the next course of action will be civil disobedience and direct appeals to foreign media and government leaders for support. Diplomatic protests of Yugoslavia are considered to be largely exercise for the record. Austria needs a few cosmetic measures to forestall criticism at the forthcoming Helsinki accord follow up meeting.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
01 JUL 77 Telegram BELGRADE 04478 Confidential US Embassy, Belgrade	Yugoslav Minorities in Austria: Yugoslav statement on Bilingual Signpost Erection: Federal Executive Council states Austria violated the State Treaty. All of Burgenland and two-thirds of Carinthia are omitted from the implementation. Adopted measures further restrict the rights of Slovenes. Even the reduced rights are conditional on population figures. Minority representatives are not recognized. Slovene territory is divided into a number of unrelated areas. Views of the minority were not considered. Austria is merely trying to create the impression that it complied with the treaty. Yugoslavia prefers the issue does not escalate beyond control.
10 APR 80 21 APR 80 Affidavit C 79-2787 Docket 30 US District Court Northern District of California Department of State	Reasons for the withholding of a portion of the document BELGRADE 04478, dated 1 July, 1977.
29 MAY 80 13 JUN 80 Affidavit C 79-2787 Docket 41 US District Court Northern District of California Department of State	Reasons for the withholding of a portion of the document BELGRADE 04478, dated 1 July, 1977, description of the type of withheld information, and date on which the information may be reviewed for possible declassification (31 December 1983).

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
<p>25 AUG 77 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (113) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Slovene Issue: Cyril Žebot, interviewed in Graz, urges Austria to be generous in carrying out the State Treaty provisions on the Slovene minority. <i>Kleine Zeitung</i>, 25 August, 1977.</p>
<p>25 AUG 77 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (114) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Slovene demonstration against the Austrian Minorities Act will be held in Pliberk on 26 August, 1977.</p>
<p>29 AUG 77 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (106)(107) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Slovene Minority: Some 200 Austrian policemen were called to control Slovene demonstrators in Pliberk from clashing with hostile onlookers. <i>Arbeiter Zeitung</i>, 28 August, 1977. UN Secretary-General Waldheim states that further efforts are required for solving the Slovene minority problem. <i>Volksstimme</i>, 27 August, 1977.</p>
<p>09 SEP 77 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (108) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Minority Issue: The Austrian Communist Party advises the Slovenes to make full use of minority legislation as a step to further concessions. Figure 7 sprayed on road signs in Carinthia on 7 and 8 Septemebr 1977. <i>Volksstimme, Wiener Zeitung</i>, 9 September, 1977.</p>
<p>09 SEP 77 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (109) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Comment: Advice of the Communist Party to Slovenes represents a change in policy thought to have been inspired by Yugoslavia. <i>Kaerntner Tageszeitung, Volkszeitung</i>, 8 September, 1977.</p>

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
20 SEP 77 Telegram VIENNA 08490 Confidential US Embassy, Vienna	Account by an Austrian official of his recent visit to Yugoslavia and the general conditions he observed. Contents not disclosed.
05 OCT 81 Affidavit C 79-2787 Docket 154 US District Court Northern District of California Department of State	Description of the document VIENNA 08490 dated 20 September, 1977, and reasons for the withholding of its contents.
24 MAR 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-12 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	Yugoslav Federal Foreign Secretariat on Minority Position in Austria. The preparation of over 30 trials against Carinthian Slovenes who participated in actions aimed to secure Austria's fulfillment of its treaty obligations is viewed by Yugoslavia as a repressive measure. Yugoslavia will continue to support the Slovenes and urges a continued dialogue between the Slovenes and the Austrian authorities as the only correct approach to the eventual solution. <i>TANJUG</i> .

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
09 APR 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-23 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	Trial of two Slovenes: Request for a change of venue for a new trial of Mirko Perc and Jozef Mueller accused of writing a slogan on a public building. Trial of Štefan Petiak heavily fined by the court of Salzburg for writing slogans is to be held at Lienz. Trials of four other Slovenes were postponed while some 30 similar trials are still pending. Trials are characterized as repressive measures directed at Slovenes who exercised their right to freedom of expression. Politically charged atmosphere in Carinthia strongly influences the judiciary. <i>TANJUG</i> , 8 April, 1978.
17 MAY 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (110) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Trial: A Linz appellate court reduces a \$825 fine to \$660 imposed on a Slovene youth for paint-spraying slogans on public buildings. Motions for a new trial and for conducting the proceedings in the Slovene language were rejected. <i>Salzburger Nachrichten, O. Oe. Nachrichten</i> , 17 May, 1978.
28 MAY 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (111) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Minority: Chancellor Kreisky, visiting the Slovene gymnasium in Celovec, urges the Slovene representatives to enter the minority council as the proper forum for expressing minority desires. Kreisky also rebuffed the Heimatdienst. <i>AZ</i> , 28 May, 1978; 30 May, 1978.
28 JUN 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (112) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Interpellation by Carinthian's People's Party deputy Deutschmann as to why the Justice Minister quashed the indictments of four Slovenes who allegedly destroyed ballot boxes in the 1975 census is considered a provocation designed to win electoral support for Deutschman. <i>Salzbureger Nachrichten</i> , 20 June, 1978.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
04 JUL 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-24 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	Burgenland Croats Demand: Dr. Ivo Mueller of the Croatian Cultural Society in Burgenland stated the Croatian national living space has been narrowing from day to day and that in 23 years since the State Treaty not a single obligation of Article 7 has been fulfilled. <i>TANJUG</i> , 3 July, 1978.
05 SEP 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-12 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	Austrian consul general received in Ljubljana. Possibilities for improved cooperation and the realization of the rights of Slovenes in Austria were discussed. <i>TANJUG</i> , 5 September, 1978.
11 SEP 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (117) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Issue: Mitja Ribičič states that Austria's minority policy violates the Helsinki agreement as well as the Austrian State Treaty. <i>Die Presse</i> , 9 September, 1978; <i>Nas Tednik</i> .
14 SEP 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (115)(116) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Carinthian Protest: Carinthian Heimatdienst protests the proposed Yugoslav investments in Carinthia on grounds that they are designed to support the Slovene minority and will function as communist bases. <i>Volks-Zeitung</i> , 13 September, 1978.
15 SEP 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (119)(120)	Slovene Move: Dr. Matevž Grilc and Filip Warasch were hindered by Austrian officials from distributing a statement on the situation of the Slovenes to delegates of the UNESCO conference on human rights education in Vienna. The Slovenes will continue boycotting the minority advisory council but are ready to talk with the government on other levels. <i>Wiener Zeitung</i> , <i>Die Presse</i> , 15 September, 1978.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
15 SEP 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (119)(120) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Move: Dr. Matevž Grilc and Filip Warasch were hindered by Austrian officials from distributing a statement on the situation of the Slovenes to delegates of the UNESCO conference on human rights education in Vienna. The Slovenes will continue boycotting the minority advisory council but are ready to talk with the government on other levels. <i>Wiener Zeitung, Die Presse</i> , 15 September, 1978. Carinthia Meeting: Carinthian governor met the representatives of Heimatdienst to discuss their protest against Yugoslav investments in Carinthia. The governor holds the province's leaders should promote employment. Celovec papers, 14 September, 1978.
15 SEP 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-25 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	The president of the Yugoslav Assembly tells the Austrian ambassador that bilateral relations are hindered by the unresolved status of the Yugoslav minorities in Austria. <i>TANJUG</i> , 14 September, 1978.
27 SEP 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (118) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Issue: Carinthian governor calls the political isolation of the Slovenes self-imposed and urges minority's integration in Carinthian political parties instead of running separate tickets. Austrian authorities would ban a proposed meeting of the SS, the Soviet consulate in Salzburg was informed. <i>Kaerntner Tageszeitung</i> , 26 September, 1978.
07 OCT 78 News item ---- ----	Yugoslav President Tito said in a speech in Skopje that Yugoslavians primary interest are good relations with the neighboring countries and that the problems of Yugoslav minorities abroad are subordinate to this objective. <i>Svobodna Slovenia</i> , 29 March, 1979.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
<p>16 OCT 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (123)(124) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Ethnic Minorities: Invited by the Austrian Chancellor a delegation of the Union of European Nationalities is visiting Austria to review the situation of Carinthian Slovenes. The Chancellor would study any proposals for the improvement of the minority legislation. Dr Vospernik is a member of the delegation. <i>Wiener Zeitung, Die Presse</i>, 14 October, 1978.</p> <p>Carinthian Issues: Ethnic minority law and Yugoslavia's interest in good relations were the main reasons for the calming down of the minority issue, Governor Wagner told the European Nationalities delegation. <i>AZ</i>, 16 October, 1978.</p>
<p>30 OCT 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (121)(122) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Yugoslav Border: Closer cooperation between Austria and Yugoslavia is discussed at a conference held in Graz. Yugoslavia's official attitude has become friendlier. <i>Neue Zeit</i>, 26 October, 1978.</p>
<p>16 NOV 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (125) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Yugoslav Relations: Visit of Burgenland provincial delegation to Croatia results in an agreement to increase regional contacts. <i>Wiener Zeitung, Die Presse, Volksstimme</i>, 16 November, 1978.</p>
<p>18 NOV 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-14(1)(2) Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade</p>	<p>Austrian Chancellor Kreisky, interviewed by <i>NIN</i>, expresses conviction that relations with Yugoslavia, including the minority question, will develop to mutual satisfaction and that he had found a way to get the minorities to cooperate within the Austrian legal system. <i>TANJUG</i>, 17 November, 1978.</p>

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
24 NOV 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-13 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	Consultations between the representatives of the Yugoslav and Austrian foreign ministries on economic and cultural relations included the problem of the Yugoslav minorities in Austria. <i>TANJUG</i> , 24 November, 1978.
25 NOV 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-13 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	Yugoslav Secretary of Foreign Affairs Vrhovec received the General Secretary of the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Reitbauer. Bilateral relations were discussed. <i>TANJUG</i> , 25 November, 1978.
04 DEC 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (126) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	A Vienna appellate court reverses the conviction of two Slovenes who painted anti language census slogans. Socialist, People's and Freedom parties in Carinthia criticize the Heimatdienst's campaign against Yugoslav investments in the province. <i>Wiener Zeitung</i> , 2 December, 1978; <i>Salzburger Nachrichten</i> , 1 December, 1978; <i>Die Presse</i> , 2 December, 1978.
13 DEC 78 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-15 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	Austrian Foreign Minister Pahr interviewed by Yugoslav journalists. Views of the Austrian government on relations with Yugoslavia. Intensive cultural and economic relations, tourism in Yugoslavia, Yugoslav guest workers contribute to Austrian economy. The status of the minorities is improving, enrollment in bilingual schools has increased, a kindergarten has been opened in Celovec, a Slovene language course for judges has been introduced, other incremental steps will follow.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
03 JAN 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (127) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Minority: Carinthian Governor says, in a Slovene broadcast, that there has been progress in the peaceful coexistence between the two ethnic groups in Carinthia. <i>Kaerntner Tageszeitung</i> , 30 December, 1978.
06 JAN 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-16 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	Dr. Franci Zwitter says Slovenes have not yet succeeded in having the issue of their treaty rights resolved but have recently been making advances in the economic field. Ethnic group act is anti-minority, says Zwitter, and its implementation virtually nonexistent. The hope is that Austria may revise its policy under the pressure of international criticism. <i>TANJUG</i> , 5 January, 1979; <i>Slovenski Vestnik</i> .
09 JAN 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (128) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Minority: Franc Zwitter and Matevž Grilc, chairmen of both major Slovene organizations affirm continued opposition to Austrian minority legislation and say they expect no improvement in the Situation of the Slovenes. <i>Salzburger Nachrichten</i> , 8 January, 1979.
15 JAN 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-17 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	Carinthian Slovenes: The Federation of Slovene organizations in Carinthia does not consider the Austrian ethnic group act to be implementation of Article 7 of the State Treaty and demand that open questions be resolved in a dialogue between the Slovenes and the Austrian government. <i>TANJUG</i> , 14 January, 1979.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
<p>16 JAN 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-18 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade</p>	<p>Burgenland Croats demand daily broadcasts in the Croat language and a say in shaping the program. <i>TANJUG</i>, 15 January, 1979.</p>
<p>17 JAN 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-19 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade</p>	<p>Burgenland Croats: Dr. Ivo Mueller, president of the Croatian Cultural Society, expects no progress in Austria's minority policy prior to the elections. Recognition of Croatian as official language and broadcasts in Croatian would mean some progress. In absence of this the Society will continue informing the international public of the critical situation of Croats in Austria. <i>TANJUG</i>, 16 January 1979.</p>
<p>25 JAN 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (129) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Minority Issue: Chancellor Kreisky hopes that it will be possible to establish minority advisory councils. No ammendment of the ethnic act is planned. <i>Wiener Zeitung, AZ</i>, 25 January, 1979.</p>
<p>26 JAN 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (130) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Slovene Party: The Carinthian Slovene organizations in Carinthia will support independent ethnic tickets in the upcoming local elections. Decision is seen as a step toward the formation of a Slovene party. <i>Kaerntner Tageszeitung, Volks-Zeitung</i>, 26 Janury, 1979.</p>
<p>31 JAN 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (131) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Slovene Candidacy: Carinthian Governor says that Slovene candidacies in local elections are primarily directed against the Socialists. <i>Kaerntner Tageszeitung</i>, 31 January, 1979.</p>

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
<p>23 FEB 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (132) Unclassified us Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Slovene Trials: The Justice Ministry declines to quash the proceedings against Slovenes who demonstrated against the ethnic census in 1976. <i>Salzburger Nachrichten</i>, 23 February, 1979.</p>
<p>02 MAR 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (133) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Yugoslav Visitor: Bojan Lubej, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Slovene Republic Assembly, describes economic and cultural relations between Yugoslavia and Austria as promising and urges continued dialogue between the Austrian authorities and the Slovenes. <i>Die Presse</i>, 2 March, 1979; <i>Kaerntner Tageszeitung</i>, <i>Wiener Zeitung</i>, 1 March, 1979.</p>
<p>03 MAR 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (134) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Slovene Ticket: Candidacies for the local elections have been filed in 23 of 121 Carinthian communes. <i>Volkszeitung</i>, 3 March, 1979.</p>
<p>20 MAR 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (135) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Carinthian Politics: Carinthian governor says a revision of the electoral law would favor the smaller political parties including the Slovenes who could win a seat in the eastern districts. Prior to 1934 Slovenes held two seats in the provincial legislature. <i>Die Presse</i>, <i>Wiener Zeitung</i>, 20 March, 1979.</p>
<p>26 MAR 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (136) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Carinthia: A tabulation of the local election results in the province. <i>AZ</i>, 26 March 1979. Chancellor Kreisky comments on election results. <i>Kronen-Zeitung</i>, <i>Die Presse</i>, 26 March, 1979.</p>

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
04 APR 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (137) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Carinthian Politics: Chairmen of the three Carinthian parties agree that the proposed changes of the provincial electoral law should be enacted. <i>Salzburger Nachrichten</i> , 3 April, 1979; <i>Die Presse</i> , 4 April, 1979.
08 APR 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-20 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	Carinthian Slovenes: Assembly of Slovene organizations in Železna Kapla. Slovenes are willing to have a dialogue as equals with the Austrian government but cannot accept the ethnic legislation of 1976 which means their gradual extinction. Protests against politically colored trials of Slovene activists. A resolution of the problem cannot be expected so long as decisions about the minority are made by German nationalists. <i>TANJUG</i> , 08 April 1979.
14 APR 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (138) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Minorities Report: Chancellor Kreisky says the situation of ethnic minorities has improved since 1970 but concedes that it has not yet been possible to form the advisory councils. <i>Wiener Zeitung, AZ</i> , 14 April, 1979.
18 APR 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (139) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Minority Issue: Austrian Communist Party chairman says the minorities legislation in no way ensures the fulfillment of the State Treaty Article 7 and blames the Socialists for the law. <i>Volksstimme</i> , 18 April, 1979. Carinthian Politics: Carinthian Governor will wait for the outcome of the May 6 national elections before proceeding with the talks on the reform of the electoral law. <i>Die Presse</i> , 18 April, 1979.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
26 APR 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (140) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Reaction: Filip Warasch criticizes the proposed change in the electoral law as inimical to the Slovenes because they would prevent the entry of Slovene candidates into the provincial legislature. <i>Volksstimme</i> , 26 April, 1979.
02 MAY 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (141) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Trials: Eight Carinthian Slovenes accused of disturbing the national minority census are scheduled for trial in Salzburg early in July 1979. <i>Salzburger Nachrichten</i> , 28 April, 1979. Carinthian Controversy: Proposed purchase of a paper mill in the southern border area of Carinthia by a Yugoslav-Swiss consortium is protested by German nationalist elements. <i>Volksstimme</i> ; 1 May, 1979, <i>Die Presse</i> , 2 May, 1979.
17 MAY 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (142) Unclassified US Embassy Vienna	Slovene Issue: Slovene minority organizations spell out their demands in a letter to Chancellor Kreisky and object to the proposed electoral law changes which would block Slovene representation in the legislature. <i>Kaerntner Tageszeitung</i> , <i>Volks-Zeitung</i> , 16 May 1979; <i>Die Presse</i> ., 17 May, 1979.
18 MAY 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (143) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Yugoslav Relations: Yugoslav Presidency reports relations with Austria are improving continuously, Yugoslavia will continue to press for implementation of the State Treaty. <i>Salzburger Nachrichten</i> , 17 May, 1979. A minor border incident is attributed to error of Yugoslav border guards. <i>Die Presse</i> , <i>Kurier</i> , <i>Kronen-Zeitung</i> , <i>Kleine Zeitung</i> , 18 May, 1979.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
<p>20 MAY 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (144) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Carinthian Socialist; Governor Wagner is re-elected party chairman. <i>Kaerntner Tageszeitung</i>, 20 May, 1979.</p>
<p>06 JUN 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (145) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Slovene Trials: Trials of six Slovenes are postponed pending petition to President Kirchsclager to quash the indictments. <i>Wiener Zeitung</i>, 6 June, 1979.</p>
<p>08 JUN 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (146) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Slovene Visitors: Deputy Premier Sinigoj and Deputy Foreign Minister Poljsak of Slovenia are received by Vienna's Mayor Gratz, Chancellor Kreisky, and Foreign Minister Pahr. <i>Wiener Zeitung</i>, 8 June, 1979.</p>
<p>19 JUN 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (147) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Slovene Trial: Two Slovenes are to be tried in Salzburg on charges of resisting the police at a demonstration. Other Salzburg trials have been postponed pending an amnesty appeal to the President of the Republic. <i>Salzburger Nachrichten</i>, 19 June, 1979. Comment: President Carter's reference to Austria's sovereignty is deemed to be the first declaration of Austria's international status by a US President.</p>
<p>25 JUN 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-2i Unclassified Department of State</p>	<p>Yugoslav Foreign Secretary Vrhovec Receives Representatives of Minorities in Austria. Slovene representatives informal Vrhovec of the position of Slovenes in Austria. Vrhovec expresses support of the just aspirations of the minorities and emphasizes the Yugoslav desire for good relations with the neighboring countries. <i>TANJUG</i>, 22 June, 1979.</p>

Date of Document
Type of Document
Designation
Classification
Source

Subject

25 JUN 79
Press summary
FOIA 7903512 B-21(I7)
Unclassified
Department of State

Burgenland Croats: Yugoslav Foreign Secretary receives representatives of Burgenland Croats and is informed of their efforts to secure their rights under the State Treaty. The Foreign Secretary expressed his support of the Croat demands as well as the Yugoslav desire for good relations with Austria. *TANJUG*, 23 June, 1979.

03 JUL 79
Press summary
FOIA 7903512 (148)
Unclassified
US Embassy, Vienna

Yugoslav Relations: At the 30 June 1979 meeting of government heads of Slovenia, Croatia and Austria's southern provinces Carinthian Governor Wagner said relations between Carinthia and Slovenia are good, Slovenia's Vratusa cited the Karavanke tunnel as an example of the good neighbor policy. *Die Presse*, 3 July, 1979; *Kaerntner Tageszeitung*, 1 July, 1979.

11 JUL 79
Press summary
FOIA 7903512 (149)
Unclassified
US Embassy, Vienna

Minority Issue: The Hungarian minority advisory council is to be the first one created under the minority law. The Czech minority council is to follow but there is no agreement for the Slovenes and Croats. *Die Presse*, 11 July, 1979.

12 JUL 79
Press summary
FOIA 7903512(150)
Unclassified
US Embassy, Vienna

Slovene Trial: The Salzburg trial of Mirko Messner has been recessed pending a motion for change of venue. One other defendant was granted amnesty by President Kirchschrager. *Wiener Zeitung, Volksstimme*, 12 July, 1979.

14 JUL 79
Press summary
FOIA 7903512 (151)
Unclassified
US Embassy, Vienna

Minority Councils: Chances for formation of the ethnic minority councils for the Slovenes, Croats and Czech are considered slim notwithstanding Chancellor Kreisky's optimism. *Die Presse*, 14 July, 1979.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
16 JUL 79 Airgram Airgram No. A-126 (Document No. E-1) Secret US Mission to NATO	Report by a foreign government setting forth an opinion of the prospects for Yugoslavia for a period of two to three years. Contents of the documents are not disclosed.
18 FEB 81 Affidavit C 79-2787, Docket 127 US District Court Northern District of California Department of State	Description of the contents of the document Airgram No. 126 of 16 July, 1979, reasons for the withholding of its contents, and date when it may be reviewed for declassification (12 July, 1989).
26 JUL 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (152) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Minority Issue: The Central Association of Slovene Organizations denies that it supports the Socialist Party in the forthcoming elections because of its role in enacting the minorities legislation. <i>Die Presse</i> , 26 July, 1979.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
26 JUL 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (153) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Local Trend: Report on election results in the Vorarlberg province. <i>Vorarlberg Nachrichten</i> 24 July, 1979. Minority Subsidies: Subsidies are contingent on the minority participation in the ethnic advisory councils hence most of the 5 million schillings budgeted for the purpose have not been expended. <i>Wiener Zeitung</i> , 26 July, 1979.
30 JUL 79 Telegram ZAGREB 00635 Confidential US Consulate, Zagreb	Yugoslav-Austrian Relations. Moderate stance of the Slovene press on the minority problem is noted. Preparations are under way for an exchange of state visits. Hua-ko-Feng counsels Tito to improve relations with the smaller countries of Europe. Extensive deletions.
10 APR 80 21 APR 80 Affidavit C 79-2787 Docket 30 US District Court Northern District of California Department of State	Reasons for the withholding of portions of the document ZAGREB 00636, dated 30 July, 1979.
08 SEP 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (154) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Slovene Candidacy: Slovene ticket leader Karl Smolle concedes the Carinthian Unity ticket has small chance to win a seat in the Parliament. <i>Salzburger Nachrichten</i> , 8 September, 1979.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
<p>18 SEP 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (155) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Slovene Issue: Carinthian Governor discusses the minority issue, notes the province has calmed down, regrets that the Slovenes refuse to participate in minority councils and predicts setbacks for the Slovene list. Chairman of the Central Federation of Slovene Organizations criticizes the political parties because of the ethnic minority legislation. <i>Die Presse</i>, 18 September, 1979.</p>
<p>19 SEP 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (156) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Carinthian Bombing: A bomb in Velikovec city hall injures three persons. A suspect is held by the police. <i>AZ, Kurier, Kronen Zeitung</i>, 22 and 23 September, 1979.</p>
<p>23 SEP 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (157) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Carinthian Bomb: Mira Blaj alias Lorger is held in connection with the Velikovec bombing. <i>Wiener Zeitung</i>, 22 and 23 September, 1979.</p>
<p>27 SEP 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (158) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Bombs: Mira Blaj admits responsibility for the bombing and names an accomplice <i>AZ</i>, 27 September, 1979.</p>
<p>28 SEP 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (159) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Carinthia Bomb: Luka Vidmar admits he made the Velikovec city hall bomb. Yugoslav government spokesman terms the bombing an unpleasant development apt to impair the relations between Yugoslavia and Austria. <i>Wiener Zeitung</i>, 28 September, 1979.</p>

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
05 OCT 81 Affidavit C 79-2787 Docket 154 US District Court Northern District of California Department of State	A more detailed description of FOIA Document No. 18, dated 16 October, 1979. The originally unclassified document was classified confidential on 11 March 1980. Reasons for the withholding of the document and date on which it may be reviewed for possible declassification (1 January, 1986).
19 OCT 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (161) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Yugoslav Visitor: Yugoslav Foreign Minister Vrhovec and Austrian Foreign Minister Pahr meet to clear up the misunderstanding over Austria's minority policy. Vrhovec also met representatives of Slovenes and Croats. Yugoslavia acknowledges that the development of ethnic minorities in Austria is assured. Plans for the Karavanke highway tunnel. <i>Die Presse, AZ, Wiener Zeitung</i> , 19 October, 1979. Burgenland Croats: The Croat Cultural Association again refuses to join the minority advisory council to which were appointed persons who favor ethnic assimilation. <i>BVZ</i> , 17 October, 1979.
22 OCT 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (161)(162) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Yugoslav Visitor: Press conference of Yugoslav Foreign Minister highlights the improvement in Austro-Yugoslav relations. The Slovenes and Croats in Austria should seek a solution for their problems in a direct dialogue with the Austrian government. Removal of the minority problem from Yugoslav foreign policy agenda is considered a breakthrough in the Austro-Yugoslav relations. <i>Die Presse, AZ, Wiener Zeitung</i> , 20 October, 1979.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
28 SEP 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (159) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Carinthia Bomb: Luka Vidmar admits he made the Velikovec city hall bomb. Yugoslav government spokesman terms the bombing an unpleasant development apt to impair the relations between Yugoslavia and Austria. <i>Wiener Zeitung</i> , 28 September, 1979. Election Complaints: Slovenes plan to file complaint with the Constitutional Court against the revision of Carinthian election law. The division of the province into four smaller districts discriminates against smaller groups. <i>Die Presse</i> , 28 September, 1979; <i>Kurier</i> , 28 September 1979.
03 OCT 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (160) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Minorities Conference: At an eight-nation minority conference in Koper former Slovene Prime Minister Ribičič condemned the recent bombing in Velikovec apparently charging the opposition within Yugoslavia with the responsibility for the bombing. <i>Neue Zeit, Wiener Zeitung</i> , 2 October, 1979.
16 OCT 79 Memorandum FOIA 7903512 Document No. 18 Confidential US Embassy, Vienna	Account of a meeting between the Political Counsellor of the US Embassy in Vienna and an Austrian government official containing information and policy on regional politics and a comment about an official of the Austrian government. Contents not disclosed.
10 APR 80 21 APR 80 Affidavit C 79-2787 Docket 30 US District Court Northern District of California Department of State	Description of the contents of FOIA Document No. 18, dated 16 October 1979 and reasons for the withholding of its contents.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
<p>25 OCT 79 Telegram VIENNA 11650 Confidential US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Visit of the Yugoslav Foreign Minister Vrhovec. Austrians are highly pleased with the result. Austrians were anxious to convince the Yugoslavs that Austria is doing everything possible to guarantee the cultural and social identity of the minorities and ensure their freedom from discrimination. Yugoslavia understands Austria cannot prevent the germanization of the Slovenes. Austrians are pleased by Vrhovec's advice to the minorities that they are on their own in dealing with Austria. Extensive deletions.</p>
<p>05 DEC 79 Press summary FOIA 7903512 (164) Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna</p>	<p>Slovene Talks: Representatives of Slovene organizations will explain their refusal to join the minority advisory council in a meeting with the representatives of the Austrian government and of the Parliamentary parties on December 7, 1979. <i>Wiener Zeitung</i>, 5 December, 1979; <i>Salzburger Nachrichten</i>, 4 December, 1979.</p>
<p>07 FEB 80 Airgram Airgram No. A-18 Confidential US Embassy, Belgrade</p>	<p>Yugoslavia's relations with its neighbors: Geography. Differences with Austria over the Slovene and Croat minorities are soft pedaled. Yugoslav trade deficit with Austria. Minority issue has been temporarily defused by Austria's pledge to ensure the development of the minorities. Austria: Relations are good. Yugoslav claims to Carinthia have lain dormant for decades. Pressure to secure minority rights. Disruptive activities of the Heimatdienst. Yugoslavia is satisfied with the Austrian policy of small concessions to the minorities. Regular contacts are maintained at all levels. Yugoslavia seeks preferential treatment in economic affairs. Text pertaining to relations with all other neighboring countries has been withheld.</p>

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
17 OCT 80 18 FEB 81 Affidavit C 79-2787 Docket 127 US District Court Northern District of California Department of State	Description of Airgram No. A-18 (FOIA 7903512 Document No. E-2) dated 7 February, 1980, and reasons why the document should not be released.
02 SEP 81 Court Order C 79-2787 Docket 146 US District Court Northern District of California US District Court	US District Court finds the affidavit describing Airgram No. A-18 (FOIA 7903512 Document No. E-2) dated 7 February, 1980, is inadequate and orders the Department of State to produce the document for <i>in camera</i> inspection by the court.
05 OCT 81 Affidavit C 79-2787 Docket 154 US District Court Northern District of California Department of State	More detailed description of Airgram No. A-18 (FOIA 7903512 Document No. E-2) dated 7 February, 1980, itemizing the contents of sections summarizing Yugoslav relations with Italy, Austria, Greece, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, and Albania, and giving reasons why the contents should not be disclosed.
19 MAR 82 Court Order C 79-2787 Docket 173 US District Court Northern District of California US District Court	US District Court finds that disclosure of the portions of Airgram No. A-18 (FOIA 7903512 Document No. E-2) dealing with Austria would not adversely affect the national security and orders disclosure of designated portions. The contents are found to be low level, routine factual reports on matters of common knowledge in foreign affairs. Court's criticism of government affidavits.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
08 FEB 80 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-10 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	Kreisky receives Burgenland Croat Delegation. The Austrian Chancellor is advised that 25 years after the signing of the State Treaty none of Austria's obligations has been fulfilled. The Croats are willing to cooperate if the Austrian government declares the purpose of the ethnic minority law is the preservation and development of the minorities. <i>TANJUG</i> , 7 February, 1980.
15 FEB 80 Airgram Airgram No. A -043 Unclassified US Embassy, Vienna	Minority situation in Austria. Yugoslavia desires to drop the minority question from its foreign policy agenda and suggests the minorities deal directly with the Austrian government. Minorities are estimated as 20,000 Slovenes and 25,000 Croats. The 1976 language census was useless. Assimilation is reducing the numerical strength of the minorities. Slovenes refuse to enter the ethnic advisory councils and demand the teaching of the Slovene language as a required subject, bilinguality in all kindergartens, promotion of economic projects in Carinthia, more Slovene radio and television broadcasts and a commission to prepare by the end of 1983 a replacement of the Ethnic Groups Act of 1976. The Croat minority is divided. The Burgenland Croats plan to challenge the Austrian government in the Constitutional Court and have not joined the ethnic advisory councils. The Austrian government is unwilling to negotiate a timetable for the fulfillment of Croat demands. Minorities are no longer an important factor in Austro-Yugoslav relations but the problem should be watched. Yugoslav assurances of support to the Slovenes.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
19 FEB 80 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-7 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	Burgenland Croats and Carinthian Slovenes meet. A delegation of the Croatian academic club in Vienna visited Carinthia as a guest of the Slovene organizations. Both the Slovenes and Croats reject the Ethnic Groups Law because it fails to comply with Article 7 of the State Treaty. <i>TANJUG</i> , 19 February, 1980.
14 MAR 80 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-8 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	Carinthian Slovenes pardoned. Four Carinthian Slovenes accused of writing slogans in support of Slovenian demands for Austria to fulfill the State Treaty have been pardoned over the objection of Carinthian German political parties. <i>TANJUG</i> , 14 March, 1980.
01 APR 80 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-6 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	Yugoslav-Austrian relations. Slovene Assembly Commission on International Relations finds relations with Austria are developing on the basis of respect and equality conducive to an early resolution of the problems of Yugoslav ethnic communities in Austria. Further development of Yugoslav minorities in Austria would contribute to good neighbor relations between the two countries. <i>TANJUG</i> , 31 March, 1980.
11 APR 80 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-5 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	Kreisky press conference in Belgrade. Austria is optimistic concerning the future relations with Yugoslavia. Yugoslav interest in its minorities in Austria is not considered an interference in Austrian internal affairs. The outstanding questions must be resolved in a dialogue between the minorities and the Austrian authorities. Vienna and Belgrade will cooperate at the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe meeting in Madrid as both countries can contribute to improving the political climate in Europe. <i>TANJUG</i> , 11 April, 1980.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
11 APR 80 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-4 Unclassified Department of State	The President of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council Djuranović and Austrian Chancellor Kreisky state that bilateral relations are developing satisfactorily. Agreement on indemnification of Austrian property in Yugoslavia. Austria confirms its readiness to implement all of its treaty obligations toward the Yugoslav minorities. <i>Politika</i> , 11 April, 1980.
22 APR 80 Telegram BELGRADE 3244 Limited Official Use US Embassy, Belgrade	Chancellor Kreisky's visit to Yugoslavia. The visit cements good neighbor relations, difference are played down, similarities are played up. Austrians get Yugoslav endorsement of their requirement that the minorities should cooperate with Austrian authorities to resolve the outstanding problems. Need to restore detente, Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe meeting in Madrid, the Palestinian question, Afghanistan, Vietnam. Agreement on indemnity of Austrian property, minorities affirmed as a "bridge of cooperation." Austria pledges to guarantee the existence and development of the minorities, Yugoslavia agrees that direct interaction between the minorities and the Austrian authorities is the best way to resolve the outstanding questions. Successful results of economic cooperation.
23 MAY 80 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-3 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	Proposal of Slovenes in Austria rejected. Leaders of the three Carinthian parliamentary parties reject the Slovene operational time-table approved earlier by Chancellor Kreisky. Governor Wagner asserts Austria already has fulfilled the State Treaty. Carinthian party leaders are expressing the German nationalist position. Approval of the Slovene operational time-table is conditional on the Slovene agreement to enter the ethnic advisory council which is unacceptable to them. <i>TANJUG</i> , 22 May, 1980.

Date of Document Type of Document Designation Classification Source	Subject
23 MAY 80 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-3 Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	Proposal of Slovenes in Austria rejected. Leaders of the three Carinthian parliamentary parties reject the Slovene operational time-table approved earlier by Chancellor Kreisky. Governor Wagner asserts Austria already has fulfilled the State Treaty. Carinthian party leaders are expressing the German nationalist position. Approval of the Slovene operational time-table is conditional on the Slovene agreement to enter the ethnic advisory council which is unacceptable to them. <i>TANJUG</i> , 22 May, 1980.
25 MAY 80 Press summary FOIA 7903512 B-2(1,2) Unclassified US Embassy, Belgrade	Carinthian Slovenes. Unyielding positions of Carinthian political parties show that their official policy continues to be based on hatred for Slovenes. Disappointment of Slovene organizations in view of earlier encouraging statements of the Austrian federal government. Revival of nationalism and neo-nazism in Austria is noted. <i>TANJUG</i> , 24 MAY, 1980.

DOCUMENTS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM VIENNA 10728

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 ACDA-10

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R 301550 DEC 75
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7459
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMCONSUL ZAGREB

UNCLAS VIENNA 10728

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, AU, YU

SUBJECT: KREISKY-TITO MEETING DECEMBER 28

1. MEETING OF AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR BRUNO KREISKY WITH YUGOSLAV PRESIDENT TITO AND PRESIDENCY MEMBER EDVARD KARDELJ AT BRDO, YUGOSLAVIA, ON DECEMBER 28, TO WHICH KREISKY PROCEEDED WITHOUT PRIOR PUBLICITY FROM HIS VACATION RETREAT IN WESTERN AUSTRIA, IS VIEWED BY AUSTRIAN PRESS AS FURTHER NORMALIZATION OF AUSTRO-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS, WHICH HAS PROGRESSED STEP-BY-STEP SINCE LOW POINT OF LAST MAY, AT THAT TIME, YUGOSLAV STATEMENT ON OCCASION OF 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF AUSTRIAN STATE TREATY ACCUSED AUSTRIA OF FAILING TO FULFILL OBLIGATIONS TO SLOVENIAN MINORITY UNDER TREATY AND OF TOLERATING ANTI-YUGOSLAV, NAZI AND PAN-GERMAN ACTIVITY IN AUSTRIA, AND RAISED POSSIBILITY OF YUGOSLAV APPEAL TO TREATY SIGNATORIES, INCLUDING US AND USSR. SINCE THEN, PRESS NOTES, NEGOTIATIONS OVER DIVISION OF ARCHIVAL MATERIAL FROM OLD EMPIRE HAVE PROCEEDED WELL, AND KREISKY-TITO TALKS AT HELSINKI CSCE MEETING WERE CORDIAL. AUSTRIANS APPEAR NOW TO BE REDEFINING PROJECTED MINORITY CENSUS IN AUSTRIA IN TERMS THAT MAY BE ACCEPTABLE TO AUSTRIAN SLOVENES AND YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT AND THUS AVOID NEED FOR ANY MORE

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FORMAL AUSTRO-YUGOSLAV UNDERSTANDING. PRESS QUOTES KREISKY AS SAYING THAT CENSUS WOULD NOT BE "DETERMINATION OF A MINORITY BUT MERELY A LANGUAGE COUNT."

2. WHILE MINORITY PROBLEM WAS MAIN TOPIC OF TALKS, PRESS STATED BILATERAL ECONOMIC INTERESTS AS WELL AS INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS, PARTICULARLY THAT OF MIDDLE EAST, WERE ALSO DISCUSSED. PRESS REPORTED NO MORE OF THOSE DISCUSSIONS THAT APPEARED IN FBIS VIENNA AU 291925 AND AU 291952.MEEHAN

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ACTION EUR-12

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01
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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ZAGREB 1029

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, AU, YO
SUBJECT: TITO MEETS AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR KREISKY IN SLOVENIA

1. LEADING DAILIES IN CROATIA AND SLOVENIA FOR DECEMBER 30 GAVE FRONT PAGE TREATMENT TO AN INFORMAL WORKING MEETING OF PRESIDENT TITO AND AUSTRIAN FEDERAL CHANCELLOR KREISKY WHICH TOOK PLACE THE DAY BEFORE AT BRDO KOD KRANJ IN SLOVENIA.
2. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS ACCOUNTS EDVARD KARDELJ, A MEMBER OF THE PRESIDENCY, HAD INVITED KREISKY TO SLOVENIA. KARDELJ HOSTED A WORKING DINNER FOR KREISKY AT CASTLE STRMOL NEAR KRANJ THE EVENING OF DECEMBER 28 WHICH WAS ATTENDED ALSO BY SERGEJ KRAJGER, PRESIDENT OF THE SLOVENIAN REPUBLIC; JAKOV BLAZEVIC, PRESIDENT OF THE CROATIAN REPUBLIC; DR. EMIL LUDVIGER, MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL; DR. ALEXANDER OTTO, AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR; AND OTHERS.
3. MONDAY NOON, KREISKY MET WITH TITO. KARDELJ ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THIS MEETING WHICH TOOK PLACE AT TITO'S RESIDENCE AT BRDO KOD KRANJ. THE MEETING CONTINUED INTO A WORKING LUNCHEON AND WAS DESCRIBED BY THE PRESS AS AN INTENSIVE WORKING SESSION DEALING PRIMARILY WITH BILATERAL ISSUES BUT TOUCHING AS WELL ON FOREIGN

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POLICIES OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS AND POSSIBLE ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN JOINT APPROACHES TO THIRD COUNTRY MARKETS.

4. FOLLOWING THE MEETING, TITO, KREISKY AND KARDELJ HELD A JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE. TITO'S ASSESSMENT OF THE MEETING: "THIS EXCHANGE ASSURES THAT QUESTION OF MUTUAL INTEREST WILL BE DISCUSSED IN A PEACEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE WAY." HE NOTED THAT HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH CHANCELLOR KREISKY IN ADDITION TO PURELY BILATERAL ISSUES HAD TOUCHED ALSO UPON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS INSOFAR AS THERE EXISTED SIMILAR ATTITUDES ON THE PART OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS, POINTING OUT THAT THERE WAS EVEN GREATER HARMONY IN THIS AREA THAN ON SOME OF THE BILATERAL QUESTIONS.

5. CHANCELLOR KREISKY SUMMED UP HIS IMPRESSION OF THE MEETING IN THESE WORDS: "THE DATA WE HAVE RECEIVED HERE WILL BE HELPFUL AND WILL SERVE AS THE BASIS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH PARTY LEADERS (IN AUSTRIA) ON RESOLVING THE PROBLEM OF NATIONAL MINORITIES." RESPONDING TO A QUESTION FROM A NEWSMAN AS TO WHETHER THE MINORITY PROBLEM HAD BEEN SOLVED KREISKY SAID, "MY HOSTS HAD BEEN VERY TACTFUL BUT THEY GAVE NO FORMULAS FOR SOLVING PROBLEMS. HOWEVER WE DESIRE THAT AGREEMENT BE REACHED WITH OUR NATIONAL MINORITIES. THE 'SPECIAL CENSUS' ACCORDING TO THE YUGOSLAVS, IS A SOURCE OF WORRY. THE RIGHTS OF THE MINORITIES CANNOT BE CONNECTED TO A CENSUS."

5. LOOKING TO THE FUTURE, PRESIDENT TITO MADE THIS COMMENT: "THIS MEETING SHOWS AN IMPROVEMENT OF THE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, AND WE HAVE AGREED THAT THERE SHOULD BE MORE MEETINGS ON A REGULAR BASIS AT THE APPROPRIATE LEVEL."

6. SPEAKING SPECIFICALLY TO THE NEWSMEN ON THE QUESTION OF IMPLEMENTING THE STATE TREATY, KREISKY SAID, "THE TALKS HAVE HEPPLED IN THE SEARCH FOR ANSWERS TO CERTAIN TROUBLESOME QUESTIONS AUSTRIA IS CONSCIOUS OF ITS OBLIGATIONS IN IMPLEMENTING THE TERMS OF THE STATE TREATY." HE OBSERVED ALSO THAT YUGOSLAVIA AND AUSTRIA HAD A MUTUAL INTEREST IN SEEING PEACE STRENGTHENED IN THIS PART OF EUROPE.

7. COMMENT: USUALLY MEETINGS OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT WITH TITO ARE ANNOUNCED AT LEAST SEVERAL DAYS IN ADVANCE. THE FACT THAT THERE WAS NO PRIOR ANNOUNCEMENT OF THIS INFORMAL VISIT BY KREISKY

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UNDERScores ITS IMPROMPTU NATURE (THE DELO ACCOUNT OF THE MEETING MENTIONS THAT KREISKY INTERRUPTED HIS SKI VACATION AT LECH TO COME TO SLOVENIA). IN RECENT CONVERSATIONS WE HAVE HAD WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN SLOVENIA THERE APPEARED TO BE A MILD BUT GROWING DISCONTENT WITH SLOWNESS OF PROGRESS ON THE SLOVENIAN MINORITY QUESTION IN CARINTHIA. SLOVENIAN LEADERS, THEREFORE, MIGHT WELL WANT TO CREATE AN IMPRESSION THAT THE PROBLEM OF THE MINORITY ACROSS THE BORDER HAD NOT BEEN FORGOTTEN.

8. AFTER VISIT TITO JOURNEYED TO ZAGREB WHERE HE IS EXPECTED TO SPEND THE NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY. THE CITY TODAY IS BRISTLING WITH SECURITY FORCES. KAISER

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Year-End Smiles for Austrian-Yugoslav Relations

Austrian Chancellor Kreisky and Yugoslav President Tito attempted to put the best face on bilateral relations during Kreisky's unofficial visit to Yugoslavia on December 28-29.

Bilateral relations reached a low point last spring, when Belgrade accused Vienna of intolerance toward the Slovene minority in the Austrian state of Carinthia. At issue were unimplemented points in the Austrian state treaty that require bilingual road signs in the language of local minorities in parts of Austria. Vienna, in reaction, temporarily withdrew its ambassador from Belgrade. Both sides have since made efforts to patch over their differences and tensions appeared to ease following talks between Chancellor Kreisky and Tito in Helsinki in July.

While in Yugoslavia, Kreisky discussed the minority issue primarily with Tito's close adviser, Edward Kardelj; Tito concentrated on broader international issues. Kreisky said that the Yugoslav side had taken a "very tactful attitude" on the minority problem, and he stressed that the Yugoslavs had not "made proposals" concerning Austrian policy. Tito said that the Kreisky visit itself showed that bilateral relations had improved in the past few months and that "we are on the best way to better understand the mutual difficulties."

Despite such soothing words, the contentious problems remain, and Belgrade will continue to monitor Vienna's actions toward its Slovenian

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minority.. Austria's Socialist government has procrastinated addressing the unpopular road signs issue but, with the recent elections under its belt, Vienna may feel free to take some steps in the coming year.

Vienna has linked a solution to a "special minority census," by which the government probably hopes to limit the use of bilingual road signs in Carinthia to areas having significant Slovenian population. The Yugoslavs reject using the census as a Yardstick and insist that bilingual road signs be used throughout the state.

Any solution will more than likely offend some Slavic-or German-speaking Austrians. An Austrian study commission suggested last spring that one way to resolve the dispute--if it becomes too contentious for the Austrian government--is to submit the problem to the UN for a decision.
(CONFIDENTIAL)

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-09 DODE-00 PH-04 H-02 INR-07
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

R 221656Z JAN 76
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7619
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMCONSUL ZAGREB

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 0545

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, AU, YU
SUBJECT: AUSTRO-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS CONTINUE TO IMPROVE

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: AUSTRO-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS ARE IMPROVING AT A FAST PACE AND ARE NOW EXPECTED TO EXPAND BEYOND LEVEL OBTAINING PRIOR TO MOST RECENT CONTROVERSY OVER SLOVENIAN MINORITY ISSUE. END SUMMARY.

2. KREISKY'S SURPRISE VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA IN LATE DECEMBER HAS GIVEN IMPETUS TO MOVE BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS TO RENORMALIZE BILATERAL RELATIONS. ACCORDING TO MFA SOURCE, DISCUSSIONS OVER LONG-STANDING RETURN-OF-ARCHIVES CONTROVERSY ARE PROCEEDING SATISFACTORILY AND FORWARD MOVEMENT IS ALSO TAKING PLACE ON ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL FRONTS.

3. AS PART OF WHAT APPEARS TO BE PLANNED CONSCIOUS EFFORT BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS TO GO BEYOND RENORMALIZATION AND TO IN FACT EXPAND BILATERAL RELATIONS, GOY OFFICIAL DELEGATION, HEADED BY VICE FOREIGN MINISTER, IS EXPECTED IN AUSTRIAN CAPITAL AROUND MID-FEBRUARY FOR TALKS COVERING BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL INTERESTS AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, TO PREPARE FOR KREISKY STATE VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA LATER THIS YEAR, PROBABLY AT END OF MARCH OR EARLY APRIL. ANOTHER HARBINGER OF KREISKY'S DETERMINATION TO PUT AUSTRO-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS ON

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MORE SOLID BASIS IS PROBABLE FIRST-TIME INVITATION TO YUGOSLAV SOCIALIST ALLIANCE TO SEND OBSERVER TO AUSTRIAN SOCIALIST PARTY CONGRESS WHICH SCHEDULED VIENNA MID-MARCH. INVITATION COULD GENERATE SOME DOMESTIC CONTROVERSY BUT KREISKY CAN BE EXPECTED TO CITE IN HIS DEFENSE EXAMPLE OF WEST GERMAN SOCIALISTS LEADERS, WHO INVITED ALLIANCE OBSERVER TO THEIR RECENT MANNHEIM CONGRESS BUT WHO COULD HARDLY BE DESCRIBED AS SUPPORTERS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN SOCIALIST AND COMMUNIST PARTIES. YUGOSLAVIA, FOR ITS PART, IS SCHEDULED TO HAVE ITS MINISTERS FOR FOREIGN TRADE, TRANSPORT AND AGRICULTURE VISIT THEIR AUSTRIAN COUNTERPARTS DURING FIRST HALF OF 1976, ACCORDING TO YUGOSLAV EMBASSY SOURCE.

[APPROXIMATELY 22 LINES OF TEXT APPEARING IN THIS PLACE WERE WITHHELD FROM DISCLOSURE]

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MORE SOLID BASIS IS PROBABLE FIRST-TIME INVITATION TO YUGOSLAV SOCIALIST ALLIANCE TO SEND OBSERVER TO AUSTRIAN SOCIALIST PARTY CONGRESS WHICH SCHEDULED VIENNA MID-MARCH. INVITATION COULD GENERATE SOME DOMESTIC CONTROVERSY BUT KREISKY CAN BE EXPECTED TO CITE IN HIS DEFENSE EXAMPLE OF WEST GERMAN SOCIALISTS LEADERS, WHO INVITED ALLIANCE OBSERVER TO THEIR RECENT MANNHEIM CONGRESS BUT WHO COULD HARDLY BE DESCRIBED AS SUPPORTERS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN SOCIALISTS AND COMMUNIST PARTIES. YUGOSLAVIA, FOR ITS PART, IS SCHEDULED TO HAVE ITS MINISTERS FOR FOREIGN TRADE, TRANSPORT AND AGRICULTURE VISIT THEIR AUSTRIAN COUNTERPARTS DURING FIRST HALF OF 1976, ACCORDING TO YUGOSLAV EMBASSY SOURCE.

4. AS FOR SLOVENE MINORITY ISSUE, [20 CHARACTERS WITHHELD] HAS TOLD US THAT KREISKY-TITO MEETING RESULTED IN RESTATEMENT OF CONCILIATORY LANGUAGE OF RESPECTIVE VIEWS ON ISSUE AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, ACCORDING TO SAME SOURCE, IN EXPRESSION OF POLITICAL WILL BY KREISKY TO DISCUSS ISSUE AGAIN WITH ALL POLITICAL PARTIES IN AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT IN EFFORT TO SECURE SOLUTION OF ISSUE ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH AUSTRO-GERMAN AND AUSTRO-SLOVENE ETHNIC GROUPS. IT SHOULD BE NOTED HOWEVER, THAT GOA PUBLIC POSITION ON ISSUE REMAINS UNCHANGED AND DRAFTING ON SPECIAL CENSUS BILL CONTINUES.

5. AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT SOURCES OBVIOUSLY WELCOME WHAT THEY FEEL TO BE BASIC DECISION BY GOY TO STAND DOWN ON SLOVENIAN MINORITY ISSUE AND TO PUT MORE IMPORTANT YUGOSLAV NATIONAL INTERESTS AHEAD OF NARROWER SLOVENIAN ONES. YUGOSLAV EFFORT TOWARD AUSTRIA IS THEREFORE SEEN AS LOGICAL SEQUENCE TO YUGOSLAV-ITALIAN SETTLEMENT AND PART OF BROADER SENARIO OF ESTABLISHING, FOR MULTITUDE OF REASONS, LARGER OPENING TOWARD WEST. FROM YUGOSLAV VANTAGE KREISKY, AS INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL PERSONALITY OF SOME STANDING, COULD BE VERY HELPFUL IN THIS REGARD. BUCHANAN

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

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R 130907Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5617
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMCONSUL ZAGREB

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 1008

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR YO AU
SUBJ: TITO-KREISKY MEETING
REF: ZAGREB 1029

1. [APPROXIMATELY 9 LINES OF TEXT WAS WITHHELD]

2. EXPLOSIVE QUESTION OF ROAD SIGNS WILL NOT BE DEALT WITH UNTIL AFTER THE CENSUS. SENSITIVITY OF THIS ISSUE IN YUGOSLAVIA WAS DEMONSTRATED BY TANJUG'S LENGTHY REBUTTAL ON FEB 12 OF REPORTS IN AUSTRIAN PRESS THAT FEDERAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT KIRO GLIGOROV HAD SAID ROAD SIGNS ISSUE WAS "MINOR POINT THAT CAN BE IGNORED".
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3. KREISKY'S VISIT WAS A BIT REMNISCENT OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S TRIP TO PEKING IN 1971. BECAUSE OF SENSITIVITY OF MINORITY ISSUE IN AUSTRIA, KREISKY TRAVELLED INCOGNITO ON COMMERCIAL PLANE.

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ACTION EUR-12

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SCCT-01 7091 W
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R 091034Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9051
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMCONSUL ZAGREB

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 VIENNA 5712

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, AU, YU
SUBJECT: SLOVENIAN MINORITY CONTROVERSY: ADOPTION OF NEW
MINORITIES LEGISLATION

REF: (A) VIENNA 5044, (B) VIENNA 3756, (C) BELGRADE 4396

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT PASSED UNANIMOUSLY ON JULY 7 PROMOTION OF MINORITIES AND LANGUAGE CENSUS BILLS. LEGISLATION PRECEDED BY ABOUT TWO MONTHS OF TOUGH BARGAINING AMONG THREE PARTIES IN PARLIAMENT, BOTH AT FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL LEVELS. SLOVENE MINORITY REPRESENTATIVES REFUSED TO TAKE PART IN TALKS AFTER GOA DECIDED TO LINK BENEFITS BILL WITH CENSUS. CHANCELLOR KREISKY, IN PRESSING FOR ADOPTION OF LEGISLATION, IS GAMBLING ON EVENTUAL SLOVENE MINORITY ACQUIESCENCE IN CENSUS AND ON GOY PROTESTS BEING LIMITED TO ORAL AND WRITTEN EXCHANGES BETWEEN FOREIGN OFFICES. HOWEVER, SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERS CONTINUE THEIR STRONG OPPOSITION TO TYING CENSUS TO IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 7 OF STATE TREATY AND HAVE CALLED FOR BOYCOTT OF HEAD COUNT. MOST INDICATORS IN CARINTHIA SUGGEST THAT GROWING SENSE OF FRUSTRATION AND ANXIETY AMONG

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MEMBERS OF SLOVENE MINORITY LIKELY TO GIVE RISE TO CONFRONTATION OF SOME FORM THIS FALL IF NOT SOONER. SUCH PROSPECT BODES ILL FOR AUSTRIAN POLITICAL SCENE AND CONTAINS DISTURBING IMPLICATIONS FOR AUSTRO-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. ON JULY 7 AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT ADOPTED TWO RELATED BILLS TO DEAL WITH SLOVENIAN MINORITY ISSUE: ONE TO PROMOTE MINORITIES, OTHER TO CONDUCT LANGUAGE CENSUS, PROBABLY ON NOVEMBER 14. THIS LEGISLATION, PASSED WITH UNANIMOUS SUPPORT OF ALL THREE PARTIES IN PARLIAMENT, MARKS ANOTHER WATERSHED IN GOA'S EFFORTS, HERETOFORE UNSUCCESSFUL, TO RESOLVE SLOVENIAN MINORITY ISSUE. EARLIER EFFORT IN 1972 WAS STYMIED WHEN SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT'S ATTEMPT TO ERECT BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNES IN MIXED COMMUNITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 7 OF 1955 STATE TREATY WAS COUNTERED BY NATIONALIST ELEMENTS WHO, DETERMINED TO REINFORCE ETHNIC PURITY OF REGION, TORE DOWN ALL BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS. SINCE THEN THERE HAD BEEN EBB AND FLOW IN DISCUSSIONS LOOKING TOWARD POSSIBLE RESOLUTION OF ISSUE BUT NO REAL SUSTAINED EFFORT TO ACHIEVE COMPROMISE WITH MINORITY LEADERS.

3. UNTIL LATE APRIL, CHANCELLOR KREISKY HAD BEEN TWISTING AND TURNING POLITICALLY IN AN EFFORT TO DELAY ACTION ON HIS EARLIER PROPOSAL FOR SPECIAL MINORITY CENSUS UNTIL SOME TIME IN LATTER HALF OF 1977 (REF B). EVOLVING CONFRONTATIONAL MOOD IN CARINTHIA (REF A) APPARENTLY MOVED KREISKY TO TRY TO RESOLVE ISSUE THROUGH COMPROMISE AMONG THREE PARLIAMENTARY PARTIES, RESULT OF WHICH WAS LAW OF JULY 6.

4. CHANCELLOR'S COMPLICATED PLAN FOR HANDLING ISSUE REQUIRED THREE-PARTY AGREEMENT ON BILLS SINCE ONLY THEN WOULD BROAD POLITICAL SUPPORT NEEDED FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF MEASURES BE ASSURED AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, ANY ONE PARTY BE PRECLUDED FROM MAKING POLITICAL CAPITAL OUT OF WHAT HAS BEEN SENSITIVE POLITICAL ISSUE IN CARINTHIA. PRICE PAID BY KREISKY TO ACHIEVE THREE-PARTY AGREEMENT CAME HIGH HOWEVER. IT INVOLVED NUMBER OF MAJOR ACCOMODATIONS TO POLITICAL PARTIES IN CARINTHIA. ONE WAS THAT BENEFITS TO MINORITIES (WHICH INCLUDE CROATIAN, HUNGARIAN, AND

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CZECH IN ADDITION TO SLOVENE-SPEAKING AUSTRIANS FROM PROMOTION OF MINORITIES BILL BECOME AVAILABLE ONLY AFTER HEAD COUNT AND NOT BEFORE, AS ORIGINALLY ENVISAGED BY KREISKY. ANOTHER WAS SEEMINGLY CLEAR REQUIREMENT THAT COMMUNITIES IN QUESTION WILL HAVE TO HAVE MINIMUM 25 PERCENT MINORITY POPULATION AS CONDITION FOR ERECTION OF BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS, ALTHOUGH CHANCELLOR CONTINUES TO DESCRIBE AIM OF CENSUS AS BEING FOR "ORIENTATION PURPOSES ONLY." FURTHER MAJOR CONCESSION BY KREISKY WAS SEPARATE WRITTEN AGREEMENT AMONG THREE PARTIES GIVING EACH PARTY RIGHT OF VETO BY REQUIRING APPROVAL OF ALL PARTIES FOR IMPLEMENTING DECREES TO BE ADOPTED ONLY LATER, PROBABLY IN FALL OF 1976.

5. CHANCELLOR NOW SEEMS TO BELIEVE, WITHOUT MUCH SUPPORTING EVIDENCE AT HAND, THAT SLOVENE MINORITY WILL ULTIMATELY ADJUST ITSELF TO "INEVITABLE CENSUS" AND ADOPT PASSIVE OPPOSITION ROLE, PARTICULARLY WHEN BENEFITS TO FLOW FROM IMPLEMENTATION OF MINORITIES PROMOTION BILL ARE WEIGHED IN BALANCE, SIMILARLY, GOA, PROBABLY REFLECTING KREISKY'S OWN VIEWPOINT, FEELS THAT YUGOSLAV PROTESTS OVER CONTROVERSY ARE PRO FORMA, THAT YUGOSLAVIAN LEADERS, EXCEPT FOR SLOVENES, ARE NOT OVERLY CONCERNED ABOUT AUSTRIAN TREATMENT OF SLOVENE MINORITY, AND THAT GOY HAS ONLY USED SLOVENE MINORITY ISSUE IN AUSTRIA TO DEFLECT ATTENTION FROM ITS OWN INTERNAL NATIONALITY CONFLICTS. IN VIEW OF FOREGOING, GOA, PARTICULARLY ITS POLITICAL LEADERSHIP, TENDS TO DISCOUNT POSSIBILITY OF ANY GOY CHALLENGE TO AUSTRIAN ACTION OTHER THAN ANTICIPATED VERBAL PROTESTS. KREISKY SEEMS THUS TO BE GAMBLING THAT "REASONABLE ELEMENTS" AMONG AUSTRO-SLOVENES WILL QUIETLY DISAVOW SLOVENIAN LEADERSHIP AND PARTICIPATE IN CENSUS, THAT SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERSHIP WILL NOT ENCOURAGE PHYSICAL OBSTRUCTION OF CENSUS OR COMMISSION OF ACTS OF VIOLENCE, AND THAT YUGOSLAVIA'S DISAPPROVAL OF GOA APPROACH TO ISSUE WILL BE LIMITED TO EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN FOREIGN OFFICES.

6. IN CARINTHIA, THREE POLITICAL PARTIES THAT ENDORSED DRAFT LEGISLATION ARE EACH PUBLICLY HALING MOVE AS

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TURNING POINT IN MINORITY CONTROVERSY AND PRIVATELY CLAIMING FOR THEMSELVES CREDIT FOR TOUGHENING UP LEGISLATION TO IMPLIED DISADVANTAGE OF AUSTRO-SLOVENE MINORITY AND FOR PROTECTION OF INTERESTS OF AUSTRO-GERMAN NATIONALIST ELEMENTS. LATTER ELEMENTS, ORGANIZED IN 8Ø,ØØØ MEMBER HEIMATDIENST, ARE THEMSELVES DISSATISFIED WITH ADOPTED LEGISLATION FROM POINT OF VIEW THAT IT IS NOT SUFFICIENTLY CLEAR (READ RESTRICTIVE) ON MINORITY RIGHTS: THAT MINORITY, SINCE ALLEGEDLY PRO-YUGOSLAV, IS THREAT TO TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CARINTHIA; AND THAT ACCOMODATION OF MINORITY IN EFFECT REPRESENTS DISCRIMINATION AGAINST MAJORITY. HEIMATDIENST, UNDER GUISE OF PATRIOTISM AND DEFENSE OF GERMAN CULTURE, CAN BE EXPECTED TO PUSH FOR STRICT IMPLEMENTATION OF LEGISLATION WITH AIM OF PROVING ITS CLAIM THAT SLOVENE MINORITY IS NEAR NON-EXISTENT IN CARINTHIA.

7. AS FOR SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERSHIP, IT HAD NO PART IN DISCUSSION LEADING UP TO DRAFTING OF TWO BILLS ONCE GOA OPTED TO LINK BENEFITS BILL WITH CENSUS BILL AND

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-01 10-13 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02
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R 091034Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9052
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMCONSUL ZAGREB

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 VIENNA 5712

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, AU, YU
SUBJ: SLOVENIAN MINORITY CONTROVERSY: ADOPTION OF NEW
MINORITIES LEGISLATION

TO TENTATIVELY SCHEDULE HEAD COUNT BY LANGUAGE
SPOKEN FOR LATE FALL. SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERS
REMAIN STRONGLY OPPOSED TO CENSUS IN ANY FORM AS
REQUIREMENT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 7 AND, IN
VIEW OF PARLIAMENT'S ACTION, ARE NOW LIKELY TO FIND
THEMSELVES UNDER INCREASED PRESSURE TO ADOPT MORE
TRUCULENT PUBLIC STANCE. FOR MOMENT, HOWEVER, LEADERS
HAVE ANNOUNCED DETERMINATION OF MINORITY TO BOYCOTT
CENSUS AND RENDER RESULTS UNUSABLE ON ONE HAND AND TO
CONSULT CLOSELY WITH GOY ON NEXT MOVES ON OTHER. THEY
HAVE ALREADY REGISTERED PUBLICLY THEIR BITTERNESS OVER
PARLIAMENT'S ADOPTION OF TWO BILLS WITHOUT CONSULTATION
WITH MINORITY GROUP MOST AFFECTED, AND ARE NOW CALLING UPON
GOA TO OPEN DISCUSSIONS WITH THEM CONCERNING
IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 7 ON BASIS OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING
AND COMPROMISE.

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8. SLOVENE MINORITY IS NOT WITHOUT ITS SUPPORTERS AMONG NON-SLOVENIAN AUSTRIANS, WHO ARE FOUND IN RANKS OF YOUTH, ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, INTELIGENTSIA AND MORE MODERATE ELEMENTS IN POLITICAL PARTIES OUTSIDE CARINTHIA. ACTION COMMITTEES OPPOSING CENSUS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED IN NUMBER OF PROVINCES AND CAN BE EXPECTED TO LAUNCH ACTION PROGRAMS IN WAKE OF ADOPTION OF LEGISLATION. YOUNG PEOPLE PARTICULARLY WILL FIND MINORITY CAUSE APPEALING TO THEIR SENSE OF JUSTICE AND MORALITY.

9. OUTLOOK: MOST INDICATORS SUGGEST MINORITY CONTROVERSY IS MOVING TOWARD MAJOR CONFRONTATION IN EARLY FALL IF NOT SOONER. SLOVENE MINORITY AND YUGOSLAV SUPPORTERS HAVE SHOWN CONSIDERABLE DEGREE OF RESTRAINT HERETOFORE, LARGELY BECAUSE GOA IS PAST RECOGNIZED ITS DEFICIENCY IN NOT FULLY IMPLEMENTING ARTICLE 7 AND STATED IT WAS ATTEMPTING TO DEVELOP POLICY TO DO SO. NEWLY ADOPTED LEGISLATION NOW SETS PARAMETERS FOR IMPLEMENTING ARTICLE 7 AND WITH REGARD TO BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS MAKES THEIR ERECTION IN EFFECT CONDITIONAL ON MINORITY CENSUS. THOSE OPPOSED TO CENSUS AND TO GOA'S APPROACH TO IMPLEMENTING ARTICLE 7 NOW HAVE DEFINITE TIMETABLE AND ENACTED LEGISLATION AGAINST WHICH TO RALLY. AUSTRO-GERMAN NATIONALIST ELEMENTS, ALSO UNHAPPY WITH NEW LEGISLATION, CAN BE EXPECTED TO TRY TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR DOMINANT POSITION IN NEXT MONTHS, THUS ADDING TO SENSE OF FRUSTRATION AND ANXIETY IN CARINTHIA, PARTICULARLY AMONG MEMBERS OF MINORITY. AND AUSTRIAN SOCIALIST LEADERSHIP, WHICH HAS NEGLECTED SLOVENIAN MINORITY CONTROVERSY IN RECENT YEARS AND, THANKS TO ITS MARXIST ECONOMIC PREDILECTIONS, STILL DOES NOT REALLY UNDERSTAND PHENOMENON OF NATIONALISM AMONG SMALL ETHNIC GROUPS IN EUROPE, FEELS ON BALANCE THAT EVOLVING SITUATION IS MANAGEABLE. THERE IS GENERAL FEELING THAT CHANCELLOR KREISKY, WHO HAS RESOLVED IN PAST SO MANY OTHER NEAR IMPOSSIBLE SITUATIONS FOR PARTY AND STATE, WILL IN END BE ABLE TO PERFORM SIMILAR FEAT IN CARINTHIA WITH MINORITY CONTROVERSY. ONE POLITICAL LEADER INVOLVED IN DEVELOPING THREE-PARTY AGREEMENT PUT EVOLVING SITUATION IN MORE REALISTIC PERSPECTIVE WHEN, IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST

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FOR HIS EVALUATION OF PROSPECTS, HE STATED THAT SITUATION OFFERS NO CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM. IF ANYTHING, SITUATION SEEMS TO BE MOVING IN DIRECTION OF GREATER PROSPECT OF VIOLENCE WITH SOME AMONG SLOVENIAN MINORITY TALKING ABOUT "SOUTH TYROLEAN APPROACH" (I.E. BOMBINGS AND ATTACKS ON GOVERNMENT EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES) AS BEST MEANS OF DEALING WITH ISSUE. SUCH DEVELOPMENT WOULD ONLY FURTHER EMBITTER POLITICAL CLIMATE IN CARINTHIA AND WOULD HAVE SOME OBVIOUSLY DISTURBING IMPLICATIONS FOR AUSTRO-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS. BUCHANAN

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 EB-07 SAJ-01 NSC-05 INR-07 CIAE-11

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R 161301Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDOC 7406
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMCONSUL ZAGREB

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BELGRADE 4700

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PINT AU YO
SUBJ: YUGOSLAV REACTION TO AUSTRIAN MINORITY AND CENSUS LAWS

REF: (A) BELGRADE 1008, (B) BELGRADE 1983, (C) VIENNA 5712

1. SUMMARY: YUGOSLAVS HAVE REACTED TO AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT PASSAGE OF MINORITY AND CENSUS LAWS WITH AIDE MEMOIRE PROTESTING THE LEGISLATION AND BY MOUNTING INTENSE PRESS AND POLITICAL PRESSURE CAMPAIGN. KREISKY'S SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE PAHR IS NOW IN BELGRADE TO DISCUSS ISSUE, WITHOUT ANY APPARENT SUCCESS THUS FAR.

END SUMMARY

2. NEGATIVE GOY REACTION TO AUSTRIAN MINORITY AND CENSUS BILLS GIVEN PROMINENT FRONT PAGE, ABOVE FOLD COVERAGE IN BOTH JUL 13 BORBA AND POLITIKA, ARTICLES WERE KEYED TO FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL'S JUL 12 MEETING AT WHICH FEC APPROVED AIDE MEMOIRE TO GOA . IN PROTEST OF AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT'S JUL 7 PASSAGE INTO LAW OF BOTH BILLS. HEADLINES IN BOTH PAPERS WERE SIMILAR (POLITIKA:"AUSTRIA VIOLATES PRECISE PROVISIONS", AND BORBA, "AUSTRIA RUDELY VIOLATES PROVISIONS OF

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STATE TREATY"). DESPITE COVERAGE OF OTHER SUBJECTS DISCUSSED AT FEC MEETING, MINORITIES QUESTION RECEIVED BULK OF PRESS PLAY, AND BOTH DAILIES CARRIED ENTIRE TEXT LENGTHY YUGOSLAV PROTEST.

3. TANJUG SAME DAY REPORTED THAT GOY VIEWED THE TWO BILLS TO BE IN "VIOLATION OF THE CLEAR SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE STATE TREATY AND ARE AN ATTEMPT AIMED AT ITS UNILATERAL REVISION". TANJUG FURTHER STATED THAT

THE LATEST VIOLATION OF THE EXISTING INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS OF" THE GOA AND THAT GOA "EXCLUSIVELY...WILL BEAR RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUCH ARBITRARY VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE STATE TREATY AND THE ATTEMPTS TO REVISE THEM UNILATERALLY, WHICH CANNOT REMAIN WITHOUT CONSEQUENCES FOR YUGOSLAV-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS". PRESS JUL 14-16 CONTINUING TO CARRY STEADY BARRAGE ARTICLES IN OPPOSITION TO AUSTRIAN ACTION.

4. GOY AIDE MEMOIRE ITSELF PRESENTED GOY'S EXPOSITION OF THE INEQUITIES THE TWO BILLS SUPPOSEDLY WILL BRING UPON AUSTRIA'S YUGOSLAV MINORITIES. IT WAS LESS STRIDENT THAN THE PRESS REPORTING AND HELD OUT PROMISE FOR THE CONSOLIDATION OF "THE FOUNDATION FOR THE PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF YUGOSLAV-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS AND PROVISIONS OF THE STATE TREATY IN FULL, WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS AND CONDITIONS".

[APPROXIMATELY 10 LINES OF TEXT APPEARING IN THIS PLACE WERE WITHHELD FROM DISCLOSURE]

[THE ENTIRE PAGE 03 OF SECTION 1 CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 10 LINES OF TEXT WAS WITHHELD FROM DISCLOSURE]

NOTE BY OC/T: TEXT AS RECEIVED

[THE ENTIRE SECTION 2 CONSISTING OF TWO PAGES AND AN ESTIMATED 54 LINES OF TEXT WAS WITHHELD FROM DISCLOSURE]

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STATE TREATY"). DESPITE COVERAGE OF OTHER SUBJECTS DISCUSSED AT FEC MEETING, MINORITIES QUESTION RECEIVED BULK OF PRESS PLAY, AND BOTH DAILIES CARRIED ENTIRE TEXT LENGTHY YUGOSLAV PROTEST.

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BILLS TO BE IN "VIOLATION OF THE CLEAR SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE STATE TREATY AND ARE AN ATTEMPT AIMED AT ITS UNILATERAL REVISION". TANJUG FURTHER STATED THAT

THE LATEST VIOLATION OF THE EXISTING INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS OF "THE GOA AND THAT GOA "EXCLUSIVELY...WILL BEAR RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUCH ARBITRARY VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE STATE TREATY AND THE ATTEMPTS TO REVISE THEM UNILATERALLY, WHICH CANNOT REMAIN WITHOUT CONSEQUENCES FOR YUGOSLAV-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS". PRESS JUL 14-16 CONTINUING TO CARRY STEADY BARRAGE ARTICLES IN OPPOSITION TO AUSTRIAN ACTION.

4. GOY AIDE MEMOIRE ITSELF PRESENTED GOY'S EXPOSITION OF THE INEQUITIES THE TWO BILLS SUPPOSEDLY WILL BRING UPON AUSTRIA'S YUGOSLAV MINORITIES. IT WAS LESS STRIDENT THAN THE PRESS REPORTING AND HELD OUT PROMISE FOR THE CONSOLIDATION OF "THE FOUNDATION FOR THE PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF YUGOSLAV-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS AND COOPERATION", IF THE GOA "WILL REALLY START IMPLEMENTING PROVISIONS OF THE STATE TREATY IN FULL, WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS AND CONDITIONS".

5. AMBASSADOR WAS BRIEFED JUL 14 BY [APPROXIMATELY THREE LINES OF TEXT OR 130 CHARACTERS APPEARING IN THIS PLACE WERE WITHHELD] SAID GOY'S REACTION HAD EXCEEDED AUSTRIAN EXPECTATIONS. AUSTRIANS ARE PARTICULARLY DISMAYED BY GOY CLAIM THAT MINORITIES LEGISLATION WOULD DETRACT FROM EXISTING MINORITY RIGHTS IN AUSTRIA. [27 CHARACTERS OF TEXT WITHHELD] REPEATEDLY ASKED ASST FEDERAL FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECRETARY MILICEVIC FOR YUGOSLAV BASIS TO THIS CLAIM, BUT MILICEVIC'S RESPONSES AVOIDED SPECIFICS

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AND MERELY REPEATED FORMULATION. [APPROXIMATELY 55 CHARACTERS APPEARING HERE WERE WITHHELD] [SUBSEQUENTLY TOLD HIM PRIVATELY NOT TO WORRY TOO MUCH ABOUT ISSUE (A LINE ECHOED BY EMPLOYEE OF SLOVENIAN DELEGATION TO FEDERAL ASSEMBLY, WHO ALSO COMMENTED ORDINARY SLOVENES DO NOT FEEL AUSTRIANS DISCRIMINATING AGAINST THEIR BRETHREN. AUTHOR OF SHARPLY-WORDED NIN EDITORIAL ON SUBJECT SAID HE FORCED TO WRITE IT AND FOUND SUBJECT "A BIG BORE").

NOTE BY OC/T: TEXT AS RECEIVED

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO_00 SS-15 EB-07 SAJ-01 NSC-05 CIAE-00

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R 161301Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7407
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMCONSUL ZAGREB

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BELGRADE 4700

6. [20 CHARACTERS WITHHELD HERE]
TO EXPLAIN TO GOY THAT CENSUS NOT LEGALLY CONNECTED
OR PRECONDITION OF MINORITY RIGHTS BILL. THEY ALSO
FREELY ADMIT THAT KREISKY PERSONALLY DID NOT WANT
CENSUS AND HAD TO COMPROMISE WITH OTHER PARTIES, WITH
PRICE FROM KREISKY BEING LANGUAGE CENSUS.

7. BOTH EXPECT SLOVENIAN BOYCOTT OF CENSUS WITH PARTIAL
CROATIAN SUPPORT, KREISKY IS SAID TO FEAR A SEMI-
BOYCOTT. IN THE CASE OF A COMPLETE BOYCOTT, THE CENSUS
WILL BE REGARDED AS IRRELEVANT AND THE SUBSTANTIVE
LEGISLATION WOULD
NOT BE LINKED TO THE CENSUS ITSELF. [10 CHARACTERS WITH-
HELD HERE] THAT THE GOY HAS SUFFICIENT OTHER STATISTI-
CAL INDICES, I.E. MINORITY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE, TO GIVE
THEM FLEXIBILITY IN IMPLEMENTING SUBSTANTIVE LEGISLATION.
A SEMI-BOYCOTT, HOWEVER, WOULD PROVIDE GOA WITH POLITICAL
PROBLEMS FROM GERMAN NATIONALIST GROUPS WHO WOULD ARGUE
THAT THE SLOVENE MINORITY IS SMALLER THAN GOA WILLING
TO CONCEDE.

8. [] TERMED KEY ISSUE TO BE USE OF SLOVENE LANGUAGE
IN COURTS AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES IN DISTRICTS
WITH SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS OF SLOVENES, SINCE IN
CARINTHIA ONLY THE SLOVENES ARE BILINGUAL (THE GERMANS
DON'T SPEAK SLOVENIAN), THE SLOVENES FEEL THEY WILL

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HAVE EMPLOYMENT PREFERENCES, INDEED THE SLOVENES WANTED A PROVISION INCORPORATED INTO THE SUBSTANTIVE LEGISLATION CALLING FOR CIVIL SERVANTS IN COURTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES IN SUCH DISTRICTS TO BE BILINGUAL. [] THAT SLOVENES DID HELP TO DRAFT THE SUBSTANTIVE LEGISLATION.

9. [] GOY TO KEEP THE ISSUE ALIVE UNTIL NOVEMBER WHEN THE CENSUS IS SCHEDULED. AUSTRIANS ARE WORRIED THAT THE MATTER COULD SERIOUSLY AFFECT AUSTRIAN-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS. THEY FEEL GOY MAY INTERNATIONALIZE ISSUE BY RAISING IT AT UN OR AT NAC IN COLOMBO. [] CLAIMED THAT AUSTRIANS, IF PERMITTED, COULD RESOLVE ISSUE TO SATISFACTION OF ALL SINCE THEY WOULD IMPLEMENT SUBSTANTIVE LAW FLEXIBLY.

10. PAHR HELD PRESS CONFERENCE FILLED WITH RINGERS FROM LJUBLJANA AND SLOVENIAN PAPERS IN KLAGENFURT. MOST OF CONFERENCE WAS TAKEN UP BY EXCHANGE OF CRITICAL POSITIONS BETWEEN YUGOSLAV QUESTIONERS AND PAHR. AT CONFERENCE PAHR RELEASED TEXT OF JUL 14 AUSTRIAN AIDE MEMOIRE TO GOY DEFENDING GOA LEGISLATION. PAHR STATED HE AND MINIC HAD MET EARLIER IN THE DAY WITHOUT ACHIEVING A MEETING OF MINDS ALTHOUGH BOTH AGREED EXCHANGE WAS USEFUL. DPA CORRESPONDENT ASKED ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF INTERNATIONALIZING ISSUE, TO WHICH PAHR RESPONDED: "WE WOULD REGRET IT. IT WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT RELATIONS WITH YUGOSLAVIA. WE VALUE OUR RELATIONS WITH YUGOSLAVIA, BUT WE DO NOT FEAR INTERNATIONALIZATION."

II. YUGOSLAV PRESS REACTION TO THESE AUSTRIAN EFFORTS TO EXPLAIN AND CONCILIATE HAVE BEEN PREDICTABLY INFLEXIBLE. TANJUG EDITORIAL CARRIED IN BORBA JUL 16 SAYS IF PAHR CAME TO BELGRADE BECAUSE OF IMPRESSION YUGOSLAVS MISUNDERSTOOD AUSTRIAN LAW, HE SHOULD HAVE SAVED HIS TIME. THEY DO UNDERSTAND, HEART OF PROBLEM IS THAT CENSUS CHALLENGES BASIC POINT, I.E. NUMBER OF SLOVENES IS IRRELEVANT AS ISSUE IS "HISTORICAL HERITAGE AND RIGHTS ARISING FROM THE UN CHARTER".

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I) COMMENT: A GOOD PART OF STRENGTH OF GOY REACTION ATTRIBUTABLE TO FEELING THAT KREISKY HAD BACKED AWAY FROM POSITIONS EXPRESSED TO KARDELJ AND TITO IN PRIVATE MEETINGS EARLIER THIS YEAR. [APPROXIMATELY 36 CHARACTERS WITHHELD] KREISKY HAD MADE VERY CLEAR THAT HE WAS NOT GOING TO MAKE SAME POLITICAL MISTAKE WHICH HE MADE IN 1972 AND LET THE AUSTRIAN SOCIALIST PARTY GET OUT FRONT ON THIS ISSUE. HE HAD OPENLY DESCRIBED HIS PLANS AND HOPES TO KARDELJ AND TITO BUT WAS NOT SUCCESSFUL IN DISENTANGLING SUBSTANTIVE LEGISLATION FROM CENSUS AS MUCH AS HE WANTED TO. BUT FROM GOY POINT OF VIEW THAT SIMPLY MEANS THEIR PRESSURE LESS EFFECTIVE THAN PRESSURE OF "REACTIONARY ELEMENTS" IN AUSTRIA AND GOY PREFERS TO BE EFFECTIVE WHEN APPLYING PRESSURE. SILBERMAN

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R 171337Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0732
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, AU, YO
SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN-YUGOSLAV MINORITY DISPUTE

1. FSFA ASSISTANT SECRETARY BERNARDIC CALLED IN CHARGE NOV 17 TO 'ACQUAINT' US AS ONE OF THE SIGNATORIES OF THE AUSTRIAN STATE TREATY WITH CONTENT OF GOY NOTE PRESENTED TO AUSTRIANS NOV 11. (IF NOTE PUBLISHED NOV 13 IN PRESS HEP NOT AVAILABLE TO DEPARTMENT VIA FBIS, EMBASSY WILL TRANSMIT.) BERNARDIC BEGAN BY STRESSING THAT GOY WAS NOT REQUIRING ANYTHING OF THE SIGNATORIES. AS THE NOTE HAD BEEN PUBLISHED IN THE PRESS HE DID NOT WISH TO REVIEW ITS CONTENT WHICH, IN ANY CASE, CONTAINED NOTHING NEW AND NOT ALREADY STATED BY THE GOY. HE NOTED THAT YUGOSLAVIA HAS "EXCELLENT" BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH AUSTRIA, BUT HE SAID THAT THEY DO HAVE ONE "HEAVY PROBLEM" WHICH IS THE "POLICY OF FORCEFUL ASSIMILATION OF BOTH CROATIAN AND SLOVENIAN MINORITIES". GOY INTEREST TWOFOLD: FIRST, THIS MATTER RELATES TO "OUR" MINORITY AND SECOND YUGOSLAVIA IS A SIGNATORY OF THE STATE TREATY.

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2. BERNARDIC STATED THAT THE GOY HAD TIMED THE NOTE TO COINCIDE WITH THE CENSUS WHICH THEY CONSIDERED A "FLAGRANT VIOLATION" OF THE AUSTRIAN STATE TREATY, AS IT

PLACED CONDITIONS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TREATY. THE GOY WAS IN ADVANCE REJECTING ANY RESULTS OF THE CENSUS, AUSTRIA WAS OBLIGED TO CARRY OUT ITS OBLIGATIONS TOWARD THE MINORITIES ON THE BASIS OF THE TIVATY AND ANY OTHER BASIS WAS SIMPLY A NARROWING OF THE RIGHTS GUARANTEED BY THE TREATY. THIS INSISTENCE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TREATY IS A "PERMANENT POLICY" OF YUGOSLAVIA AND A POLICY OF FORCEFUL ASSIMILATION COULD NOT HELP BUT AFFECT BILATERAL RELATIONS.

3. BERNARDIC NOTED THAT HE HAD ALREADY TALKED WITH THE FRENCH CHARGE AND THAT BOTH THE BRITISH AND THE SOVIET AMBASSADORS WOULD BE COMING IN LATER NOV 17. IN ADDITION, ON NOV 18 BERNARDIC WOULD BE SEEING ALL OTHER SIGNATORIES OF THE STATE TREATY WITH THE SAME OBJECT OF INFORMING THEM OF THE CONTENT OF THE GOY'S NOTE.

4. CHARGE RESPONDED BY EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR THIS INFORMATION AND FOR COPY OF NOTE.

[AN ESTIMATED 18 LINES OF TEXT ON THIS PAGE AND THE ENTIRE THIRD PAGE OF THE TELEGRAM CONSISTING OF AN ESTIMATED 20 LINES OF TEXT WERE WITHHELD]

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R 031515Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0275
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

UNCLAS VIENNA 9987

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, YO, AU
SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN REPLY TO YUGOSLAV NOTE ON MINORITIES

REF: BELGRADE 7445

1. GOA, IN NOTE OF DECEMBER 1 CIRCULATED FOR INFORMATION TO ALL DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS ACCREDITED TO AUSTRIA, HAS REPLIED TO YUGOSLAV NOTE OF NOVEMBER 11 WHICH ACCUSED AUSTRIA OF FLAGRANT VIOLATION AND ATTEMPTED REVISION OF 1955 STATE TREATY THROUGH AUSTRIAN LANGUAGE CENSUS OF NOVEMBER 14 AND ETHNIC GROUPS ACT OF 1976. NOTE SAID GOA "MUST PROTEST AGAINST THESE UNFOUNDED ACCUSATIONS AND ONCE MORE VIGOROUSLY REFUTE THEM". IN ADDITION TO USUAL ARGUMENTS CONCERNING GOA'S SOVEREIGN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT CENSUS AND INTENT TO FULFILL AND EVEN EXCEED REQUIREMENTS OF STATE TREATY IN PROTECTING MINORITIES' RIGHTS AND INTEREST, NOTE REGISTERED "ASTONISHMENT" OVER ATTACKS

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM VIENNA 09987 (CONTINUED P.2)

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THAT HAVE FOR MONTHS BEEN LAUNCHED BY YUGOSLAV MEDIA AND POLITICAL DIGNITARIES AGAINST AUSTRIA AND HER ETHNIC GROUP POLICY. NOTE ENDS WITH EXPRESSION OF DESIRE FOR EXPANDED AND BEST POSSIBLE RELATIONS BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND YUGOSLAVIA.

2. COPY OF GOA NOTE IN GERMAN, WITH INFORMAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION, AND COVERING CIRCULAR NOTE POUCHED ALL ADDRESSES EXCEPT ROME. BUCHANAN

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FOIA Case No. 720721, Documents released on 20 May 1977

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(01) 11 JAN 77 p.-2-

Slovene Minority: After the two major Slovene organizations had demanded an early meeting of the defunct contact committee and neither People's Party nor Freedom Party had raised any objections, political quarters expect Chancellor Kreisky soon to call such a meeting. The Slovenes prefer negotiations in the (informal) contact committee rather than in the minority advisory council which was to be established under the minority law. (Independent DIE PRESSE, Jan. 11)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(02) 21 JAN 77 p.-2-

Minority Summit: A tripartite summit meeting chaired by Chancellor Bruno Kreisky discussed the projected ordinance on bilingualism in courts and offices, Jan. 21. The next meeting has been set for Jan. 31 on which the so-called contact committee with the Slovenes will also meet. Governor Leopold Wagner said the Carinthian provincial government has agreed to send four Socialist, two People's Party and one Freedom Party representative into the Slovene minority advisory council, with the Catholic Church getting one seat and the Slovene organizations the remaining eight. (Independent DIE PRESSE, et al., Jan 22)

Bomb Plot: Secretary Filip Warasch of the Council of Carinthian Slovenes is under arrest after a 60-year-old man identified as Gottfried Güttler turned explosives and a fuse over to police. While Warasch denies it, Güttler asserts that he got the bomb from Warasch to blow up a Klagenfurt transformer station on the eve of last November's language census. Meanwhile, Slovene organizations demanded that Warasch be released. (Independent DIE PRESSE, KURIER, et al., Jan. 22, 23 & 24)

FOIA Case No. 720721, Documents released on 20 May 1977

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(03) 24 JAN 77 p.-2-

Bomb Plot: While top spokesmen of all three Carinthian Parties called for a speedy investigation of the bomb plot charge brought against Slovene official Filip Warasch, Carinthia's Communists warned against attempts to misuse the Warasch arrest for diverting attention from the unfulfilled obligations towards the minority. (Independent SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, Jan. 24; Communist VOLKSSTIMME, Jan. 25)

COMMENT -- The arrest of a Slovene minority official on a bomb plot charge is seen by independent OBEROSTERREICHISCHE NACHRICHTEN of Jan. 24 as an "extremely unpleasant" development in view of the unsolved minority situation in Carinthia. The paper charges the Carinthian parties with procrastination, but also scores the minority leaders for their lack of realism. In this context, the Linz paper speaks of an "hysterical escalation" of the issue and growing radicalization in the province.

FOIA Case No. 720721, Documents released on 20 May 1977

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(03) 24 JAN 77 p.-2-

Austrian Institute: The Austrian National Committee on the U.S. Bicentennial has not decided on where the planned chair of Austrian studies , Austria's Bicentennial gift, is to be located. The committee's fund drive netted an unexpected 12 million schillings to be matched by the government contributions. (Independent DIE PRESSE, Jan. 25)

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 TSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02
SAJ-01 /061 W

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R 281544Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0640
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL ZAGREB
CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 VIENNA 0706

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, YU, AU
SUBJECT: SLOVENE MINORITY CONTROVERSY: MOST RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

CINCUEFOR POLAD

REF: A) VIENNA '76 9485, B) VIENNA '76, 5712

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: IMPASSE OVER SLOVENE MINORITY CONTROVERSY CONTINUES BUT LEVEL OF PARTISAN POLEMICS HAS ALREADY DECLINED AND GOA HAS TAKEN NUMBER OF MINOR STEPS IN RECENT WEEKS TO EASE AUSTO-YUGOSLAV TENSIONS OVER ISSUE. IN WAKE OF LIMITED VALUE OF STATISTICS FROM NOVEMBER 1976 LANGUAGE CENSUS, GOA NOW CONSIDERING STATISTICAL PLOY WHICH WOULD PROVIDE FOR "GENEROUS ARRANGEMENT" RE BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS. SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERSHIP, IN CHANGE OF TACTICS, NOW INDICATES ROAD SIGN ISSUE NOT PRESSING AND PREFERS ATTENTION BE GIVEN

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INSTEAD TO MORE USE OF SLOVENE IN SCHOOLS, COURTS, AND MEDIA, SAME LEADERSHIP APPEARS NONCOMMITTAL ON STAFFING ADVISORY COUNCILS PROVIDED FOR BY PROMOTION OF MINORITIES BILL, EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, BUT IS PRESSING FOR REESTABLISHMENT OF HIGH-LEVEL CONTACT COMMITTEE, LATEST TACTICAL MANEUVERING OF ALL PARTIES TO CONTROVERSY IS TAKING PLACE AGAINST BACKGROUND OF UPCOMING BELGRADE'77 MEETING, WITH ITS IMPLICATIONS ALSO FOR HUMAN RIGHTS OF MINORITIES, AND RECENT ARREST AND RELEASE OF SLOVENE LEADER FOR ALLEGED CONSPIRACY IN ABORTED BOMB PLOT IN CARINTHIA. NEXT INDICATION OF DIRECTION CONTROVERSY LIKELY TO TAKE WILL BE JANUARY 31 VIENNA MEETING BETWEEN CHANCELLOR AND LEADERS OF POLITICAL PARTIES IN PARLIAMENT AND SLOVENE MINORITY. END SUMMARY.

2. SINCE INCONCLUSIVE LANGUAGE CENSUS LAST NOVEMBER, RESULTS OF WHICH ALL PARTIES TO CONTROVERSY CLAIMED WAS VICTORY FOR THEIR RESPECTIVE CAUSES, GOA HAS TAKEN NUMBER OF MINOR STEPS TO EASE TENSION OVER ISSUE. AMONG OTHER THINGS, FOREIGN MINISTER PAHR RECENTLY REAFFIRMED GOA'S COMMITMENT TO FULFILL COMPLETELY TERMS OF ARTICLE 7 OF STATE TREATY AND STATED THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND YUGOSLAVIA WERE, WITH EXCLUSION OF ARTICLE 7 CONTROVERSY, GENERALLY GOOD AND CONTINUE TO IMPROVE. IN ACCORD THEREWITH, GOA HAS SOUGHT TO RE-ENGAGE GOY IN NUMBER OF ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS AND EXCHANGE OF VISITS. DOMESTICALLY, CHANCELLOR RECENTLY MET WITH LEADERS OF THREE PARTIES IN PARLIAMENT AND PARTY AND GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIPS FROM CARINTHIA TO DISCUSS NEXT STEPS TO BE TAKEN IN CONNECTION CONTROVERSY. INITIAL PUBLIC COMMENTARIES BY RANKING PARTICIPANTS IN MEETING WERE CONCILIATORY AND INCLUDED AFFIRMATION OF NEED FOR GENEROUS ARRANGEMENT WITH REGARD TO BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS, ONE

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OF MAJOR ITEMS OF CONTROVERSY. ALSO NOTED AS OFFERING POSSIBILITY FOR FRESH START ON DEALING WITH CONTROVERSY WAS ANNOUNCEMENT AT END OF 1976 THAT AUSTRIA AND YUGOSLAVIA WOULD EXCHANGE NEW AMBASSADORS IN EARLY 1977.

3. ACCORDING TO UNOFFICIAL RETURNS, LANGUAGE CENSUS IN CARINTHIA, WHICH WAS EFFECTIVELY BOYCOTTED BY SLOVENE MINORITY, SHOWS ONLY FOUR COMMUNITIES HAVING MORE THAN 25 PERCENT SLOVENE-SPEAKING POPULATION, FIGURE NECESSARY FOR ERECTION OF BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS. OFFICIAL RESULTS, NOT EXPECTED UNTIL SPRING, ARE UNLIKELY TO CHANGE THIS PICTURE. THERE HAS BEEN SOME DISCUSSION IN GOA AS TO POSSIBILITY OF ARRIVING AT SLOVENE-SPEAKING POPULATION, BY SUBTRACTING GERMAN-SPEAKING POPULATION, WITH NEAR 100 PERCENT TURNOUT IN CENSUS, FROM TOTAL POPULATION.

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-111 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02
SAJ-01 /061 W

-----281905Z 091213 /45

R 281514Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0641
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL ZAGREB
CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 VIENNA 0706

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

UNDER SUCH COMPUTATION, BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS COULD BE JUSTIFIED IN 13-15 COMMUNITIES. SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERSHIP HAS NOW SHIFTED ITS TACTICAL STANCE, INDICATING THAT ROAD SIGN ISSUE IS NOT PRESSING ONE; OF GREATER CONCERN IS EXPANDING USE OF LANGUAGE IN SCHOOLS, COURTS, AND MEDIA.

4. ON FEBRUARY 1, PROMOTION OF MINORITIES BILL (REFTEL B), WHICH PROVIDES FOR GOVERNMENT SUPPORT AND FUNDING FOR MINORITIES, ENTERS INTO EFFECT. IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF BILL IS PROVISION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF MIXED (MEMBERSHIP OF WHICH HALF EACH APPOINTED BY GOVERNMENT AND MINORITIES) ADVISORY COUNCILS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES. WHILE SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERSHIP HAS NOT GIVEN EMPHATIC NO

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TO SELECTING REPRESENTATIVES TO ADVISORY COUNCIL, INDICATIONS ARE THAT SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERS ARE SKEPTICAL OF EFFICACY OF SUCH BODIES AND FEEL THAT BY THEIR CONTROL OVER FUNDS AND ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT POWER, THEY COULD IN TIME UNDERMINE POLITICAL VIABILITY OF EXISTING TWO MAJOR SLOVENE MINORITY ORGANIZATIONS. EVOLVING TACTICAL APPROACH OF SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERS THEREFORE SEEMS TO BE TO KEEP OPTION OPEN ON TAKING PART IN ADVISORY COUNCILS WHILE PRESSING AT SAME TIME FOR REESTABLISHMENT OF HIGH-LEVEL CONTACT COMMITTEE, INCLUDING LEADERS OF THREE PARLIAMENTARY PARTIES. PURPOSE OF COMMITTEE IN VIEW OF SLOVENE LEADERS WOULD BE TO PROVIDE DOWNWARD PRESSURE ON PARTY AND GOVERNMENTAL BUREAUCRACIES IN CARINTHIA TO TURN GOA COMMITMENTS IN PRINCIPLE INTO LOCAL POLICY IN SPECIFIC CASES.

5. SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERSHIP HAS QUIETLY PUT GOA ON NOTICE THAT IT FEELS HELSINKI ACCORD ALSO APPLIES TO HUMAN RIGHTS FOR MINORITIES. IN THIS CONTEXT, COMMENTS BY GOA OF "GENEROUS ARRANGEMENTS" AND SINCERE DESIRE TO FULFILL COMPLETELY ARTICLE 7 SEEMS IN PART AIMED AT DISCOURAGING SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERSHIP FROM HAVING CONTROVERSY RAISED AT BELGRADE MEETING. THUS IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT MINORITY WILL ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN SOME REAL CONCESSIONS FROM GOA BEFORE BELGRADE MEETING.

6. COMPLICATING PROBLEM OF DEALING WITH CONTROVERSY DOMESTICALLY WAS INVESTIGATORY ARREST JANUARY 22 OF SLOVENE MINORITY LEADER FILIP WARASCH IN CARINTHIA ON SUSPICION OF INCITING ANOTHER SLOVENE-SPEAKING AUSTRIAN TO DISRUPT LAST NOVEMBER'S LANGUAGE CENSUS BY BOMBING ATTACK. INDIVIDUAL IN QUESTION WHO SAID HE HAD RECEIVED EXPLOSIVES AND INSTRUCTIONS FROM WARASCH BUT HAD NOT CARRIED OUT BOMBING, DENOUNCED WARASCH TO AUTHORITIES IN MID-JANUARY, ALMOST TWO

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MONTHS AFTER PLANNED BOMBING. OTHER PUZZLING DETAILS OF CASE, INCLUDING DECISION TO MAKE PUBLIC THE KNOWLEDGE OF CASE ON SAME DAY AS CONCILIATORY STATEMENTS FROM VIENNA MEETING OF THREE POLITICAL PARTIES ON SLOVENE MINORITY CONTROVERSY, HAVE GIVEN RISE TO SPECULATION OF POSSIBLE RIGHT-WING, NATIONALIST PROVOCATION. WARASCH WAS RELEASED JANUARY 27. INVESTIGATION OF CASE REPORTEDLY CONTINUES AND IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER INDICTMENT WILL BE MADE. UNFORTUNATELY, MEDIA TREATMENT OF WARASCH CASE HAS TENDED TO GENERATE CONFRONTATIONAL STATEMENTS AND EXPRESSIONS OF MUTUAL SUSPICION AND CONCERN.

7. NEXT INDICATION ON WHICH WAY MINORITY CONTROVERSY IS LIKELY TO GO WILL BE JANUARY 31 MEETING BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF GOA AND POLITICAL PARTIES AND SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERS. BUCHANAN

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SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(04) 31 JAN 77 p.-2-

Minority Issue: A tripartite meeting in the Chancellery this afternoon is expected to reach agreement on the ordinance for bilingualism in courts and offices while the bilingual road signs question is likely to cause some difficulties yet. Chancellor Kreisky will also meet today with Slovene representatives. (Independent DIE PRESSE, KURIER, Jan. 31)

COMMENT -- In a backgrounder on the case of suspected bomb plotter and Slovene official Filip Warasch, independent SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN of Jan. 28 says Slovene organizations see in it a provocation that is designed to weaken their position in future negotiations while the German majority fears that he might be made a "Slovene martyr." The paper describes Warasch as a "hawk" among Slovene officials.

FOIA Case No. 720721, Documents released on 20 May 1977

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(05) 07 FEB 77 p.-2-

Slovene Issue: The Carinthian Socialist and People's parties decided in provincial executive board meetings Feb. 7 that the only acceptable solution of the Slovene minority issue would be a three-party solution. The third party, the Freedom Party, will finally make up its mind Feb. 26 in a so-called "borderland conference" in the town of Voelkermarkt. Socialist quarters in Carinthia meanwhile accused the Freedom Party of lacking courage and responsible leadership. It was pointed out that FPO National Chairman Friedrich Peter so far had avoided making any clear-cut statement on the Slovene issue. (Socialist KÄRNTNER TAGESZEITUNG, Feb. 8).

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(08) 10 FEB 77 p.-2-

Minority Problems: In a Klagenfurt press conference Feb. 8, Governor Leopold Wagner rejected both the Slovene demand for compulsory Slovenian classes in South Carinthian schools and the Patriotic Front demand for separate schools for minority members. Wagner denounced the "buncombe" of the Slovene leaders as well as the "apartheid" proposals made by the anti-Slovene organization. As for the question of a potential protest of the State Treaty signatories to Austria's ethnic minority policies, the Carinthian Governor declared: "This will certainly not happen because our Minorities Law is one of the best in the world. Where else can you find a country that gives a numerically small minority the right to advise the government in advisory councils?" (Socialist KÄRNTNER TAGESZEITUNG, Feb. 9).

In Vienna Feb. 7-8, talks of Chancellor Kreisky with Croat minority leaders of the Province of Burgenland produced no progress owing to differences among minority leaders. (Independent DIE PRESSE, Feb. 9).

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(07) 14 FEB 77 p.-2-

Diplomatic Notes: TANJUG news agency announced, Feb. 14, that Novak Pribicevic, assistant state secretary in the Yugoslav foreign ministry, has been appointed new Yugoslav ambassador to Austria. (Communist VOLKSSTIMME, Feb. 15) --- Carl A. Rauscher, currently heading the Austrian foreign ministry's section for Africa, Asia and Australia, has been appointed Austrian Ambassador to Peru. (Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, Feb. 15)

Minority Issue: In a People's Party information meeting on the minority issue in Carinthia, Feb. 12, (People's Party) Carinthian Deputy Governor Herbert Bacher stated that his party would accept a maximum of nine towns for the setting-up of bilingual road signs. As to bilingualism in courts and local administration, he advocated a more generous settlement. (Independent DIE PRESSE, Feb. 15; Klagenfurt People's Party VOLKSZEITUNG, Feb. 13)

FOIA Case No. 720721, Documents released on 20 May 1977

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(08) 18 FEB 77 p.-2-

Slovene Issue: After yesterday's tripartite meeting on the bilingual road signs and official language ordinances, Chancellor Bruno Kreisky expressed hope for promulgation before summer if the three Carinthian parties can agree on a definition of the area where these ordinances will apply. In yesterday's meeting of the Contact Committee with Slovene representatives, they again refused to join the minority advisory council and indicated they might take their case to the Constitutional Court. (All papers, e.g., Socialist AZ, independent DIE PRESSE, Feb. 22)

FOIA Case No. 720721, Documents released on 20 May 1977

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(09) 28 FEB 77 p.-2-

Minority Issue: Carinthia's Freedom Party Organization agreed to the setting-up of bilingual road signs in eight local communities (a total of 91 villages and settlements) and to the recognition of Slovene as an official language in a total of 14 communities after Provincial Party Chairman Mario Ferrari-Brunnenfeld had threatened to resign unless the party agreed on a formula in its Feb. 26 special conference. Both People's Party and Socialist Party spokesmen in Carinthia welcomed the decision as opening the way for a firm tripartite settlement of the minority issue. (All papers, Feb. 28)

FOIA Case No. 720721, Documents released on 20 May 1977

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(10) 28 FEB 77 p.-2-

COMMENT -- The Carinthian Freedom Party's decision to accept the tripartite agreement on bilingualism in the province's mixed-language area is seen by independent DIE PRESSE of Mar. 1 as opening the road towards a peaceful settlement of the minority issue. The paper also finds it understandable that the Slovene organizations consider the results meager, but adds that they should finally give up their resistance to joining the minority advisory council in the interest of getting projected government subsidies for the minority which the council must propose. Communist VOLKSSTIMME of Mar. 1 says it should be left to the Slovenes rather than to the Freedom Party how the issue is to be settled.

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(11) 02 MAR 77 p.-1-

Slovene Issue: The chairmen of the three parties represented in the Carinthian provincial legislature addressed a letter to Chancellor Bruno Kreisky yesterday, informing him that agreement has been reached on the territorial extent of bilingual road signs and bilingualism in courts and offices. As the last of the three parties, the Carinthian

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People's Party gave its basic approval in a meeting, Feb. 28. Provincial Chairman Herbert Bacher recalled that the school issue is still pending and expressed the hope that "outsiders" will not succeed again in heating up the atmosphere. (Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, Mar. 2; Klagenfurt People's Party VOLKSZEITUNG, Mar. 1)

COMMENT -- Both Klagenfurt party papers of Mar. 1 - Socialist KÄRNTNER TAGESZEITUNG and People's Party VOLKSZEITUNG - welcome the party agreement on bilingualism in southern Carinthia. TAGESZEITUNG asserts that the State Treaty has thus been fully and definitely fulfilled. It also recognizes the opposition parties' contribution and finds it ironic that the settlement was reached without Slovene cooperation. VOLKSZEITUNG recalls that the "reasonable" settlement headed off possible intervention by the State Treaty signatories.

FOIA Case No. 720721, Documents released on 20 May 1977

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(12) 03 MAR 77 p.-1-

Minority Issue: In a press release, the Carinthian Patriotic Front (Heimatdienst) expressed dismay over the tripartite agreement on bilingualism in the mixed-language area, asserting that the territorial extent upon which the parties agreed is not in accord with the outcome of last fall's language census. The agreement allegedly will result in a far higher number of Slovene civil servants than justified by the strength of the minority. (Klagenfurt People's Party VOLKSZEITUNG, Mar. 2)

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A coordinating committee of the two major Slovene organizations in Carinthia rejected the tripartite agreement on bilingualism as "unacceptable," Mar. 2. Minority spokesmen claim that it virtually means an extinction of the minority in many areas of Carinthia. It was also indicated that the Slovenes may take their case to the Constitutional Court. (Communist VOLKSSTIMME, Mar. 3)

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
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R 041615Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0983
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL ZAGREB
CINCEUR VAHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 1750

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, YU, AU
SUBJ: SLOVENE MINORITY CONTROVERSY: FROM IMPASSE TO POLITICAL
CRUNCH FOR SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERS

REF: VIENNA 0706

1. BEGIN SUMMARY [THE ENTIRE SUMMARY CONSISTING OF AN
ESTIMATED 17 LINES OF TEXT WAS WITHHELD FROM DISCLOSURE]

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ACCEPT ARRANGEMENTS WITH VARIOUS SWEETENERS AS INCENTIVE OR MAINTAIN ADVERSARY STANCE WITH NEGATIVE IMPLICATIONS FOR CARINTHIAN POLITICAL SCENE AND AUSTRO-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS. RATIONAL BEHAVIOR HAS NOT MARKED ACTIONS OF ALL PARTIES TO CONTROVERSY MANY TIMES IN PAST, ALTHOUGH MOST CURRENT INDICATORS SUGGEST GUARDED OPTIMISM MAY NOW BE WARRANTED ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR RESOLVING CONTROVERSY. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING A TWO-MONTH HIATUS IN WAKE OF NOVEMBER 1976 LANGUAGE CENSUS, GOA HAS MOVED TO RECENT WEEKS TO BREAK IMPASSE OVER SLOVENE MINORITY CONTROVERSY, PARTICULARLY REGARDING ERECTION OF BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS. GOA AND NATIONAL LEADERS OF THREE POLITICAL PARTIES IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY HAVE SUCCEEDED IN PERSUADING THEIR PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN CARINTHIA TO ACCEPT WHAT IS TERMED MORE GENEROUS ARRANGEMENT ON BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS. KEY EVENT TO ACHIEVEMENT OF CONSENSUS WAS STORMY SPECIAL MEETING OF FREEDOM PARTY'S (FPO) LEADERSHIP ON FEBRUARY 26 WHICH ONLY AGREED TO GO ALONG WITH GOA-NATIONAL PARTIES FORMULA AFTER PROVINCIAL CHAIRMAN THREATENED TO RESIGN IF CONSENSUS WORKED OUT IN VIENNA NOT SUPPORTED.

3. TO DOCUMENT THIS UNDERSTANDING AND KEEP THREE PARTIES IN SAME HARNESS, CHAIRMEN OF THREE POLITICAL PARTIES IN CARINTHIA SENT LETTER DATED MARCH 1 TO CHANCELLOR INFORMING KREISKY OF THEIR AGREEMENT TO ERECTION OF BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS IN NINE COMMUNITIES (91 VILLAGES AND SETTLEMENTS) AND USE OF SLOVENE LANGUAGE IN ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS AND BEFORE COURTS IN 14 COMMUNITIES OF LOWER CARINTHIA. ARRANGEMENT ON ROAD SIGNS AND LANGUAGE USE OVERCOMES FOR MOST PART SUCCESSFUL BOYCOTT BY SLOVENE MINORITY OF NOVEMBER 1976 LANGUAGE CENSUS SINCE STRICT APPLICATION OF CENSUS RETURNS WOULD HAVE JUSTIFIED ERECTION OF BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS IN ONLY 4 COMMUNITIES.

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LETTER MAKES POINT THAT ARRANGEMENTS CORRESPOND TO REALITIES IN CARINTHIA, PROVIDE EQUALITY OF TREATMENT OF CITIZENRY AND ACCORD FULLY WITH 1955 STATE TREATY. ON BASIS OF ARRANGEMENTS, GOA AND FEDERAL PARLIAMENT CAN NOW GO FORWARD WITH PREPARATION OF IMPLEMENTING ORDINANCES PROVIDED FOR IN MINORITIES LEGISLATION ADOPTED IN JULY 1976. (VIENNA 5712).

4. FOREGOING ROAD SIGN AND LANGUAGE USE ARRANGEMENTS HOWEVER DO NOT HAVE ENDORSEMENT OF SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERSHIP. AT LAST MEETING OF CONTACT COMMISSION IN MID-FEBRUARY, ATTENDED BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, PARLIAMENTARY PARTIES AND SLOVENE MINORITY REPRESENTATIVES, SPOKESMEN FOR LATTER PUT FORWARD DEMAND FOR ERECTION OF BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS IN 25 COMMUNITIES AND SUGGESTED ISSUE OF BILINGUAL EDUCATION IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS WAS MORE PRESSING MATTER THAN THAT OF ROAD SIGNS. SAME SPOKESMEN ALSO SUGGESTED THEY WOULD PROBABLY OPPOSE SLOVENE-SPEAKING AUSTRIANS BECOMING MEMBERS OF LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCILS, AS FORESEEN IN PROMOTION-OF-MINORITIES LEGISLATION, ON BASIS OF FACT THEY WERE NOT CONSULTED IN FINAL STAGES OF DEVELOPING LEGISLATION ON ADVISORY BODIES AND ABSENCE OF ANY REQUIREMENT IN STATE TREATY FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY BODIES IN CONNECTION WITH EXERCISE OF FULL MINORITY RIGHTS. THERE IS ALSO LIKELIHOOD THAT SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERSHIP WILL CHALLENGE MINORITIES LEGISLATION IN COURTS AND THEREFORE WOULD FEEL MEMBERSHIP IN SUCH BODIES COULD BE INTERPRETED AS THEIR ENDORSEMENT OF LEGAL CORRECTNESS OF THESE BODIES.

5. AUSTRO-GERMAN NATIONALIST ELEMENTS (HEIMATDIENST) IN CARINTHIA, WHO HAVE BEEN LARGELY SILENT SINCE NOVEMBER 1976 LANGUAGE CENSUS, ANNOUNCED MARCH 1, IN WAKE OF CARINTHIAN THREE-PARTY AGREEMENT, THEY WOULD

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SOON HOLD SPECIAL MEETING OF THEIR ORGANIZATION TO DEAL WITH NEW SITUATION, PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT SETTING FORTH THEIR GENERAL POSITION DECRIED THREE-PARTY ARRANGEMENT AS ATTEMPT BY CARINTHIAN GOVERNMENT TO FORCE ON POPULATION AN ARRANGEMENT NOT IN ACCORD WITH RESULTS OF NOVEMBER 14 LANGUAGE CENSUS (ONLY FOUR COMMUNITIES ELIGIBLE FOR ROAD SIGNS) AND AS OFFERING THREATENING PROSPECT OF USE OF SLOVENE LANGUAGE IN ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS IN MANY MORE COMMUNITIES, INCLUDING CAPITAL, THAN 14 NOW FORESEEN.

[AN ESTIMATED 36 LINES OF TEXT APPEARING ON PAGES 4 AND 5 OF THE TELEGRAM WERE WITHHELD FROM DISCLOSURE.]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM VIENNA 01750

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ACTION EUR-12

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CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 1750

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, YU, AU

SUBJ: SLOVENE MINORITY CONTROVERSY: FROM IMPASSE TO POLITICAL
CRUNCH FOR SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERS

REF: VIENNA 0706

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: ACT OF POLITICAL WILL OF GOA AND MAJOR
POLITICAL PARTIES IN CARINTHIA HAS BROKEN LONG-STANDING IMPASSE
ON BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS ISSUE. AGREEMENT ACHIEVED TO ERECT
BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS IN LARGER NUMBER (14) OF COMMUNITIES
THAN JUSTIFIED SOLELY (4) ON BASIS OF NOVEMBER 1976 LANGUAGE
CENSUS. AUSTRO-GERMAN NATIONALIST ELEMENTS HAVE RE-ENTERED
STRUGGLE BY DENOUNCING PROPOSED ARRANGEMENT AS SELLOUT TO
EXTREMIST SLAV GROUPS SUPPORTED BY YUGOSLAVIA. NEXT MOVE IS
UP TO SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERS WHO HAVE NOT ENDORSED
ARRANGEMENT AND WHO APPEAR TO BE WEIGHING OPTIONS:

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PAGE Ø4

SOON HOLD SPECIAL MEETING OF THEIR ORGANIZATION TO DEAL WITH NEW SITUATION. PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT SETTING FORTH THEIR GENERAL POSITION DECRIED THREE-PARTY ARRANGEMENT AS ATTEMPT BY CARINTHIAN GOVERNMENT TO FORCE ON POPULATION AN ARRANGEMENT NOT IN ACCORD WITH RESULTS OF NOVEMBER 14 LANGUAGE CENSUS (ONLY FOUR COMMUNITIES ELIGIBLE FOR ROAD SIGNS) AND AS OFFERING THREATENING PROSPECT OF USE OF SLOVENE LANGUAGE IN ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS IN MANY MORE COMMUNITIES, INCLUDING CAPITAL, THAN 14 NOW FORESEEN. HEIMATDIENST EFFORT IS AIMED AT GENERATING POLITICAL TENSIONS AND DISCORD UNDER GUISE OF PROTECTING AUSTRO-GERMAN CULTURAL-NATIONAL HERITAGE WITH REAL PURPOSE OF MAINTAINING POLITICAL POWER OF NATIONALIST ELEMENTS IN CARINTHIA.

6. OUTLOOK. MOST RECENT DEVELOPMENTS ON SLOVENE MINORITY CONTROVERSY SEEM ON BALANCE ENCOURAGING, AFTER LENGTHY IMPASSE GENERATED BY DESTRUCTION OF BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS IN 1972. ENGAGEMENT OF POLITICAL WILL OF GOA TOWARD PROMOTING SETTLEMENT OF BILINGUAL ROAD SIGN ISSUE MAY RELATE TO SHORT-TERM GOA OBJECTIVE TO ESTABLISH DEFENSIBLE RECORD ON CONTROVERSY FOR BELGRADE 77 GATHERING. SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERSHIP, FOR ITS PART, IS NOW FACED WITH ALTERNATIVES: (1) ACCEPT PROPOSED ARRANGEMENT AS PROBABLY BEST ACHIEVABLE AND JOIN ADVISORY COUNCILS AND THEREBY WORK WITHIN POLITICAL ESTABLISHMENT TOWARD GOALS OF PROTECTING AND PROMOTING MINORITY RIGHTS OR (2) REJECT ARRANGEMENT AND ADOPT ADVERSARY POSITION. LATTER POSITION WOULD PROBABLY REQUIRE YUGOSLAV SUPPORT TO MAINTAIN; IT WOULD ALSO IMPLY CONTINUING DIFFICULTY BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND AUSTRIA ON ISSUE, INCREASED LIKELIHOOD OF SUBSEQUENT PROCEEDINGS BEFORE AUSTRIAN COURTS AND THE GOOD POSSIBILITY OF STILL LATER OF INTERNATIONALIZATION OF

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ISSUE ACTIONS AND WORDS OF SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERSHIP AT THIS JUNCTURE INDICATE THAT REVIEW OF OPTIONS IS NOW UNDERWAY. RATIONAL BEHAVIOR HAS NOT IN PAST BEEN BASIS FOR MOST DECISIONS OF PARTIES TO CONTROVERSY?; IT IS THEREFORE PREMATURE TO VENTURE THAT SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERS WILL NECESSARILY BECOME STATESMANLIKE AT THIS JUNCTURE ALTHOUGH MOST INDICATORS SUGGEST GUARDED OPTIMISM MAY BE IN ORDER. BUCHANAN

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FOIA Case No. 720721, Documents released on 20 May 1977

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(13) 08 MAR 77 p.-1-

Minority Issue: Governor Leopold Wagner appealed to all Carinthians to accept the tripartite agreement on bilingualism in the province's mixed-language area. He warned that its failure could lead to grave results. (Klagenfurt Socialist KARNTNER TAGESZEITUNG, Mar. 5)

FOIA Case No. 720721, Documents released on 20 May 1977

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(14) 10 MAR 77 p.-2-

COMMENT

Commenting on the Carinthian bomb explosion which damaged a railroad bridge, both Klagenfurt party papers - Socialist KARTNER TAGESZEITUNG and People's Party VOLKSZEITUNG - of Mar. 10 take a political background for granted and warn against misguided notions of ethnic radicals. Both papers underline that the majority of Carinthians reject political terror methods.

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(16) 16 MAR 77 p.-2-

Slovene Issue: Yugoslav Charge d'affaires Milar Ribica called at the Austrian Foreign Ministry, Mar. 14 and warned that the tripartite agreement on bilingualism in Carinthia impairs mutual relations and could have impact on bilateral cooperation in many fields. (Klagenfurt People's Party VOLKSZEITUNG, Mar. 15; Communist VOLKSSTIMME, Mar. 16) -- Franci Zwitter and Matevz Grilc as top spokesmen of the two major Slovene organizations told a TANJUG correspondent that the tripartite agreement constitutes the most serious and drastic attack on the life of the minority because it reduces the Slovene territory by two thirds. They also expressed hope for further support by Yugoslavia in their struggle for ethnic rights under the State Treaty. (People's Party VOLKSZEITUNG and Socialist KARTNER TAGESZEITUNG, Mar. 15)

COMMENT -- Noting Belgrade's and the Carinthian Slovenes' rejection of the tripartite agreement on bilingualism in Carinthia, Klagenfurt People's Party VOLKSZEITUNG of Mar. 15 raises the question whether Belgrade's action might be more than a mere alibi measure to placate the minority. Asserting that Austrian minority legislation could well stand the test of international review, the paper yet suggests that contingency plans should be considered. --- Graz Catholic KLEINE ZEITUNG of Mar. 16 finds that the Slovene leaders' statement was a "last call for help" by Belgrade, but that Yugoslav reaction was rather mild and disappointing for the Slovenes, in that Yugoslavia uses strong words, but desists from internationalizing the issue. According to the paper, the tripartite agreement also dashed the Slovene leaders' hopes for profiting from disagreement among Austria's political parties.

FOIA Case No. 720721, Documents released on 20 May 1977

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(15) 24 MAR 77 p.-2-

Minority Talks: The two major Slovene organizations have been invited to a Chancellery meeting, Mar. 30, to discuss the financing of a projected Slovene dictionary of legal terms, it was revealed by Ludwig Adamovich who heads the Chancellery's Constitutional Law office. The invitation caused surprise among Slovene leaders after Chancellor Kreisky had earlier made clear he wants to channel contacts with the minority through the minority advisory council only. (Independent SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, Mar. 23)

FOIA Case No. 720721, Documents released on 20 May 1977

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(17) 25 MAR 77 p.-2-

Minority Issue: The coordinating committee of the two major Slovene organizations has decided to reject the Chancellery's invitation to negotiations on a Slovene legal dictionary. The Slovenes reportedly suspect that the government wants to establish an undercover forum for contact talks after the minority organizations refused to join the projected minority advisory council. "If they want political talks with us, they should tell us openly," a Slovene spokesman said. (Independent SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, Mar. 24; independent DIE PRESSE, Mar. 25)

FOIA Case No. 720721, Documents released on 20 May 1977

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(18) 29 MAR 77 p.-2-

Slovene Issue: Carinthian Governor Leopold Wagner reportedly said in an interview that there is a sufficient number of candidates for the minority advisory council available because their only qualifications are membership in a representative public body, such as a township council, and a personal profession as a Slovene. (Communist VOLKSSTIMME, Mar. 29)

COMMENT -- Communist VOLKSSTIMME of Mar. 29 interprets Governor Leopold Wagner's statement (see above) as an indication how the two major Slovene organizations which refuse to join the minority advisory council are to be bypassed.

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(19) 31 MAR 77 p.-2-

added. Interpreting the protection of ethnic minorities as a part of the human rights efforts, Pahr said that Austria's minority legislation is designed not only to implement commitments under international law, but to grant privileges to the minorities going beyond these obligations. (Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, Mar. 31)

Slovene Demonstration: Carinthian Slovenes want to stage a car parade round Vienna's Hofburg where the U.N. committee for the elimination of racial discrimination meets on Apr. 2. Vienna Mayor Leopold Gratz warned the demonstrators that traffic laws will be strictly enforced. (Socialist AZ, Communist VOLKSSTIMME, Mar. 31)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(20) 31 MAR 77 p.-2-

U.S. Slovenes: The oldest organization of American Slovenes "Slovenska Narodna Potporna Jednota" expressed full support for the rights of Carinthian Slovenes and protested against the Austrian government's alleged withholding of these rights. At its annual meeting in Burr Ridge, Ill., the organization addressed memoranda to U.N. Secretary General Waldheim, President Carter, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and to the U.S. Congress. (Socialist AZ, Apr. 1, quoting TANJUG)

FOIA Case No. 720721, Documents released on 20 May 1977

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(21) 01 APR 77 p.-2-

Slovene Demonstration: Some 400 Slovenes participated in a Vienna demonstration, Apr. 2, scheduled to coincide with the opening of a Vienna meeting of the U.N. committee for the elimination of racial discrimination. Spokesmen of the two major Slovene organizations said that their human rights are being violated. (Communist VOLKSSTIMME, Socialist AZ, Apr. 3)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(22) 05 APR 77 p.-1-

NEWS ROUND-UP

United Nations: Austrian President Rudolf Kirchschläger said yesterday in his opening address to the U.N. conference on the succession of states in respect of treaties that the codification of international law is of greatest importance for the implementation of the "rule of law" also in international relations. In this context, the Austrian President recalled Vienna's role as a meeting place for several U.N. conferences on international law codification. (Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, independent DIE PRESSE, Apr. 5)

Slovene Petition: A delegation of Austria's two major Slovene organizations submitted a petition to the U.N. committee for the elimination of racial discrimination currently meeting in Vienna. The petition pictures Austria's minority legislation as not only violating letter and spirit of the Austrian State Treaty but also as deviating from U.N. principles under which minority rights are not to be made dependent on certain numbers. The petition further recalls that the committee had dealt with the situation of Austrian Slovenes in earlier meetings, adding that the situation has worsened meanwhile. (Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, Communist VOLKSSTIMME, Apr. 5)

FOIA Case No. 720721, Documents released on 20 May 1977

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(23) 06 APR 77 p.-1-

NEWS ROUND-UP

Language Census: Final figures of last November's nationwide language census show that 4,747 Viennese cited Slovene as their mother tongue against only 3,941 Carinthians. The total figure for Slovene speakers throughout Austria is 13,283. Press reports recall that Slovene organizations had called for a boycott of the census in Carinthia and for "protest votes" of non-Slovenes in other provinces. Only 1.9 of 7.2 million Austrians had participated in the census. (Socialist AZ, Communist VOLKSSTIMME, Apr. 6)

FOIA Case No. 7903512, Department of State Document No. 14

CONFIDENTIAL BRIEFING DOCUMENT, 11 APRIL 1977

Description given in Defendant's Answers to Plaintiff's Second Set of Interrogatories executed by William H. Price, May 29, 1980 and filed on June 13, 1980 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, in Civil Action No. C-79-2787 ACW.

ANSWER: Document No. 14 was prepared by Susan Klingaman (Office of Central European Affairs) as a Briefing Memorandum dated 4/11/77 from Arthur A. Hartman (Bureau of European Affairs) to The Deputy Secretary concerning an upcoming meeting with Austrian Ambassador Schober.

CONFIDENTIAL BRIEFING DOCUMENT, 11 APRIL 1977

Description given in the Affidavit of Thomas W. Ainsworth filed on January 19, 1981 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, in Civil Action C-79-2787 MHP.

5. With respect to paragraph 6 (b) of the said Memorandum and Order [of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California dated December 12, 1980] the first two pages of Document 14 continue to be withheld for the reasons as follows;

Document 14 is a Confidential Briefing document dated April 11, 1977, prepared by the Bureau of European Affairs for one of the principal officials of the Department of State incident to the exchange of views between that officer and an official of a Foreign Government. One section of this paper was declassified and released to the Plaintiff entitled, 1. Slovenian Minority in Austria. Another unclassified section entitled SECTION II, ARTICLE 7 OF THE AUSTRIAN STATE TREATY, was also released to the Plaintiff. Pages one and two of the Briefing document were not considered for release to the Plaintiff because the information contained therein was irrelevant to the subject of the Plaintiff's request. Plaintiff has now specifically requested pages 1 and 2 of this document. These two pages requested are the cover sheet and introductory page of the briefing document. These two pages were classified Confidential under Executive Order 11652 [3 C.F.R. 375 (1973)] at their origin by the Assistant Secretary for European Affairs and they are not subject to automatic declassification until April 11, 1983. They continue to warrant classification under the criteria of E.O. 12065 [3 C.F.R. 190 (1979)] being properly classified under subsection 1-301 (d) because the subject matter concerns the foreign relations of the United States. These two pages are an internal memorandum from the Bureau responsible for action as respects US relations with certain foreign countries. As indicated above, they were a part of a document written for the use of one of the principal officers

CONFIDENTIAL BRIEFING DOCUMENT, 11 APRIL 1977

(Continued)

of the Department in order that he might prepare himself for an exchange of views on a range of problems with a foreign official. They contain material concerning issues of current and mutual concern to the government of the United States and that of the foreign official. Revelation of this material could cause at least identifiable damage to the conduct of foreign relations of the United States. These two pages also constitute an internal memorandum which is exempted by 5 USC 552 (b) (5) because it reflects the candid assessments of an official for the advice and guidance of a superior officer in preparation for a specific meeting in which an exchange of views and consultation was to take place. The facts contained therein are highly selective and subjectively stated to highlight the opinion and advice offered. As such these pages contain no segregable portions which could be released.

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ISSUES/TALKING POINTS

1. Slovenian Minority in Austria

Background: Article 7 of the Austrian State Treaty (attached) provides inter alia that in those areas where there are Slovene or mixed populations the Slovene language shall be accepted as an official language along with German and that road signs shall be in both languages. The treaty also provides for a proportional number of secondary schools, participation in the administrative and judicial systems on equal terms, etc. Interpretation and implementation of these provisions has been an issue for many years between Austria and Yugoslavia and the ethnic German and Slovene groups in Austria. The Slovenian minority, generally supported by Yugoslavia, charges that Austria has not fulfilled its obligations, but they have not invoked Article 57 of the State Treaty which would make the controversy a subject of four power (US, UK, France, USSR) discussion. Austria has recently intensified efforts to work out arrangements for schools, road signs, etc., but has not yet arrived at a formula satisfactory to the groups involved. We receive some congressional correspondence on behalf of Slovenians in the US; our response has been that we hope Austria and Yugoslavia will succeed in their efforts to resolve the issue (i.e. without US involvement). The Yugoslavian Embassy has raised the subject with us occasionally but has not done so recently.

Your Talking Points

- How do you assess the prospects for resolving this problem?
- We hope that a satisfactory arrangement can be worked out soon.

Attachments:

1. Biographic Information
2. Article 7 of the Austrian State Treaty

Drafted: EUR/CE:SMKlingaman:em/lr
x22005:4/11/77

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Excerpt from memorandum of April 11, 1977.

SECTION II, ARTICLE 7 OF THE AUSTRIAN STATE TREATY

HUMAN RIGHTS

1. Austria shall take all measures necessary to secure to all persons under Austrian jurisdiction without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion, the enjoyment of human rights and of the fundamental freedoms, including freedom of expression, of press and publication, of religious worship, of political opinion and of public meeting.

2. Austria further undertakes that the laws in force in Austria shall not, either in their content or in their application, discriminate or entail any discrimination between persons of Austrian nationality on the ground of their race, sex, language or religion, whether in reference to their persons, property, business, professional or financial interests, status, political or civil rights or any other matter.

Article 7-bis

1. Austrian nationals of the Slovene and Croat minorities in Carinthia, Burgenland and Styria shall enjoy the same rights on equal terms as all other Austrian nationals, including the right to their own organizations, meetings and press in their own language.

2. They are entitled to elementary instruction in the Slovene or Croat language and to a proportional number of their own secondary schools; in this connection school curricula shall be revised as necessary and a section of the Inspectorate of Education shall be established for Slovene and Croat schools.

3. In the administrative and judicial districts of Carinthia, Burgenland and Styria, where there are Slovene, Croat or mixed populations, the Slovene or Croat language shall be accepted as an official language in addition to German. In such districts topographical terminology and inscriptions shall be in the Slovene or Croat language as well as in German.

4. Austrian nationals of the Slovene and Croat minorities in Carinthia, Burgenland and Styria shall participate in the cultural, administrative and judicial systems in these territories on equal terms with other Austrian nationals.

5. The activity of organizations aiming at depriving the Croat or Slovene population of their minority character or rights shall be prohibited.

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION WITH THE AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR

13 APRIL 1977

Description given in the Affidavit of Clayton E. McManaway and Department of State's Document Index filed on April 21, 1980 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, in Civil Action No. C-79-2787 ACW.

Document No. 15.

13 April 1977, 2-page CONFIDENTIAL memorandum of conversation. Denied in full pursuant to the [5 U.S.C. 552] (b)(1) exemption.

Account of a confidential conversation between an Austrian government official and officials of the Department of State, concerning Austria's bicentennial gift and the Slovene minority issue.

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION WITH THE AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR

13 APRIL 1977

Description given in the Affidavit of Thomas W. Ainsworth and Department of State's Supplemental Document Descriptions filed on October 5, 1981 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, in Civil Action No. C.-79-2787 MHP.

5. Paragraph J [Memorandum Decision and Order of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, Part II-J, September 2, 1981, page 8] concerning the Memorandum of April 13, 1977 (document No. 15): The memorandum consisting of two paragraphs summarizes a call by the Ambassador of Austria [Karl Herbert Schober] on the Deputy Secretary of State [Warren Christopher] on April 13, 1977. It was classified Confidential at origination pursuant to E[xecutive] [O]rder 11652 [3 C.F.R. 375 (1973)] and bears the notation "GDS" meaning that it was scheduled for automatic declassification under the "General Declassification Schedule" of that Executive Order. It has hitherto been withheld in full under exemption [5 U.S.C. 552] (b)(1). Upon re-examination I have found that paragraph 1 does not relate to the subject of Plaintiff's request, but the contents of this paragraphs are not inherently sensitive and can be segregated and released. This portion of the memorandum has accordingly been declassified and a copy is attached (Attachment A). Paragraph 2 of the memorandum consists of the Austrian Ambassador's comments on the Slovenian minority problem, in the light of certain allegations from non-governmental sources in the United States. This second paragraph, which has been excised from the attached copy, sets forth the views of the Austrian Ambassador, presumably reflecting those of his government, on the minority problem in terms of the internal affairs of Austria and Austrian relations with Yugoslavia. These views constitute foreign government information conveyed in confidence and meet the criteria of Sections 1-301 (b), 1-302 and 1-404 of E.O. 12065 [3 C.F.R. 190 (1979)] for continued classification as Confidential, because their disclosure would constitute a breach of confidence which would be likely to cause identifiable damage to the national security.

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION WITH THE AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR

13 APRIL 1977

[Continued]

To the extent that fragments of this paragraph might be considered not sensitive if segregated from their context, they would be meaningless and consequently are not "reasonably segregable" within the meaning of Section 3-501 of E.O. 12065. No portion of the document mentions, or suggests the existence of, any U.S. role, obligation or responsibility under the Austrian State Treaty.

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

APPROVED AS AMENDED

IN D BY DOROTHY

BRIZILL, 4/25/77

Retyped by EUR 5/2/77.

COMPLETE DISTRIBUTION

MADE IN S/S-I

Date _____

Initial _____

SUBJECT: Austria's Bicentennial Gift,
Slovenian Minority Issue

DATE: April 13, 1977

TIME: 3:00 PM

PLACE: Mr. Christopher's
Office

PARTICIPANTS:

US

The Deputy Secretary
Dorothy Brizill - D
Susan Klingaman, EUR/CE
(Notetaker)

AUSTRIA

Ambassador Karl Schober

DISTRIBUTION: D, EUR-3, Amembassy VIENNA

Ambassador Schober said he was pleased to have the opportunity to make this courtesy call. The Deputy Secretary expressed appreciation for Austria's Bicentennial gift of two chairs in Austrian studies, one to the University of Minnesota and another to Stanford University. Noting that he is a member of the Board of Trustees at Stanford and that his son has just been admitted there, Christopher thanked the Austrian Government for its generosity. Schober said he enjoyed his visit in March to Stanford, was struck by the number of Austrian professors and students there, and commented that his third son is considering continuing his engineering studies there.

Schober said that while this was mainly a courtesy call he wanted to take the opportunity to mention the Slovenian minority problem since the Slovenian group in the United States had recently held a meeting and protested what it called "Austria's violation of human rights". Schober said [Two lines of text on this page and an estimated 28 lines on second page were withheld from disclosure.]

EUR/CE:SMKlingaman:em

x 22005 5/3/77

(DRAFTING OFFICE AND OFFICER)

EUR/CE:DAnderson

FORM 2-65 22-1224

CONFIDENTIAL

GDS

Statement provided on or about April 25, 1977 by the Austrian Embassy to Senator Alan Cranston.

Ethnic Groups in Austria
A Documentation

An Update

The local Carinthian Organizations of the three political parties represented in the Austrian Parliament arrived at a consensus at the beginning of March 1977 regarding the regulation pertaining to sign-posts and official language in the mixed-language areas of Carinthia. Accordingly, in nine communities of Carinthia, comprising 91 localities dual-language topographical inscriptions are to be erected and the Slovenian language is to be admitted in 14 communities as official language. As a result there is no longer any obstacle to promulgating the respective decrees concerning the sign-posts and official language in accordance with the Ethnic Groups Act. The decree concerning the Ethnic Advisory Councils was promulgated already on February 1, 1977. With these measures, it will be possible in the near future to implement in full in word and spirit, the provisions of Article 7 of the State Treaty and to bring about the effective solution of the Ethnic Group problems.

March 1977

THE AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR

Washington, October 23, 1978

My dear Mr. Congressman:

From a report in the Slovenian newspaper "Nas tednik" which is published in Carinthia, Austria, it has been noted that your attention was directed a short time ago to the situation of the Slovenes who live in Austria. Although I am not informed as to the statements that were made to you, I believe it is appropriate to bring the following to your attention concerning this matter.

Austria regards minorities as affording cultural enrichment to the several states, who should contribute toward furthering peaceful and friendly co-existence with neighboring peoples. Austria therefore strives to protect the continuance and free development of her minorities. From the Austrian view it is axiomatic that the Slovenes who live in Austrian territory shall have their own political, economic and cultural organizations, as well as have at their disposal a series of newspapers, magazines, publishing houses, and a cultural center. There are in Carinthia Slovenian agricultural cooperatives, Slovenian banks and a Slovenian savings institution with 20 branch offices. The "Landesstudio Kaernten" (Carinthian broadcasting studio) send programs in the Slovenian language daily, some 252 program hours annually.

./.

The Honorable
George Miller
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

THE AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR

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The various protective regulations promulgated after 1945 on the Federal and on the State level in regard to the Slovenes living in Austria were foremost directed to the use of the Slovene language in dealing with public authorities and to bi-lingual instruction in the schools. In the Ethnic Groups Act of 1976 which has passed with the unanimous agreement of all parties represented in the National Assembly, a comprehensive legal basis was provided. Going beyond the obligation, stipulated in Article 7 of the Austrian State Treaty, the lawmakers, by enacting the Ethnic Groups Act, obligated themselves not only to protecting the minorities from discrimination of any kind, but expressly to furthering the minorities; this from the conviction that mere equality does not suffice to safeguard the continuance of an ethnic group. The act therefore provides that the continuance of the ethnic groups - in addition to the Slovenians in Carinthia there are also Croatian, Hungarian and Czech ethnic groups in Austria - shall be safeguarded through furtherance measures of an economic and cultural nature. The cooperation of the ethnic groups in these furtherance measures as well as in regard to all legal measures concerning them is the duty of the Ethnic Advisory Councils. The existing ethnic group organizations exercise considerable influence on the composition of these councils, since one-half of their members are nominated by them and also the chairman is to be appointed by them. Regrettably, the Slovenian ethnic group organizations have, up to the present time, declined to name delegates to the council. This attitude makes the ethnic group furtherance intended by the Austrian Federal Government considerably more difficult. There have been recent indications, however, that an agreement in direct talks between representatives of the ethnic groups and the Federal Government may be achieved. Formal resolutions, however, are reserved for the councils.

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THE AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR

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On May 31, 1977, the Federal Government issued two decrees, according to which in 8 communities, that is in 91 localities, bi-lingual topographical inscriptions were placed and in 13 communities as well as at three district courts and three county clerks' offices Slovenian was to be added as an additional official language. Beyond that the decree also provides that other public authorities shall use the Slovenian language where this will ease contact with individuals. These measures have served to satisfy the wishes of a large part of the Slovenian population, those who are not willing to have their enjoyment of the enacted legal rights thwarted by the obstructionist politics of the existing Slovenian organizations.

The question of schools, so important for the protection of the minorities, had already been regulated by the Minority School Act of 1959 in consonance with the Austrian State Treaty. This gives parents the possibility of sending their children to a school of their choice. There are in Carinthia at this time: A "Gymnasium" (classical secondary school) with about 500 pupils, which by virtue of its equipment is acknowledged to be among the most modern and best in Austria; 24 "Hauptschulen", with Slovenian as the second language; 2 Slovenian home economics schools for girls, a Slovenian agricultural continuation school (agricultural high school) and 85 bi-lingual elementary schools.

It must surely be recognized without a doubt that Austria has put her goodwill to the test, in affording to the ethnic groups the necessary pre-conditions for their continuance. The existing Slovenian Carinthian organizations have proven their ability to survive, last but not least, in that they know how to express their wishes and demands in spite of the fact that they represent only a very small percentage of the total population of Carinthia.

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THE AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR

- 4 -

Austria also showed understanding when the Carinthian Slovenes appealed to Ljubljana and Belgrade for support. It would appear that the Austrian efforts have now succeeded in directing the discussions with Yugoslavia into objective channels and to have convinced Yugoslavia of the credibility of Austria's minority policy and, above all, of the necessity that, since the legal prerequisites now exist, an internal evolution must now follow, in the course of which the Slovenian ethnic group should avail itself to the utmost of the possibilities that are afforded.

Please accept, Mr. Congressman, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Karl Herbert Schober

THE DISTINGUISHED VISITING PROFESSORSHIP IN AUSTRIAN STUDIES

One of the most remarkable legacies to Stanford from the American Bicentennial was a gift from the people of Austria to establish the Visiting Professorship in Austrian Studies. In 1976, \$450,000 was raised by popular subscription in Austria. The gift was presented to Stanford in the following year by an Austrian delegation led by Professor Manfred Mautner-Markhof, president of the Austro-American Society. Also included were Dr. Karl Herbert Schober, Austrian ambassador appointee to the United States, and Professor Stephen Koren, leader of the minority opposition party, the People's Party.

Professor Mautner-Markhof was Austria's first foreign exchange student in America's colleges after World War II. In presenting the gift, he stressed that the overwhelming response of the Austrian people to the subscription drive was an expression of their appreciation of American economic aid to Austria after the war. He also spoke of Stanford's "magnificent" reputation in Austria, where the University has maintained an overseas campus since 1965.

The chair rotates from field to field to present a broad view of the Austrian society and culture. It is hoped that a further effect will be to strengthen the Austro-American relationship on the West Coast.

The Distinguished Visiting Professor of Austrian Studies for 1977-78 was Friedrich Fellner, professor of history at the University of Salzburg. In 1978-79, Herbert Zeman, professor and chairman of the Germanic Institute of the University of Vienna, held the chair and taught courses on the Austrian mind, Viennese classicism, and naturalism.

Information provided by the Provost's Office,
Stanford University, October 8, 1981.

FOIA Case No. 720721, Documents released on 20 May 1977

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(24) 13 APR 77 p.-2-

Slovene Minority: Carinthian Governor and Socialist Party Chairman Leopold Wagner has warned the leaders of the Slovene minority against a "regretable trend toward radicalization" as not in keeping with what Carinthians of either language expect of responsible leaders. The threat of Slovene spokesmen to initiate an internationalization of the minority issue was rejected by Wagner as "ridiculous." He also criticized the alleged attempts of Slovene leaders to disqualify as renegades any Slovenes who are willing to cooperate with the minority advisory council as nominees of political parties. (Socialist AZ, independent KURIER, DIE PRESSE, Graz Catholic KLEINE ZEITUNG, Apr. 13)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM VIENNA 03247, 25 APRIL 1977

Description given in the Affidavit of Clayton E. McManaway and Department of State's Document Index filed on April 21, 1980 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, in Civil Action No. C-79-2787 ACW.

Document No. 7.

25 April 1977, 6-page CONFIDENTIAL telegram (Vienna 3247) Released with a portion of paragraph 6 deleted pursuant to the [5 U.S.C. 552] (b) (1) exemption.

Summary of the current status and outlook of the Slovene minority controversy in which Embassy opinion concerning the possible position of a foreign government is deleted.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM VIENNA 03247

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SR-02 SS-15
USIA-06 DHA-02 TRSF-00 /060 W

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R 250823Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1500
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
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AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY ZAGREB
CINCEUR VAHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 VIENNA 3247

E.O. 11652: N/GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, YU, AU
SUBJECT: SLOVENE MINORITY CONTROVERSY: CURRENT STATUS AND
OUTLOOK

REF: VIENNA 1750

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: THE SLOVENE MINORITY ISSUE HAS DEVELOPED INTO ANOTHER CONFRONTATION BETWEEN THE GOA AND THE SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERSHIP IN WAKE OF LATTER'S REJECTION OF A GOA ARRANGEMENT ON USE OF SLOVENE LANGUAGE AND BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS IN A SMALL NUMBER OF COMMUNITIES IN SOUTHERN CARINTHIA. INDICATIONS ARE THAT GOA AUTHORITIES WILL MOVE AHEAD WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF ARRANGEMENT IN SPITE OF OPPOSITION FROM SLOVENE MINORITY ELEMENTS AND YUGOSLAVIA. SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERSHIP, NOW CAST PUBLICLY IN NEGATIVE, NON-COOPERATIVE ROLE, IS

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SEEKING TO BRING PRESSURE TO BEAR ON GOA BY PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL LETTER-WRITING CAMPAIGN AND BY SUGGESTING ITS INABILITY TO CONTROL MORE RADICAL ELEMENTS AMONG SLOVENE MINORITY CONSIDERING THE USE OF VIOLENCE TO ADVANCE THEIR OBJECTIVES. OUTLOOK IS FOR AN INCREASE IN POLITICAL TENSIONS AND A STRONG PROSPECT OF ACTS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST PUBLIC PROPERTY IN CARINTHIA IN THE NEXT MONTHS. END SUMMARY.

2. THE SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERSHIP HAS REJECTED THE ARRANGEMENT WORKED OUT IN EARLY MARCH BETWEEN THE GOA AND THE THREE MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES IN CARINTHIA REGARDING THE ERECTION OF BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS IN NINE COMMUNITIES AND THE USE OF THE SLOVENE LANGUAGE IN ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS AND BEFORE COURTS IN 14 COMMUNITIES IN SOUTHERN CARINTHIA. THE REJECTION IS BASED ON THE SLOVENIAN MINORITY CONTENTION THAT AUSTRIAN LEGISLATION ON THE PROMOTION OF MINORITIES CONFLICTS WITH THE MEANING OF ARTICLE 7 OF THE 1955 STATE TREATY. THIS INTERPRETATION FLOWS FROM THE ABSENCE OF A NUMERICAL QUALIFICATION IN THE ARTICLE CONCERNING THE REQUIRED SIZE OR PERCENTAGE OF THE MINORITY WHICH MUST BE PRESENT IN ANY COMMUNITY BEFORE MINORITY RIGHTS CAN BE ENJOYED. THE SLOVENIAN VIEW-POINT IS THAT BASING THE ARRANGEMENT ON THE 1976 LANGUAGE CENSUS HAS THE EFFECT OF SHARPLY REDUCING THE AREA OF APPLICATION OF THE TREATY.

3. IN CONTRAST, THE MAXIMUM POSITION OF THE SLOVENIAN MINORITY IS THAT ROAD SIGNS AND THE USE OF SLOVENE AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE SHOULD BE POSSIBLE IN THE SAME NUMBER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS AS HAD BEEN DECREED BY UK OFFICIALS IN THE EARLY POST-WORLD WAR II PERIOD IN CARINTHIA, WHICH WAS PART OF UK ZONE OF OCCUPATION. THIS LINE OF ARGUMENTATION CONTENDS THAT THE UK DECISION WAS BASED ON THE CLEAR KNOWLEDGE OF THE DISTRIBUTION-

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PAGE 03 VIENNA 03247 01 OF 02 250924Z

TION OF THE SLOVENIAN MINORITY IN SOUTHERN CARINTHIA AT THAT TIME. ACCEPTANCE OF THIS POSITION BY THE GOA WOULD INVOLVE THE ERECTION OF ROAD SIGNS AND THE USE OF SLOVENE AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE IN 5 TO 6 TIMES AS MANY COMMUNITIES AS FORESEEN UNDER THE MARCH 1977 ARRANGEMENT. THE SLOVENE MINORITY CASE RESTS HEAVILY ON HISTORICAL AND LEGAL ARGUMENTS WHILE THAT OF THE GOA AND CARINTHIAN POLITICAL PARTIES, AWRE OF ECONOMIC PROGRESS AS IMPORTANT FACTOR PROMOTING ETHNIC ASSIMILATION, CALLS FOR "THE RECOGNITION OF CURRENT REALITIES."

4. THE REAFFIRMATION BY THE SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERSHIP OF ITS CONFRONTATIONAL STANCE PUTS IT IN THE POSITION OF BEING CAST PUBLICLY IN A NEGATIVE, NON-COOPERATIVE ROLE. TO COUNTER THIS ADVERSE IMAGE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM VIENNA 03247 (CONTINUED P.4)

CONFIDENTIAL 1110

PAGE 01 VIENNA 03247 02 0F 02 250946Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 DHA-02 TRSE-00 /060 W
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R 250823Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1501
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL ZAGREB
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 VIENNA 3247

AND TO MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM OF ITS OPPOSITION, THE SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERSHIP HAS MOUNTED A CAMPAIGN TO GAIN SUPPORTERS FOR ITS CAUSE AND TO BRING WORLD PUBLIC OPINION TO BEAR ON THE GOA OVER THE ISSUE. DELEGATIONS OF SLOVENE-SPEAKING AUSTRIANS HELD A PROTEST RALLY IN VIENNA DURING UN SEC GEN WALDHEIM'S LAST VISIT TO THE AUSTRIAN CAPITAL, PROTEST TELEGRAMS HAVE BEEN DISPATCHED TO VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL BODIES, AND AN INTERNATIONAL LETTER-WRITING CAMPAIGN, INCLUDING ACTIVITY IN THE U.S., HAS BEEN STARTED TO BELABOR THE GOA ON ITS TREATMENT OF THE SLOVENIAN MINORITY. THE CAMPAIGN APPEARS TO HAVE BECOME IRRITANT TO CHANCELLOR KREISKY SINCE HE STATED RECENTLY THAT AN INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION SHOULD VISIT CARINTHIA AND ALSO SLOVENIA TO COMPARE THE TREATMENT OF THE SLOVENIAN-SPEAKING POPULATION IN BOTH COUNTRIES REGARDING THEIR EXERCISE OF CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS.

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5. THE GOA, FOR ITS PART, HAS RECONCILED ITSELF TO THE CONTINUING OPPOSITION OF THE SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERSHIP TO THE PROJECTED LANGUAGE ROAD-SIGNS ARRANGEMENT. IT HAS EVALUATED THE DEGREE OF EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS OPPOSITION AND THE LIKELY FUTURE REACTION OF YUGOSLAVIA ON THE ISSUE AND HAS CONCLUDED THAT DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS OUTWEIGH POSSIBLE NEGATIVE ONES CONCERNING FOREIGN POLICY AND THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ARRANGEMENT SHOULD THEREFORE GO FORWARD. THE EXPECTATION NOW IS THAT APPROPRIATE ORDINANCES AND THE ERECTION OF BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS WILL BE COMPLETED BEFORE SUMMER. THE EARLY SUMMER TIMETABLE FOR COMPLETION OF THE WORK IS PROBABLY BASED ON A GOA DESIRE TO HAVE A DEFENSIBLE RECORD OF ACTION TAKEN ON THE ISSUE. SHOULD THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT RAISE THE MATTER AT THE BELGRADE CSCE FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE. THE AUSTRIAN MFA ALSO CONSIDERS AS DISTINCT POSSIBILITIES DEMONSTRATIONS OF PROTEST RALLIES AGAINST THE GOA IN AUSTRIA AND YUGOSLAVIA DURING THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE.

6. FROM THE VIENNA VANTAGE POINT, THE GOY REMAINS ADAMANT IN ITS STANCE THAT AUSTRIAN LEGISLATION ON THE PROMOTION OF MINORITIES DOES NOT SATISFY THE COMMITMENTS ENTERED INTO BY AUSTRIA IN ARTICLE 7 OF THE 1955 STATE TREATY. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, YUGOSLAVIA ALSO SEEMS INTERESTED IN NOT HAVING THE CONTROVERSY GET OUT OF HAND AND DAMAGE BILATERAL RELATIONS IN OTHER AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. [APPROXIMATELY 9 LINES OF THE TELEGRAM APPEARING IN THIS PLACE WERE WITHHELD FROM DISCLOSURE.]

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PAGE 03 VIENNA 03247 02 OF 02 250948Z

ALSO NEGATIVE IMPLICATIONS FOR YUGOSLAVIA. [APPROXIMATELY 11 LINES OF THE TELEGRAM APPEARING IN THIS PLACE WERE WITHHELD FROM DISCLOSURE].

7. THE OUTLOOK FOR COMPROMISE AND RESOLUTION OF THE MINORITY CONTROVERSY IN THE NEAR TERM IS VERY IMPROBABLE. ALL PARTIES TO THE ISSUE HAVE ADOPTED TOUGH, IRRECONCILIABLE PUBLIC STANCES ALLOWING LITTLE FLEXIBILITY. THE SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERSHIP AND THEIR YUGOSLAV SUPPORTERS FEEL THAT IF ANY ACCOMMODATIONS ARE TO BE MADE, THEY MUST COME FROM THE GOA SIDE. THE KEY ELEMENT IN THE EQUATION IS CHANCELLOR KREISKY WHO APPEARS TO HAVE OPTED FOR A CONTINUATION OF THE GOA POLICY OF TRYING TO MANAGE THE ISSUE WITHOUT RESOLVING IT. THIS APPROACH SUGGESTS THAT CARINTHIA IS LIKELY TO BE PLAGUED BY INCREASED TENSIONS AND POSSIBLY VIOLENCE THIS SUMMER. MEEHAN.

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SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(101) 22 APR 77 p.-1-

NEWS ROUND-UP

Trial Series: In a Klagenfurt press conference, Apr. 21, Carinthia's Chief Prosecutor Wilhelm Stoiser announced a series of trials against Slovene minority members who are charged with disturbing the peace, causing property damage by spraying slogans on buildings, and destroying the ballot box for the language census in Zell Pfarre on Nov. 14, 1976. Reacting to Slovene criticism that proceedings against persons who had removed bilingual road signs in the 1972 raids had by and large been quashed, Stoiser pointed out that these acts are not criminal offenses unless causing property damage. This position was also confirmed by Justice Ministry Press Spokesman Sepp Rieder. (Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, Independent KURIER, et al., Apr. 22)

Croat Minority: The (Socialist-aligned) Conference of Croat and Mixed-Community Mayors in Burgenland has nominated six members to the Croat Minority Advisory Council, including former MP Friedrich Robak. (Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, Apr. 22)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(102) 27 APR 77 p.-2-

Slovene Rebuff: Carinthia's two major Slovene organizations gave a joint negative reply to Chancellor Bruno Kreisky's recent letter inviting them to nominate four members to the Minority Advisory Council and explaining the Minorities Law. Claiming that the law in its current version "in no way serves the interests of the Slovene ethnic group," the Slovenes' criticism was primarily directed against the ordinances under the Minorities Law which, the Slovenes charge, severely restricts the area of recognized Slovene settlement. The two groups also objected to the legal obligation for advisory council members to pledge full allegiance to the objectives of the Minorities Law. (Independent SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, Apr. 26)

No. 97

-11-

April 8, 1979

TANJUG - 13 -

Carinthian Slovenes -

Eisenkappel (Zelezna Kapla), April 7 (TANJUG). The Carinthian Slovenes have kept emphasizing their readiness for a dialogue on an equal footing with the Austrian government and this readiness is still here, Dr. Franci Zwieter, president of the Union of Slovene Organizations in Carinthia, told the organization's regular assembly here today.

The assembly, which convenes once in four years, is being attended by about 200 delegates. Attending as guests are a representative of the Socialist Alliance of Working People of Yugoslavia, president of the National Council of Carinthian Slovenes Dr Matevz Grilc, a representative of the Socialist Youth Union of Slovenia and a representative of the Slovenes in Italy.

(more)VS/SG

Carinthian Slovenes two -

Analyzing, in his report, the present situation in the minority question in Austria, Dr Zwieter said the Carinthian Slovenes can hardly be expected to agree to solutions in the spirit of the July 1976 law on ethnic groups. From the international aspect, these solutions constitute attempts at unilateral revision of the Austrian State Treaty. Ethnically, they offer legal possibilities for continued assimilation and denationalization and, in fact, mean gradual death and liquidation of the ethnic group.

Those irreconcilable provisions of the government, on the one hand, and the main Carinthian Slovene organizations representing the Slovene ethnic group in Austria, on the other, have resulted in virtual deadlock which is making much more difficult, if actually not preventing contacts between the minority and the government, Dr Zwieter said.

(more)VS/SG

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(103) 03 May 77 p.-2-

Yugoslav Relations: Drawing a parallel with the Turkish invasion of Cyprus, People's Party MP and international law expert Felix Ermacora cited the "at least theoretical risk" of Yugoslav military intervention in favor of Carinthian Slovenes, adding that the world tends to tolerate such actions and that Yugoslavia as a leader of the non-aligned nations could easily muster a majority of U.N. members. In his Bregenz lecture, Ermacora conceded, however, that there are no indications at present for any Yugoslav intentions to internationalize the minority issue. (Independent O.Ö. NACHRICHTEN, May 2; Klagenfurt People's Party VOLKSZEITUNG and Socialist KARTNER TAGESZEITUNG, May 1)

Minority Councils: Three months after the promulgation of the Minorities Law, the projected minority advisory councils for Slovenes, Croats, Hungarians and Czechs in Austria are still not functioning, mostly because of squabbles over the appointment of members. While the Slovene organizations boycott the council outright, the Hungarian minority has already named its representatives with only delegates of the political parties yet to be nominated. Rivalries between two minority organizations prevent the formation of the Croat advisory council, and unexpected difficulties arose in the case of the Czech advisory council where the established Czech organizations object to the participation of three Czech Communist groups. (Independent DIE PRESSE, May 3)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(104) 05 MAY 77 p.-2-

Slovene Action: Austrian Slovenes will contest the Minorities Law before the Constitutional Court because it allegedly revises the Austrian State Treaty (which holds constitutional rank). Chairman Franci Zwitter of the Central Association of Slovene Organizations revealed in an interview. Legal action will be started right after June 1 and July 1, respectively when the bilingualism and road signs ordinances under the Minorities Law take effect. Later in May, Zwitter will accompany a folklore group to the US. and Canada. This week he attends a meeting of Slovene minority representatives from Austria, Italy and Hungary in Murska Sobota. (Independent SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, May 5) --- Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Pahr in a radio interview criticized Slovene leaders for rejecting the Minorities Law and questioned their legitimacy to speak for the minority. (Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, et al., May 6)

SECRET INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION CABLE, 18 MAY 1977

Description given in the Affidavit of Clayton E. McManaway and Department of State's Document Index filed on April 21, 1980 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, in Civil Action No. C-79-2787 ACW.

Document No. 16.

18 May 1977, 2-page SECRET intelligence Information cable. Denied in full pursuant to the [5 U.S.C. 552] (b)(1) exemption.

Account of Yugoslav positions on human rights issue and dispute with Austria on minority issue given by intelligence source.

CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM AND CONTINGENCY PAPER, 20 MAY 1977

Description given in the Affidavit of Clayton E. McManaway and Department of State's Document Index filed on April 21, 1980 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, in Civil Action No. C-79-2787 ACW.

Document No. 13.

20 May 1977, 7-page CONFIDENTIAL memorandum including two attachments. Denied in full pursuant to [5 U.S.C. 552] (b)(1) exemption.

The memorandum transmitted a contingency paper prepared by a foreign government discussing possible reactions of other governments to the possible action of another foreign government.

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(105) 27 MAY 77 p.-1-

NEWS ROUND-UP

Bilingual Signs: Bilingual road signs in a series of Carinthian towns are to be set up by July 1 after the Austrian cabinet will approve the pertinent ordinance in its regular Tuesday meeting next week. Carinthian public safety authorities fear that the measure will not be implemented without some disturbance since the Carinthian Patriotic League, in a recent publication, called the minority ordinances unacceptable. The authorities are planning to take preventive action to head off another raid on the road signs as occurred in 1972. Expectations are that the tourist season might divert attention which is why the setting-up of the signs has been postponed from the original date of June 1. (Independent DIE PRESSE, May 27)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM BELGRADE 03728, 7 JUNE 1977

Description given in the Affidavit of Clayton E. McManaway and Department of State's Document Index filed on April 21, 1980 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, in Civil Action No. C-79-2787 ACW.

Document No. 8.

7 June 1977, 2-page CONFIDENTIAL telegram (Belgrade 3728). Released with a portion of one sentence in paragraph 4 deleted pursuant to the [5 U.S.C. 552] (b)(1) exemption.

Summary of Yugoslav-Austrian relations in connection with the minority controversy in which the source of foreign government information is deleted.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM BELGRADE 03728

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 03728 080716Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 MSAE-00 NSC-06 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-16
USIA-06 DHA-02 IO-13 /073 W
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R 071600Z JUN 77
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AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
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AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMCONSUL ZAGREB

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EO 11652 NA
TAGS: PFOR YO AU
SUBJ: YUGOSLAV-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS

1. CRITICAL PRESS PLAY ON AUSTRIAN TREATMENT OF YUGOSLAV
MINORITIES HAS PICKED UP LATELY INSPIRED BY MEETINGS OF
SUDETEN GERMANS AND OTHER GROUPS CONSIDERED HOSTILE TO
YUGOSLAVIA IN AUSTRIA AND BY GOA'S PROCLAMATION OF NEW
REGULATIONS ON BILINGUAL SIGNPOSTS.

2. EXAMPLE IS JUNE 3 BORBA COMMENTARY BY VLADO TESLIC WHO
COMPARES THE "HONORABLY INSPIRED" CARINTHIAN SLOVENES
AWAITING TRIAL FOR "HAVING QUESTIONED THE OFFICIAL POLICY
OF DENATIONALIZATION OF MINORITIES" WITH THE FACT THAT
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"ALL TRIALS OF NAZI AND GREATER GERMAN ATTACKERS

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OF BILINGUAL INSCRIPTIONS IN CARINTHIA HAVE BEEN STOPPED". TESLIC THEN NOTES THAT IN MAY IN ADDITION TO SUDETEN GERMANS THERE ASSEMBLED AT DIFFERENT TIMES IN AUSTRIA "USTASHIS...AND FORMER 'SS' MEMBERS AS WELL AS THE ASSEMBLAGE LATER THIS MONTH OF "25TH ANNIVERSARY OF HITLER'S OFFICERS...IN HITLER'S BIRTHPLACE". HE STATES THAT SUCH MINIFESTATIONS ARE A "SOCIAL EVIL AND NOT A 'SOCIAL BEING' OF AUSTRIA" WHICH FORCES ONE TO QUESTION THE POLITICAL MORALS OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE.

3. AT HIS JUNE 2 BRIEFING FSFA SPOKESMAN KALEZIC RESPONDING TO A QUESTION ON THE GOA'S NEW SIGNPOST REGULATIONS AND THE INTRODUCTION OF SLOVENE AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE IN PART OF CARINTHIA STATED THAT THE NEW REGULATIONS "IMPERCEPTIBLY REDUCE THE TERRITORY" FOR THE TRUE APPLICATION OF THESE REGULATIONS AND ARE A FURTHER ATTEMPT BY THE GOA TO REVISE RATHER THAN IMPLEMENT THE STATE TREATY.

4. COMMENT: THE SORT OF MEETINGS CITED BY TESLIC (PARA 2) WILL ALWAYS BE READ AS "PROVOCATIONS" BY THE GOY AND PROVIDE FURTHER FUEL FOR THE CONTINUING PRESS CAMPAIGN. EVEN WITHOUT SUCH INSPIRATION THE GOY APPEARS CONTENT TO ALLOW THE DISPUTE TO SIMMER ALONG THROUGH ITS CONTROLLED PUBLIC COMMENTS UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE GOA IS CONSIDERED TO HAVE MET THE DEMANDS OF THE KEY CARINTHIAN SLOVENE/ BURGENLAND CROATIAN ORGANIZATIONS, AND THEREFORE THE GOY DEFENSE OF MINORITY RIGHTS IS AN IMPORTANT POLICY PLANK FOR GOY BOTH INTERNALLY AND EXTERNALLY AS ONE WAY OF DEMONSTRATING TO ITS NATIONAL MINORITIES CONCERN FOR THEIR EXISTENCE AND TO HELP HARMONIZE RELATIONS AMONG THE NATIONALITIES WITHIN YUGOSLAVIA. CONSEQUENTLY, WE BELIEVE IT IS QUITE LIKELY THAT THE GOY WILL RAISE THE GENERAL ISSUE OF MINORITIES AT THE CSCE CONFERENCE. ON OTHER HAND[A LINE OF 44 CHARACTERS APPEARING IN THIS PLACE WAS WITHHELD. FROM. DISCLOSURE]
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[DELETED] AT EARLIER STAGES OF CSCE AUSTRIA ITSELF JOINTED YUGOSLAVIA IN RAISING MINORITY QUESTIONS IN NON-POLEMICAL WAY BUT BOTH WERE ROUNDLY DISCOURAGED FROM PURSUING IT BY OTHERS AS SO MANY EUROPEAN COUNTRIES HAVE SENSITIVE MINORITY PROBLEMS THEY WOULD RATHER NOT MULTI-LATERALIZE.

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INCOMING
TELEGRAM

PAGE 01 VIENNA 06220 01 OF 02 011732Z
ACTION EUR-12

9466

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 M-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 DHA-02 /060 W

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R 011624Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2381
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL ZAGREB
CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 VIENNA 6220

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, YU, AU
SUBJECT: SLOVENE MINORITY CONTROVERSY: MINORITIES LEGISLATION
BECAME EFFECTIVE JULY 1

REF: VIENNA 3247

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: MINORITIES LEGISLATION WENT INTO EFFECT JULY 1 PROVIDING FOR ERECTION OF BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS IN CARINTHIA IN 8 MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS AND USE OF SLOVENE LANGUAGE IN ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS IN 13 DISTRICTS. FIRST ROAD SIGNS HAVE BEEN ERECTED AND OTHERS WILL FOLLOW IN NEXT FEW WEEKS. PATRIOTIC FRONT, ORGANIZATION OF NATIONALIST ELEMENTS, HAS REVERSED ITSELF AND CALLED ON MEMBERSHIP TO LEAVE SIGNS STANDING AS SYMBOL OF SHAME AND BETRAYAL OF THREE POLITICAL PARTIES IN CARINTHIA. BOTH SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERS AND GOY HAVE STATED THAT GOA ACTION DOES NOT SATISFY REQUIREMENT OF ARTICLE 7 OF 1955 TREATY AND THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO REMIND GOA OF ITS OBLIGATIONS. GOA AND CARINTHIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE SAID THAT WITH CURRENT ACTION ON SIGNS AND USE OF SLOVENE LANGUAGE, AUSTRIA HAS NOW FULLY IMPLEMENTED ART. 7 OF 1955 TREATY. ERECTION OF FEW SIGNS MAY LESSEN POLITICAL TENSIONS IN CARINTHIA BUT WILL NOT RESOLVE ISSUE, GIVEN CONTINUING TOUGH CONFRONTATIONAL STANCES OF ALL PARTIES TO CONTROVERSY. END SUMMARY.

2. CARINTHIAN GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES HAVE BEGUN ERECTING BILINGUAL (GERMAN-SLOVENE) ROAD SIGNS IN SOUTHERN CARINTHIA IN ACCORD WITH PROMOTION OF MINORITIES LEGISLATION WHICH WENT INTO EFFECT JULY 1. EIGHT MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS, LOCATED LARGELY IN BORDER AREA SOUTH AND EAST OF KLAGENFURT, CAPITAL OF CARINTHIA, AND ENCOMPASSING 91 VILLAGES AND HAMLETS, WILL GET NEW ROAD SIGNS IN NEXT FEW WEEKS. AS PART OF SAME LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE, USE OF SLOVENE LANGUAGE WILL NOW BE POSSIBLE IN GOVERNMENTAL OFFICES IN 13 MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS, IN COURT PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THREE COUNTY COURTS AND IN MILITARY DRAFT MATTERS BEFORE MILITARY COMMAND AT KLAGENFURT.

3. FOREGOING ACTION IS RESULT OF UNDERSTANDING WORKED OUT IN EARLY MARCH BETWEEN GOA AND THREE MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES IN CARINTHIA AND HAS BEEN PRECEDED IN RECENT WEEKS BY CONCERTED GOVERNMENTAL AND PARTY-POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS TO GAIN ACCEPTANCE OF CARINTHIAN POPULATION TO MOVE. SUCH CAMPAIGN WAS FELT NECESSARY IN VIEW OF 1972 DEBACLE IN WHICH BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS, AFTER ERECTION, WERE TORN DOWN BY NATIONALIST EXTREMIST AND IN WHICH CARINTHIAN SOCIALIST GOVERNOR, WHO HAD NOT PREPARED PUBLIC FOR ACCEPTANCE OF MOVE, WAS DISOWNED BY OWN PARTY AND FORCED TO RESIGN.

4. IN CONTRAST TO ITS 1972 POSITION OF ENCOURAGING DESTRUCTION OF BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS, PATRIOTIC FRONT (HEIMATDIENST) IN CARINTHIA UNEXPECTEDLY SHIFTED TACTICS EARLIER THIS WEEK AND CALLED UPON ITS APPROXIMATELY 60,000 MEMBERS TO ALLOW SIGNS TO STAND AS SYMBOL OF SHAME AND BETRAYAL OF INTERESTS OF GERMAN-SPEAKING POPULATION BY THREE POLITICAL PARTIES. IN SO DOING, PATRIOTIC FRONT REITERATED ITS POSITION THAT RESULTS OF NOVEMBER 1976 LANGUAGE CENSUS, WHICH WAS LARGELY BOYCOTTED BY SLOVENE-SPEAKING POPULATION, DID NOT EVEN JUSTIFY ERECTION OF BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS IN 8 DISTRICTS. IN LEAFLETS DISTRIBUTED IN CARINTHIA THIS WEEK, IT ALSO DENOUNCED SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERS AS RADICALS, COMMUNISTS AND, BY IMPLICATION, TOOLS OF YUGOSLAV INTERESTS.

CONFIDENTIAL

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

PAGE 02 VIENNA 06220 02 OF 02 011742Z
ACTION EUR-12

9465

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 M-01 INR-07
L-83 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 DHA-02 /060 W
-----027207 011834Z /47

R 011624Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2380
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMCONSUL ZAGREB
CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF VIENNA 6220

5. SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERS NOT UNEXPECTEDLY CONTINUE TO CLAIM THAT LATEST GOA ACTION, INCLUDING ERECTION OF BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS, DOES NOT IN THEIR VIEW SATISFY ARTICLE COMMITMENTS OF 1955 TREATY. ARGUMENTS REMAIN UNCHANGED, NAMELY THAT ARTICLE 7 REQUIRES ERECTION OF BILINGUAL ROAD SIGNS IN AREAS OF MIXED POPULATION WITHOUT, HOWEVER, ANY PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION AS PRECONDITION, AND THAT SLOVENE MINORITY, OSTENSIBLY BENEFICIARY OF MINORITIES' LEGISLATION, WAS NOT CONSULTED IN FINAL PHASES OF ITS PREPARATION AND LEGISLATION WAS IN FACT ADOPTED OVER ITS OPPOSITION. IN ADDITION, SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERS STRESS FACT THAT UNDER 1972 DECISION ROAD SIGNS WERE TO BE ERECTED IN 36 DISTRICTS (NOW 8), ENCOMPASSING 205 VILLAGES (NOW 91), AND THAT ACCORDINGLY, INABILITY OF GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES TO ENFORCE THE LAW IN 1972 NOW RESULTS IN FURTHER DECLINE OF EFFECTIVE APPLICATION OF THEIR MINORITY RIGHTS. OTHER COMMENTARIES BY SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERS SUGGEST THAT NEXT COURSE OF ACTION WILL BE TO MOUNT CAMPAIGN WHICH WOULD INCLUDE CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE (REFUSAL OF INDUCTION NOTICES AND PAYMENT OF TAXES, FLOODING OF LOCAL OFFICES WITH PETITIONS), BRINGING CASE BEFORE AUSTRIAN SUPREME COURT AND DIRECT APPEALS TO FOREIGN MEDIA AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT.

6. FROM VIENNA PERSPECTIVE, GOY HAS ONCE AGAIN REGISTERED ITS STRONG OPPOSITION TO LEGISLATION ON PROMOTION OF MINORITIES AS FALLING FAR SHORT OF WHAT IT INTERPRETS TO BE AUSTRIA'S RESPONSIBILITIES VIS-A-VIS SLOVENE AND CROATIAN MINORITIES. YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRIA HAS CALLED ON APPROPRIATE SENIOR GOA OFFICIALS IN RECENT DAYS TO REITERATE YUGOSLAVIA'S UNYIELDING POSITION IN WHAT GOA FEELS TO BE LARGELY AN EXERCISE FOR THE RECORD.

7. GOA, FOR ITS PART, IS OF VIEWPOINT THAT DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS AND UPCOMING MAIN BELGRADE MEETING LATER THIS YEAR (REFTEL), REQUIRE SOME VISIBLE ACTION REGARDING ROAD SIGNS ISSUE AND THAT THIS REQUIREMENT IS NOW BEING MET. GOA AND CARINTHIAN GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES, IN CONTRAST TO 1972 DEBACLE, APPEAR DETERMINED TO UPHOLD THE LAW AND HAVE SAID THAT SIGNS, IF TORN DOWN, WILL BE RE-ERECTED, REPEATEDLY IF NECESSARY, UNTIL THEY ARE ALLOWED TO STAND UNDAMAGED. AT SAME TIME, GOA AND CARINTHIAN AUTHORITIES ARE SAYING THAT ACTION NOW UNDERWAY ON ROAD SIGNS AND LANGUAGE USE REPRESENTS FULL AND FINAL IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 7 AND NO FURTHER ACCOMODATIONS SHOULD BE EXPECTED.

8. WHILE ALL PARTIES TO ISSUE REMAIN COMMITTED TO TOUGH IRRECONCILABLE PUBLIC STANCES, SHIFT IN TACTICS OF PATRIOTIC FRONT -- LEAVE SIGNS STANDING -- COULD PROVE TO BE KEY ELEMENT IN GAINING GRUDGING PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE OF SIGNS BY MORE RADICAL NATIONALIST ELEMENTS. ERECTION OF FEW ROAD SIGNS WILL NOT PER SE RESOLVE ISSUE BUT MAY, TOGETHER WITH VACATION SEASON, HELP TO REDUCE POLITICAL TENSIONS OVER ISSUE DURING SUMMER MONTHS IN SPITE OF CONTINUING CONFRONTATIONAL STANCES OF SLOVENE MINORITY LEADERS AND AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES. MEEHAN.

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM BELGRADE 04478, 1 JULY 1977

Description given in the Affidavit of Clayton E. McManaway and Department of State's Document Index filed on April 21, 1980 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, in Civil Action No. C-79-2787 ACW.

Document No. 9.

1 July 1977, 1-page CONFIDENTIAL telegram (Belgrade 4478) Released with paragraph 4 deleted pursuant to the [5 U.S.C. 552] (b)(1) exemption.

An account of the Yugoslav government's statement on the erection of bilingual signposts with foreign government information provided by a confidential foreign source deleted.

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE INCOMING TELEGRAM BELGRA 04478

PAGE 01 BELGRA 04478 0119332
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 M-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-01 SS-15
USIA-06 DHA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /061 W
-----028823 020551Z /23

R 011745Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1318
INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMCONSUL ZAGREB

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 4478

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR YO AU
SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV MINORITIES IN AUSTRIA: GOY STATEMENT ON BILINGUAL
SIGNPOST ERECTION

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL JUNE 30 ISSUED STATEMENT THAT GOA HAS
AGAIN VIOLATED ITS OBLIGATIONS TO AUSTRIA'S SLOVENE AND CROATION
MINORITIES UNDER THE STATE TREATY, STATEMENT WAS
RELEASED AFTER FEC MET TO CONSIDER ERECTION OF BILINGUAL
SIGNPOSTS IN CARINTHIA, WHICH REPORTEDLY WAS SLATED TO
BEGIN JULY 1. BOTH "BORBA" AND "POLITIKA" JULY 1 CARRY
FRONT-PAGE "TANJUG" ACCOUNT OF FEC STATEMENT, MAKING
FOLLOWING POINTS: (A) ALL OF BURGENLAND AND STYRIA AND
TWO-THIRDS OF CARINTHIA ARE OMITTED FROM APPLICATION.

(B) MEASURES TO BE ADOPTED "DEPRIVE, OR
THREATEN TO DEPRIVE" CARINTHIAN SLOVENES OF SOME
RIGHTS THEY HAVE ENJOYED EVEN "UNDER EXISTING
PARTIAL AND RESTRICTIVE MEASURES";

(C) "EVEN THE REDUCED RIGHTS" HAVE BEEN
CONDITIONED ON POPULATION FIGURES;

CONFIDENTIAL

(D) THOSE ARE ATTEMPTS TO BLOCK
"LEGITIMATE MINORITY REPRESENTATIVES OF
THEIR LEGAL POLITICAL STATUS";

(E) THE GOA ACTION DIVIDES THE "INTEGRAL
TERRITORY IN WHICH THE SLOVENE MINORITY LIVES INTO
A NUMBER OF UNRELATED AREAS;

(F) PLACEMENT OF OTHER BILINGUAL MARKINGS, SUCH
AS SIGNS ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS, "STIPULATED BY THE STATE
TREATY" IS NOT BEING UNDERTAKEN'

(G) BASICALLY, THESE MEASURES ARE BEING ADOPTED
"WITH NO RESPECT FOR THE VIEWS AND WITHOUT THE AGREEMENT
OF THE MINORITIES."

2. ACCORDING TO FEC STATEMENT, WHILE GOA IS MERELY TRYING
TO "CREATE THE IMPRESSION" THAT IT HAS SOLVED THE
MINORITIES PROBLEM, BY ITS ACTIONS IT IS REVISING
PROVISIONS OF THE STATE TREATY. FINALLY STATEMENT
MAINTAINS THAT YUGOSLAVIA WILL CONTINUE TO "LEND ITS
FULL SUPPORT TO THE JUSTIFIED CLAIMS OF THE MINORITIES."
END UNCLASSIFIED.

[APPROXIMATELY 7 LINES OF THE TEXT APPEARING IN THIS PLACE
WERE WITHHELD FROM DISCLOSURE.]

4. COMMENT: PROBLEM APPEARS MANAGEABLE BUT COULD
BE BUFFETED BY OCCURANCE OF UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES.
YUGOSLAVS RECALL THAT BILINGUAL SIGNPOSTS PUT UP IN 1972
WERE QUICKLY TORN DOWN IN WHAT "TANJUG" TERMED
"POGROMS OF CHAUVINIST FORCES," WE BELIEVE GOY WOULD
PREFER SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES NOT OCCUR AS COULD LEAD TO
ESCALATION OF ISSUE, PERHAPS BEYOND CONTROL. IT NOW REMAINS
THE ONLY MAJOR PROBLEM BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND
YUGOSLAVIA, WHICH OTHERWISE APPEAR TO ENJOY RELATIVELY
PLACID RELATIONS.
EAGLEBURGER

CONFIDENTIAL

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(113) 25 AUG 77 pp.-1- and -2-

Slovene Issue: Cyril A. Zebot, a Slovenian-born American who is professor of economics at Georgetown university in Washington, has said in an interview in Austria he felt that urgent steps should be taken to restore the full equality of the Slovenian language in Austria, especially in the schools. "In my opinion, the human rights of the Carinthian Slovenes include the unimpeded possibility to speak, sing, work and assemble on the basis of their Slovene origin and mentality," the professor declared. He maintained that "if Austria acts correctly and generously in the minority question, it has a great chance to give evidence of its special international position." Should Austrians preserve and strengthen their Slovene minority, "Austria will earn recognition, respect and even the affection of many nations of Eastern Central Europe and the Southeast," Prof. Zebot declared and concluded: "In a new atmosphere, for the creation of which there is now a chance, the Carinthian Slovenes could become a new link of security, peace and friendship between Austria and the peoples of Yugoslavia. If no such solution is found, the minority issue in Carinthia will be radicalized by extremists of both sides." (Graz Catholic KLEINE ZEITUNG, Aug. 25).

#(114) 25 AUG 77 p.-2-

In the Carinthian town of Bleiburg, a demonstration will be held Aug. 26 against the Austrian Minorities Act. The local Slovene Youth Committee and the Slovene town councilmen, who will organize the demonstration, have distributed a leaflet saying a solution of the minority issue could not be found on the basis of laws forced by the (anti-Slovene) Patriotic Front. (Communist VOLKSSTIMME, Aug. 25).

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(106) 29 AUG 77 p.-1-
#(107) 29 AUG 77 p.-2-

NEWS ROUND-UP

Slovene Minority: Some 200 policemen are at work in the south Carinthian town of Bleiburg Aug. 26 to prevent clashes between about 400 Slovene demonstrators and 400 anti-Slovene onlookers. The Slovenes set up a bilingual road sign which will be removed, however, because it does not meet legal requirements. (Socialist ARBEITER-ZEITUNG, Aug. 28)

According to the Carinthian Slovene press, UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim said on the occasion of his recent Klagenfurt visit "I realize that many a (minority claim) is pending and that further efforts will have to be made to find a solution." The Slovene press concluded that "the Secretary-General confirmed our opinion that the present (minority) settlement is no satisfactory one and especially no agreed one, which means that a new settlement will have to be sought in co-operation and agreement with the minority concerned." (Communist VOLKSSTIMME, Aug. 27)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(108) 09 SEP 77

NEWS ROUND-UP

Minority Issue: The Carinthian provincial organization of the Austrian Communist Party issued an appeal to the Slovene minority this week to make full use of the provisions of Austrian minority legislation even though the latter is still falling short of fully implementing Art. 7 of the Austrian State Treaty. The appeal says only full exploitation of the rights contained in the Minorities Law and its implementing decrees is now the proper approach to getting further concessions. (Text in Communist VOLKSSTIMME, Sept. 9)

Road signs in several southern Carinthia towns were spray-painted with the figure 7 (for Art. 7 of the State Treaty) in the night of Sept. 7-8. (Semi-official WIENER-ZEITUNG, et al., Sept. 9)

#(109) 09 SEP 77

COMMENT

Noting the Carinthian Communist Party's appeal to the Slovene minority to make full use of its rights, Klagenfurt Socialist KARTNER TAGESZEITUNG of Sept. 8 calls it a surprising turn in view of earlier full Communist support for the Slovene organizations' boycott of minority legislation. The paper hints that Belgrade might have engineered this about-face. People's Party VOLKSZEITUNG of Sept. 8 sees growing Maoist engagement notably in Slovene student quarters as the reason for the Communists' cooling interest in the Slovene cause.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE CONFIDENTIAL TELEGRAM VIENNA 08490

20 SEPTEMBER 1977

Description given in the Affidavit of Thomas W. Ainsworth and Department of State's Supplemental Document Descriptions filed on October 5, 1981 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, in Civil Action No. C-79-2787 MHP.

4. Second paragraph F [Memorandum Decision and Order of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, Part II-F, September 2, 1981, page 7] concerning Vienna 08490 (document No. 12): The telegram dated September 20, 1977 was classified Confidential at origination pursuant to E[xecutive] O[rder] 11652 [3 C.F.R. 375 (1973)] and bears the notation "GDS" meaning that it was scheduled for automatic declassification under the "General Declassification Schedule" of that Executive Order. It has been withheld in its entirety under exemption [5 U.S.C. 552] (b) (1). The telegram consists of four paragraphs. All of them constitute an account by an Austrian official of his recent visit to Yugoslavia. Paragraph 1 is introductory, identifying the official, the circumstances of the visit and of his informing an Embassy official about it, and giving a general characterization of the visit. Paragraph 2 sets forth the Austrian official's impressions of general (especially economic) conditions in Yugoslavia as compared to the time he had previously visited that country. Paragraph 3 sets forth information given to the Austrian official by Yugoslav sources, and the Austrian official's own analysis, concerning prospect for the "Post-Tito" era. Paragraph 4 contains the Austrian official's account of his discussions in Yugoslavia regarding Austrian-Yugoslav bilateral relations including certain aspects of the minorities question. Neither in this context nor in any other is there any mention or implication of any U.S. role, obligation or responsibility under the Austrian State Treaty. The entire message consists of information, including apparently frank judgments, provided in confidence by the Austrian official. Its disclosure would constitute a breach of confidence which would be likely to cause identifiable damage to the national security. It therefore meets the criteria of Sections 1-301 (b), 1-302, and 1-104 of E.O. 12065 for continued classification as Confidential.

yugoslav federal foreign secretariat
on minority position in austria

belgrade, march 23 (tanjug).- the preparation of over 30 trials against carinthian slovenes who participated in actions aimed to secure the implementation of provisions on bilingual usage in austria is assessed by yugoslavia as a measure whose aim is to force the carinthian minority to accept, at any price, the austrian law on national groups and their participation in councils envisaged by this law.

this was stated today by the yugoslav federal foreign secretariat official spokesman, mirko kalezic. in stressing that yugoslavia will continue to support fully the just struggle of minorities for the realization of their rights guaranteed in the austrian state treaty, yugoslavia also urges the settlement of the minority question through a dialogue between the austrian government and the minorities as the only correct road, it was stressed at the regular press conference in belgrade today.
(end) dk/rp

Yugoslav Federal Foreign Secretariat
On Minority Position in Austria -

Belgrade, March 23 (TANJUG).- The preparation of over 30 trials against Carinthian Slovenes who participated in actions aimed to secure the implementation of provisions on bilingual usage in Austria is assessed by Yugoslavia as a measure whose aim is to force the Carinthian minority to accept, at any price, the Austrian law on National groups and their participation in councils envisaged by this law.

This was stated today by the Yugoslav Federal Foreign Secretariat official spokesman, Mirko Kalezic. In stressing that Yugoslavia will continue to support fully the just struggle of minorities for the realization of their rights guaranteed in the Austrian State Treaty, Yugoslavia also urges the settlement of the minority question through a dialogue between the Austrian government and the minorities as the only correct road, it was stressed at the regular press conference in Belgrade today.
(End) DK/RP

Trial of Two Ethnic Slovenes -

Vienna, Apr 8 (TANJUG).- At the request of the defense, another trial of ethnic Slovenes has been postponed in Carinthia, the defense requested that the trial of two Carinthian Slovenes be held outside the provincial jurisdiction of the province of Carinthia, explaining that "In Carinthia such an atmosphere is prevailing" which makes objectivity impossible and can affect legal proceedings.

In question is the trial of Mirko Percc and Jozzef Mueller before the provincial court of Klagenfurt, the court of original jurisdiction fined them for the acts they did not commit, for the alleged intention to write a slogan at the railroad station at Sinca Vas. (more)JV/SG

Trial of Two Ethnic Slovenes (two)

The public prosecutor did not object to the request of the defense that the trial be held outside the provincial jurisdiction of Carinthia.

Next week, a similar trial is to be held in Linz against Stefan Petjak, heavily fined by the court of Salzburg for "aiding the action of writing" slogans.

Last week, the trial of four Carinthian Slovenes accused of similar "offenses" was postponed.

In addition, thirty-or so trials of Carinthian Slovenes who took part in similar actions in 1976, before the law on ethnic groups was enacted, are forthcoming. (more)JV/SG

Trial of Two Ethnic Slovenes (three)

The Slovenes daubed slogans against the law which revises the provisions of Article seven, Austrian State Treaty, that guarantees rights to Austria's nationalities (national minorities). Thus, politically motivated acts are involved. Since the Carinthian authorities were unable to subdue ethnic Slovene activists on political terms, they undertook a wave of arrests and legal proceedings against them as ordinary "criminals" who did damage to public and private property.

The defense insists that their trial be held in courts outside Carinthia because the political atmosphere is poisoned in Carinthia, the province with Greater-Germany nationalist organizations and evident goals of assimilation and germanization and which strongly influence local judiciary and authorities. (End)JV/SG

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(110) 17 May 1978 (marked) (A) Pol 13-3

Slovene Trial: A Linz appellate court reduced a 16,500-schilling fine to 13,200 schillings which a Salzburg court had imposed on a young Slovene for paint-spraying slogans on public buildings. However, defense motions for a retrial and for conducting the proceedings in Slovene were rejected after the Supreme Court had earlier turned down a change of venue motion to Graz with the argument that Slovene is an official court language only in the districts specified in the State Treaty. The decision removes the last hurdle for six more Slovene trials pending in Salzburg. (Independent SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, O.Oe.NACHRICHTEN, May 17)

#(111) 28 May 1978 (marked) (A) Pol 13-3

Slovene Minority: In a meeting with Slovene leaders while visiting the Slovene highschool in Klagenfurt. May 27, Chancellor Bruno Kreisky again urged the minority representatives to enter the minority advisory council as the proper forum for expressing the minority's desires. Kreisky also rejected a leaflet of the anti-minority Patriotic Front (Heimatsdienst), saying that the Front is no dialogue partner for him and that he will not give in to threats. (Socialist AZ, May 28 & 30)

#(112) 28 Jun 1978 (marked) (A) Pol 13-3

COMMENT

Independent SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN of June 20 sharply rebukes Carinthian People's Party MP Valentin Deutschmann for again stirring up the Slovene minority issue by an interpellation addressed to Justice Minister Christian Broda asking the latter why he recommended the quashing of indictments against four Slovenes last April who had burned ballot boxes in the 1975 minority census. After the disturbances of the road sign raids in 1972 and of the minority census of 1976, the paper says, developments in the minority issue had seemed to steer in a more peaceful direction, and the quashing of the indictments was a contributing element. The paper interprets Deutschmann's action as a move to win anti-minority support in next year's local elections.

Burgenland Croats Demand -

Vienna, July 3 (TANJUG).- Since the Austrian State Treaty was signed in 1955, twenty-three years have passed away, but not a single treaty Article seven obligation has been put into practice. Promises came one after another, but none of them has been fulfilled, "Hrvatske Novine", the organ of ethnic Croats living in the province of Burgenland Southeastern Austria, warns, underlining that the Croatian nationality "living space" has been turning poorer and narrower from day to day".

Dr. Ivo Mueller, president of the Croatian Cultural Society in Burgenland, characterized the present status of Austria's burgenland Croats in the above statement.
(End)JV/ZM

No. 247

-6-

September XXXX

Vratusa Receives Austrian Consul-General

Ljubljana, Sept. 5 (TANJUG).- Dr. Anton Vratusa, president of the republican executive council of the assembly of the socialist republic of Slovenia, has received Dr. Walther Lichem, Austria's consul-general in Ljubljana, at the consul-general's request.

Bilateral relations between Yugoslavia and Austria as neighbors and possibilities for deepening their all-round cooperation as well as the position and the realization of the rights of the Slovenian and Croatian nationalities living in Austria were discussed./ End/ JV/ DR

FOIA Case No. 7903512, Documents released on 21 March 1980

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(117) 11 SEP 78 p.-1-

NEWS ROUND-UP

Slovene Issue: In an interview for Austrian Slovene weekly "Nas Tednik," Yugoslav Slovene leader Mitja Ribicic asserted that Austria's ethnic minority policy violates the Helsinki Final Act, as well as the Austrian State Treaty. He claimed that the State Treaty is violated by the legal provision making the protection of the Slovene and Croat minorities dependent on their numerical strength. (Independent DIE PRESSE, Sept. 9)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(115) 14 SEP 78 p.-1-
#(116) identical

NEWS ROUND-UP

Bulgarian Relations: Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov received Socialist Central Secretary Karl Blecha in Sofia on Sept. 12. Blecha who chairs the Austro-Bulgarian Society has meanwhile returned from his two-day visit to Bulgaria. In the meeting of Blecha with Zhivkov, it was understood that the upcoming Zhivkov visit to Austria beginning on Sept. 18 "is not directed against third countries," i.e. Yugoslavia with which Bulgaria differs over the Macedonia issue. Zhivkov is also reported to have proposed new forms of economic cooperation beyond the traditional trade relations. It was also learned during the Blecha visit that a Bulgarian-Austrian Society is soon to be founded. (Socialist AZ, Sept. 14) --- Meanwhile, Carinthian Governor Leopold Wagner informed the provincial government that Zhivkov will be in Carinthia, Sept. 20-21 as part of his Austrian visit. The program in Carinthia will include visits to a power station and to tourist installations. (Klagenfurt papers, Sept. 13)

Carinthian Protest: The (rightist) Carinthian Patriotic Front (Heimatdienst) issued a statement protesting against projected subsidiaries of Yugoslav companies and Yugoslav capital investments in Carinthian companies. The statement points out that these economic activities are really designed to give support to the Slovene minority and expresses concern that Yugoslav enterprises in Austria will serve to function as "Slovene-Communist bases." (Klagenfurt People's Party VOLKSZEITUNG Sept. 13)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(119) 15 SEP 78 p.-1-
#(120) 15 SEP 78 p.-2-

NEWS ROUND-UP

Slovene Move: On behalf of the two major Carinthian Slovene organizations, Matevz Grilc and Filip Warasch yesterday complained to newsmen that they were hindered by Austrian officials from distributing a statement on the situation of Austria's Slovene minority to delegates to the current UNESCO conference on human rights education in Vienna. The two Slovene spokesmen specifically criticized minority discrimination in the educational field, pointing as an example to the lack of public kindergartens for Slovenes in Carinthia. They reiterated their boycott of the minority advisory council, but declared their continued readiness to talk with the government on other levels. As for the upcoming Carinthian visit of Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov, concern was expressed that the visit might be used by Bulgaria to denounce Yugoslav support for the Carinthian Slovenes and of Macedonians in Bulgaria as interference with internal affairs. (Semi-official WIENER-ZEITUNG, independent DIE PRESSE, Socialist AZ, Sept. 15)

Carinthia Meeting: Carinthian Governor Leopold Wagner revealed that he met with leaders of the (rightist) Carinthian Patriotic Front (Heimatsdienst) to discuss the latter's protest against Yugoslav capital investments in Carinthia. In an interview, Wagner took the position that the primary interest of the province's political leaders is to promote employment. He welcomes the opinion of any group, he also said, but added that interest groups should not aspire to taking the place of political parties. (Klagenfurt papers, Sept. 14)

Yugoslav-Austrian Relations -

Belgrad, September 14 (TANJUG).- Yugoslav-Austrian bilateral relations are developing successfully in many areas, broad possibilities and mutual interest exist for further development of overall relation. This was stated today during a meeting between Assembly of Yugoslavia Federal Chamber president Dobroslav Culafic and Austrian ambassador to Yugoslavia Dr. Helmut Liedermann.

It was also pointed out that the unsettled question of the Slovenes and Croatian national minorities in Austria have a restrictive effect on development of relations and cooperation between the two countries. It was also stated that practical steps are necessary for the settlement of this outstanding question. This would, also, represent a contribution to the implementation of the Helsinki documents.

(End) DK/TM

FOI Case No: 7903512, Documents Released on March 21, 1980

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(118) 27 Sep 1978

NEWS ROUND-UP

Slovene Issue: Addressing the provincial congress of the Socialist Youth organization, Carinthian Governor Leopold Wagner criticized what he called the self-imposed political isolation of the Slovene minority and pleaded for the minority's integration in the province's political parties. Separate Slovene tickets would only help minority opponents in that they would show the low numerical strength of the minority, Wagner said. The governor's comment was prompted by opposition People's Party statements an upcoming provincial election law reform should not discriminate against smaller political groups and thus also hurt Slovene interests. (Klagenfurt Socialist KARTNER TAGESZEITUNG, Sept. 26)

SS Meeting: In reply to an official Soviet intervention, Carinthian Governor Leopold Wagner said that the authorities have no knowledge yet of a projected reunion of former nazi SS members in Carinthia, Sept. 29-Oct. 1. If the sponsors were to ask for police permission, the meeting would be banned, Wagner informed the Soviet consulate in Salzburg. The same position was taken by Interior Minister Erwin Lanc in reply to a protest by Austrian resistance fighters.

TITO'S SPEECH ON MINORITIES

SVOBODNA SLOVENIJA, Buenos Aires, 29 March 1979, p.2.

On October 7, 1978, in a speech at Skopje in Macedonia Tito dealt, among other things, with the question of Yugoslav national minorities abroad. In this connection the dictator emphasized that the Yugoslav foreign policy is primarily the policy of the federation, that is, the policy of the federal government as contrasted with the policy of its constituent republics. If some of the individual republics have minority problems -- and here Tito referred to Macedonia in connection with the Bulgarian demands for the southern part of the Macedonian republic and to Slovenia with respect to its minority problems in Austrian Carinthia and the Italian littoral -- such problems must be considered of secondary importance on the scale of foreign policy priorities. The first priority must continue to be the best possible cooperation of Yugoslavia with the neighboring countries be that the Soviet Union in the East or the capitalist Austria and Italy in the West.

Tito's speech was a public notice to the individual Yugoslav republics not to play up their regional problems and to refrain from engaging in polemics with the neighboring states. This applies primarily to the Slovenians and Macedonians.

Following Tito's speech, Edvard Kardelj applied the pressure on his Slovenian party comrades with regard to their agitation against Austria and Italy in the matters of Carinthia and Trst. He reminded them that there is no sense in "being at odds with practically all of our neighbors" and that they should cease championing the Slovenian minority rights.

Both the Slovenian communist party as well as the Yugoslav federal government have in recent weeks put a stop to any diplomatic interventions in Austria on behalf of the Slovenian minority in Carinthia.

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(123) 16 OCT 78 p.-1-
#(124) 16 OCT 78 p.-2-

Ethnic Minorities: Upon invitation of Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, a delegation of the Union of European Nationalities is currently visiting Austria to review the situation of the Slovene and Croat minorities in Carinthia and Burgenland. In a meeting with the delegation headed by Union President Karl Mitterdorfer (South Tyrol), Kreisky said he would study any proposals of the group for an improvement of Austria's ethnic minority legislation. Austrian Slovene Reginald Vospernik is a member of the delegation. (Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, independent DIE PRESSE, Oct. 14)

Carinthian Issues: Last years ethnic minority law and Yugoslavia's interest in good relations with Austria were the main reasons for the calming down of the ethnic minority issue in Carinthia, Provincial Governor Leopold Wagner told the visiting delegation of the Union of European Nationalities yesterday. Wagner yesterday also revealed that he will discuss in a meeting with Chancellor Kreisky in Vienna the possibilities for reaching an economic cooperation agreement for Carinthia, Slovenia and Friuli-Venezia Giulia. He will also plead for a treaty with Italy on the construction of a highway tunnel under the Plücken Pass. (Socialist AZ, Oct. 16)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(121) 30 OCT 78 p.-1-
#(122) 30 OCT 78 p.-2-

NEWS ROUND-UP

Yugoslav Border: At a Graz conference of Austrian and Yugoslav public safety officials including Austrian Interior Minister Erwin Lanc and Slovenian Interior Minister Zemliavic, it was agreed to internationalize the border crossing points at Mureck, Langegg, Radl Pass and Sieldorf in 1979. The Graz conference also discussed closer police cooperation in the border area, notably with a view to narcotics smuggling, Lanc told a reporter. (Graz Socialist NEUE ZEIT, Oct. 26)

COMMENT -- Independent DIE PRESSE of Oct. 30 sees a friendlier turn in Yugoslavia's official attitude towards Austria in recent months. The paper's Belgrade correspondent does not rule out an early resumption of contacts on the foreign ministers' level.

FOIA Case No. 7903512 Documents released on 21 March, 1980

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(125) 16 NOV 78

NEWS ROUND-UP

Yugoslav Relations: A joint communique issued at the close of the two-day official visit of a Burgenland provincial government delegation to Croatia Nov. 13-14 said agreement was reached to intensify regional contacts notably in the economic and cultural fields. Both sides also expressed their interest in an early settlement of the problems still pending with regard to implementation of the Austrian State Treaty minority rights provisions. Regional contacts were also underlined as an important contribution to overall development of Austrian-Yugoslav relations. Governor Theodor Kery who headed the Austrian group invited Croatian government chief Pero Flekovic to visit Burgenland. (Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, independent DIE PRESSE, Communist VOLKSSTIMME, Nov. 16)

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November 18, 1978

Kreisky-Interview -

Belgrade, November 17 (TANJUG) In an interview to the Belgrade weekly news magazine "NIN", Austrian chancellor Bruno Kreisky said that he is optimistic even in regard to an easing of tensions in the Middle East and expressed his conviction that relations with Yugoslavia, including these involving the minority question, even further, develop successfully.

Kreisky pointed to the need of a detente in the Middle East, adding that a detente in Europe and tension in the Middle East cannot exist at the same time. In his opinion every cause of tension in the Middle East can lead to confrontation between the U.S. and the Soviet Union. Direct or indirect confrontation between big powers is very dangerous, and therefore "we must do everything we can to reduce tension", said Kreisky.
(more)

Kreisky-Interview-two -

Chancellor Kreisky said that he has been asking the socialist international already for ten years for an opening towards the Arab world, recalling that five years ago he said to the Israelis that the time will come when they will have to reach agreement with Sadat. "They did not believe me" he said, adding that "I am telling them today that the time will come when they will have to cooperate with the Palestinians... and they still do not believe me".

Speaking of Austrian-Yugoslav relations, Kreisky stated that no other country has as comprehensive economic cooperation and exchange of tourists, goods, and manpower with Austria as Yugoslavia has.
(more) VK/AB

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November 18, 1978

Kreisky Interview (three)

Kreisky told "NIN" that the level of Austrian-Yugoslav relations make the minority problem in their relations especially regrettable to him. He said that it would be difficult but that a step by step solution should be sought. He also expressed his opinion that one of the ways for solving this was through personal contacts.

Kreisky stated that he "has to find a way of getting the minorities to cooperate with the Austrian government

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November 18, 1978

within the framework of Austrian law". The chancellor indicated that he was also aware that the minorities did not accept the ethnic groups act, finding it discriminatory.

Kreisky mentioned Austria's successful economic cooperation with Yugoslavia, its exceptionally well-developed workers help in developing Austria's prosperity.
(more) VR VV

Kreisky Interview (four)

The Austrian chancellor stated that he had deep respect and admiration for Tito and added that one of the most significant events of the post-war period was Tito's and Yugoslavia's decision in 1948 to go their own, independent way.

He assessed as very important Tito's leadership in cooperation with non-aligned countries, having in mind the difficulties these countries are faced with.

The Austrian chancellor concluded by saying that in his opinion there were no really great differences between Austrian and Yugoslav foreign policy, and added that the two countries were making a joint contribution to the easing of tension in world relations. (End) VR VV

(B13)

Consultations End -

Belgrade, November 24 (TANJUG).- Two-day diplomatic consultations between representatives of the Yugoslav secretariat for foreign affairs and the Austrian foreign ministry headed by Yugoslav foreign secretariat undersecretary Budimir Loncar and Austrian foreign ministry general secretary Alois Reitbauer, ended today in Belgrade.

In the consultations questions regarding development of bilateral relations and cooperation, particularly in economy and culture, were extensively discussed.

The talks particularly focussed on the problem of the Slovenian and Croatian minorities in Austria from the standpoint of seeking possibilities to improve their position in accordance with Article 7 of the Austrian State Treaty.
(and) DK/SG

No. 327

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November 25, 1978

Vrhovec-Reitbauer Talks -

Belgrade, November 24 (TANJUG).. Yugoslav federal secretary for foreign affairs Josip Vrhovec today received general secretary of the Austrian ministry of foreign affairs Alois Reitbauer currently in Belgrade for regular diplomatic consultations between the Yugoslav and Austrian ministries of foreign affairs.

During the talks, current issues in bilateral relations and possibilities for the further promotion of comprehensive and goodneighbourly bilateral cooperation were considered. (End) LJZ/RP

FOIA Case No: 7903512 Documents released on 21 March, 1980

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(126) 04 DEC 78 p.-2-

Minority Issue: A Vienna appellate court reversed the sentenced pronounced in a Völkermarkt trial against Slovenes Mirko Perc and Jose Mueller for painting anti-language census slogans in 1976. The appellate court fully acquitted the defendants, arguing that the facts in the case did not warrant an indictment. (Independent SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, Dec. 1; semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, Dec. 2) -- A joint statement of the Carinthian Socialist People's and Freedom Parties criticizes a poster campaign of the rightist Patriotic Front (Heimatsdienst) against Yugoslav company subsidiaries in the province (Socialist AZ, DIE PRESSE, Dec. 2)

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A GROUP OF YUGOSLAV JOURNALISTS TALK WITH AUSTRIAN
FOREIGN MINISTER, PARR

(Borba, Wednesday, December 13, 1978, p. 4, c. 1)

Yugoslavia is among the neighbour
states with which Austria has
particularly intensive relations
--underlined the Austrian Minister

Vienna, December 12: The Austrian Foreign Minister, Dr Parr, received today a group of Yugoslav journalists who arrived yesterday evening in Vienna on a four-day long visit at the invitation of the Austrian Government. The group consists of correspondents of Borba, Delo, Pobjeda, Politika, Radio Belgrade and Tanjug.

During the conversation which lasted one hour, Minister Parr particularly explained the views of his government on relations with Yugoslavia and the existing problems. Yugoslavia is among the neighbour states with which Austria has particularly intensive relations--stressed the Austrian Minister at the beginning of the conversation, underlining the close cooperation during the conferences held in Helsinki, Belgrade and Geneva, and during the present exchange of views in preparations for the meeting in Madrid. Intensive relations exist, he said, also in the economic and cultural domains. He recalled that numerous Austrians gladly spend their vacations in Yugoslavia and that the contribution of Yugoslav workers provisionally employed in Austria is important as regards the economic progress of his country. Taking into consideration the fact that nonaligned Yugoslavia and neutral Austria have similar objectives, you will not be surprised if I say that in fact one can establish that what is useful to Yugoslavia is also useful to Austria while what is detrimental to one country is also detrimental to the other--said the Austrian Minister.

Referring to the problem of the Slovene and Croatian minorities in Austria, Parr expressed the view that in this respect the atmosphere has been improved to a considerable extent of late. It can be established this year--according to Parr, that the percentage has increased of pupils who enrolled in bi-lingual schools in Carinthia. A kinder-garten has been opened in Celovac. The endeavours to introduce special broadcast in the Croatian language on the Austrian radio will end successfully.

The improvement of the atmosphere in relations between the two countries has also been evinced in the intensified exchange of visits--said Parr--expressing the hope this trend will also be resumed next year.

Replying to questions of journalists as to the steps which the government intends to take in the settlement of minority problems, Parr, specified that the government will keep proceeding also this same road. One must consider opening here and there new kinder-gartens and especially facilitating access to public services to members of the Slovene and Croatian minorities. The Ministry of Justice opened in Celovec a well-attended course of Slovene for judges, in order to make it possible for Slovenes in Austria to appear in courts without interpreters. With representatives of the Slovene minority a dictionary for everyday requirements is being made.

On January 1 broadcasts in the Croatian language will be introduced on the Austrian radio. The problem is more difficult as regards TV since it is not divided into regions, but it is planned that on the occasion of the setting up cable TV, the program of the Zagreb TV will be relayed. These are certainly--state Parr--small steps but they must result in securing the existence of the Slovene and Croatian minorities in Austria. We consider that the concern for minorities represents an important bridge and tie connecting us with the neighbour state.

In a friendly conversation Parr replied also to the question as to why the Austrian press, with its, virtually as a rule negative and one-sided writing about the problem of its neighbour is considerably behind the official statements and the real situation in relations between the two countries, then about the possibilities for the further development of economic cooperation at a higher degree, such as various forms of cooperation and other ones.

In the afternoon Yugoslav journalists visited the headquarters of the Austrian TUs while they will be received tomorrow by the head of the Social Democratic parliamentary group, Dr Heinz Fischer, the second-highest ranking personality in the party after Chancellor Kreisky. Meetings are also planned to take place with heads of parliamentary groups, of opposition parties and other political and economic officials.

FOIA Case No: 7903512 Documents released on 21 March, 1980

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(127) 03 JAN 1979 p.-2-

Slovene Minority: In a Slovene broadcast, Carinthian Governor Leopold Wagner pointed to progress in the peaceful coexistence of the two ethnic groups in the province. He asserted that extremists found a dwindling echo among Carinthians last year. (Klagenfurt Socialist KARTNER TAGESZEITUNG, Dec. 30 [1978])

No. 4

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January 6, 1979

Carinthian Slovenes

Vienna, January 5, (TANJUG) - Assessing the present moment in the Carinthian Slovenes struggle for national rights, Dr. Franci Zwitter president of the Federation of Slovene Organizations in Carinthia, writes in the "Slovenski Vestnik" that, although Carinthian Slovenes did not (last year) succeed in having the issue of Article No. 7 of the Austrian State Treaty positively settled they, nevertheless, scored results in other fields. The efforts of Carinthian Slovenes to strengthen their economic position and social protection are already bringing positive, although still very modest, results, Dr. Zwitter specifies.
(more)VRxMP

Carinthian Slovenes- two-

The Austrian government and legislature consider the minority question settled as of July 7, 1976 when the ethnic groups act was passed, Dr. Zwitter states, the act is, however, practically non-existent as far as nationality groups are concerned since they do not and cannot recognize this anti-minority legislation, Dr. Zwitter specifies. When temporarily setting aside the issue of the ethnic groups act and focusing its activity on other issues, the Slovene nationality group acted with full responsibility and consciousness. Its action was in no way prompted by the legislative act but was, instead, designed to give an opportunity to the responsible and competent Austrian factors to revise their minority policy which has not only fully failed the test on the domestic front but has also been subjected to international criticism, Dr. Zwitter sets out.
/End/ VR/ DR

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(128) 09 JAN 79 p.-2-

NEWS ROUND-UP

Slovene Minority: In New Year's statement, the chairmen of both major Slovene minority organizations, Franc Zwitter and Matevz Grilc, re-emphasized the minority's continuing opposition to Austrian ethnic minority legislation. Both also stated they do not expect an improvement in the situation of the Slovenes in Austria. (Independent SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, Jan. 8)

No. 13

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January 15, 1979

Carinthian Slovenes -

Vienna, Jan 14 (TANJUG).- The Federation of Slovene Organizations in Carinthia today assessed the national position of Carinthian Slovenes in Austria. It is emphasized that the Austrian ethnic groups act is not the implementation of Article 7 of the State Treaty and that the question of the rights of the Slovene ethnic group has not been solved but, as so far, has remained open.
(more)md/sg

Carinthian Slovenes (two)

The Carinthian Slovenes reject the act of July 7 and demand that open questions be solved in an equal dialogue between the competent federal government and the Slovene ethnic group. It is also stated that the discrepancy between the neglected border regions and the officially forced central area in Carinthia has been increasing because of which it is necessary to direct efforts towards the economic development of this frontier province neglected on purpose.
(End)MD/SG

Burgenland Croats

Vienna, January 15 (TANJUG)

All organizations of Burgenland Croats acted jointly in asking Austrian authorities for the introduction of daily broadcasts in their mother tongue.

The authorities have promised a monthly 40-minute broadcast, but without giving burgenland Croats any influence in its programming. The organizations have now asked for a special group of journalists chosen also by representatives of the nationality group to edit the broadcasts. The organizations of Burgenland Croats said they want these representatives to have a say in these broadcasts about the life of the Croatian nationality group in Austria. (End) VK VV

Burgenland Croats' Demands -

Vienna, January 16 (TANJUG).- Dr. Ivan Mueller, president of the Croatian Cultural Society, the oldest society of the Burgenland Croats in Austria has said he expects no change in Austrian minority policy from the forthcoming parliamentary elections.

None of the parties, he added, wants to burn its fingers by taking positions on this delicate matter and any move to meet the demands of Austria's minorities is not likely until after the elections.

In Dr. Mueller's view, some progress may be made, for example, by introducing broadcasts in Croatian and recognizing it as an official language. Failing this, the Croatian Cultural Society will continue informing the international public on the critical position of the Burgenland

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(129) (25) JAN 79 p.-2-

Minority Issue: In answer to a Parliamentary Interpellation, Chancellor Bruno Kreisky yesterday expressed hope that it will be yet possible in the near future to establish the ethnic minority advisory councils. The reason why they have not yet been constituted was the concern of some minority representatives that membership in the councils might be interpreted as indirect recognition of the Minorities Act, Kreisky explained. He denied that he is planning to amend the act and announced also early talks with the Parliamentary Parties on the minority issue. (Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, Socialist AZ, Jan. 25)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(130) (26) JAN 79 p.-2-

Slovene Party: The decision of the Christian Slovene organizations in Carinthia to support independent ethnic tickets in the upcoming local community elections is seen by the Carinthian Socialist Party as a first step towards formation of a Slovene party. The SP release warns that an independent candidacy might induce traditional parties no longer to feel responsible for minority concerns. Such a candidacy also constitutes a kind of voluntary ethnic census that is not necessarily in the interest of the minority, it adds. (Klagenfurt Socialist KARTNER TAGESZEITUNG, Klagenfurt People's Party VOLKSZEITUNG, Jan..26)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(131) (31) JAN 79 p.-2-

Slovene Candidacy: (Socialist) Carinthian Governor Leopold Wagner asserted in a press release that Christian Slovene candidacies for local community elections are primarily directed against the Socialists and benefit the People's Party. Wagner also rejected Christian Slovene protests against an earlier Socialist Party release which had criticized independent ethnic tickets for the upcoming local elections in the province on Mar. 25. (Klagenfurt Socialist KARTNER TAGESZEITUNG, Jan. 31)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(132) (23) FEB 79 p.-2-

Slovene Trials: The Justice Ministry recently turned down an appeal by the Council of Carinthian Slovenes to quash criminal proceedings pending in Salzburg courts, but did not rule out amnesty action after the four trials have taken place. The Slovene defendants in the pending cases had painted slogans on public buildings or resisted police in demonstrations in 1976 when the minority unrest over the ethnic census had reached a climax in Carinthia. The trials had been delegated to Salzburg upon motion of the defendants. (Independent SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, Feb. 23)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(133) 02 MAR 79

NEWS ROUND-UP

43/79

Yugoslav Visitor: In a special interview, visiting former Consul General in Klagenfurt and now Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission in the Slovenian state legislature Bojan Lubej stressed Yugoslavia's special interest in good relations with Austria. Lubej described economic and cultural relations between the two countries as promising, but political contacts including a meeting of the foreign ministers should be extended. Pending bilateral issues should not be an obstacle to broader cooperation, Lubej continued. In this connection, he urged a continuation of the dialogue between Vienna and the Austrian Slovene minority, attesting Austria's good will in this matter. While here in Vienna, Lubej met with Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, Foreign minister Willibald Pahr and Chairman Michael Luptowits of the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee. In a Vienna Lecture, Lubej underlined the role of ethnic minorities in international contacts, saying that the majority must create the necessary conditions to free the minority from the fear of ethnic assimilation. (Independent DIE PRESSE, Mar. 2; Klagenfurt Socialist KARTNER TAGESZEITUNG, semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, Mar. 1)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(134) (03) MAR 79 p.-2-

Slovene Tickets: Slovene ethnic tickets have been filed in 23 of the 121 Carinthian communes for the local elections on Mar. 25. This means four more than in the previous local balloting six years ago. (Klagenfurt papers, e.g., People's Party VOLKSZEITUNG, Mar. 3)

#(135) (20) MAR 79 p.-2-

Carinthian Politics: In a radio address, Carinthian Governor Leopold Wagner (SP) commented on the current party talks on a revision of Carinthia's provincial legislature election law. Wagner indicated that current plans call for splitting the province into two electoral districts, but any vote would yet have equal weight. The latter fact would be favorable both for smaller political parties but also for the Carinthian Slovene minority. It is recalled that the Slovenes held two seats in the provincial legislature before 1934; and observers figure they could win a seat again in the eastern electoral district. (independent DIE PRESSE, Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, Mar. 20)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(136) (26) MAR 79 p.-2-

Carinthia: A tabulation of the local elections in the province's 121 communes shows: Socialists 49.9% and 1146 seats (1973: 46.6% and 1049), People's Party 30.6% and 711 (29.5% and 703), Freedom Party 10.3% and 273 (14.1% and 291), Communists 1.5% and 13 (2.4% and 26), Slovene and local non-partisan tickets 8.7% and 264 (8.4% and 302). In Klagenfurt, Mayor Leopold Guggenberger's People's Party won five additional seats and now holds 21, the Socialists went up one seat to also 21 while the Freedom Party lost five of its eight seats and the Communists lost their last seat on the city council. (Socialist AZ, et al., Mar. 26)

Reactions: In a special interview, Chancellor Bruno Kreisky commented that the results in Lower Austria and Salzburg should dampen the arrogance of the opposition whose hopes were disappointed. "Six weeks before May 6, the SP is close to an absolute majority if it has not even won it already, the Chancellor optimistically added. The Klagenfurt result was cited by Kreisky as an example for what happens in a small coalition: the major partner absorbs the smaller one. People's Party Chairman Josef Taus admitted that his party failed to hold its position, but stressed that the party will have to make greater efforts for May 6. Freedom Party Chairman Alexander Götz asserted the results showed a trend against absolute majorities. (Independent KRONEN-ZEITUNG, independent DIE PRESSE, Mar. 26)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(137) (4) APR 79 p.-2-

Carinthian Politics: A tripartite summit of Carinthian party chairmen agreed, Apr. 2, that the projected reform of the provincial election law should be passed by the legislature this spring. While differences still exist on the substance of the reform, it was also informally agreed that the provincial legislature elections should be moved up to this fall (most likely, Oct. 7). Reports further say that State Secretary Albin Schober is expected to run for a provincial legislature seat because of his good showing in internal Socialist Party primaries. (Klagenfurt papers, independent SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, Apr. 3; independent DIE PRESSE, Apr. 4)

Carinthian Slovenes three

He voiced a strong protest against attempts to renew the distinctly political trials of young Slovenes and Slovene activists, whose actions were intended only to call attention to the unsatisfactory situation in dealing with the minority problem in accord with Article 7 of the Austrian State Treaty.

The same is true, Zwieter said, of participation in the councils for ethnic groups, envisaged under the July 1976 law enacted by the Austrian parliament on the basis of a nationalist tripartite agreement among the socialist, democratic, peoples and liberal parties. These moves are by no means an instrument of "pluralist democracy" but the actual instrument used by the nationalist circles to bar the genuine representatives of the

Carinthian Slovenes (four)

Dr Zwieter considers that no positive solutions can be expected as long as the tripartite agreement exists because decisions on the minority problem are being taken by nationalist forces. However, he is not entirely pessimistic and hopes that a new approach instead of confrontation may prevail in dealing with the minority problem on the basis of constructive dialogue following the coming elections for the Carinthian provincial diet and federal parliament. In addition, he noted what he described as initial signs of reorientation in the positive direction.

Dr Zwieter asked for cooperation with all political parties and democratic forces willing to seek solutions for the actual minority problems. In particular, he emphasized the unity existing with the National Council of Carinthian Slovenes in dealing with all vital problems concerning the Slovene nationality.
(End item) VS/RD

the international aspect, these

FOI Case No: 7903512 Documents Released on March 21, 1980

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(138) (14) Apr 79 p.-2-

Minorities Report: In reply to a Parliamentary interpellation, Chancellor Bruno Kreisky asserted that the situation of Austria's ethnic minorities has been improved by a series of governmental measures since 1970. He cited the ethnic minorities law and financial support valued at 3.5 million schillings since 1977. He conceded that the minority advisory councils could not yet be appointed, giving internal problems in the minorities as the reason. (semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, Socialist AZ, Apr. 14)

#(139) (18) Apr 79 p.-2-

Minority Issue: On a visit to Carinthia, Austrian Communist Party Chairman Franz Muhri yesterday stated that the CP shares the view of ethnic minority representatives that the minorities law in no way safeguards implementation of State Treaty Article 7. He blamed the Socialists for the law, adding that the SP, despite its majority, gave in to pressure of the People's Party and Freedom Party. (Communist VOLKSSTIMME, Apr. 18)

Carinthian Politics: After the People's Party victory in the municipal elections at Klagenfurt, the Carinthian Socialists are going slow on the issue of a provincial election law reform. Governor Leopold Wagner (SP) obviously wants to await the outcome of the May 6 national elections before reopening the talks with the other two parties on the election reform. (Independent DIE PRESSE, Apr. 18)

#(140) (26) Apr 79 p.-2-

Slovene Reaction: As spokesman of the Slovene minority, Filip Warasch criticized the projected Carinthian election law changes under a Socialist-drafted bill as inimical to minority interests. The new provisions would prevent the entry of a Slovene candidate into the provincial legislature, he claimed. Provincial People's Party Secretary Alois Paulitsch similarly asserted that the proposed changes are disadvantageous for ethnic and other minority groups and called for further negotiations on the draft. (Klagenfurt People's Party VOLKSZEITUNG, Apr. 26)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(141) (02) May 79 p.-2-

Slovene Trials: The trials of eight Carinthian Slovenes for their part in the 1976 disturbances over the national minority census have now been fixed for early June in Salzburg courts. The trials had been recessed pending an appeal of the Council of Carinthian Slovenes to quash the proceedings which, however, was turned down by the judiciary authorities. (Independent SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, Apr. 28)

Carinthian Controversy: The bankruptcy of a paper plant in Rechberg in the southern border area of Carinthia and its possible sale to a Swiss-Yugoslav consortium has caused some political stir in the province. After the Freedom Party started proceedings for a popular referendum on the sale and the local People's Party suggested nationalization of the bankrupt plant, Carinthian Governor Leopold Wagner countered in reported concurrence with Chancellor Kreisky and Finance Minister Andresch that the Socialists would be willing to enter into nationalization talks, but encompassing the entire paper manufacturing industry. Meanwhile, on Apr. 29, the rightist Patriotic Front (Heimatsdienst) staged a demonstration for an "Austrian solution" of the Rechberg issue, i.e., against a sale of the plant to Yugoslav interests. Local FP leader and Chairman Gütz attended the demonstration. (Klagenfurt papers, Communist VOLKSSTIMME, May 1, independent DIE PRESSE, May 2)

#(142) (17) May 79 p.-2-

Slovene Issue: In a joint session, the two major Slovene minority organizations agreed on a letter to Chancellor Bruno Kreisky in which they recalled the major demands of the ethnic minority such as more broadcasting time and more economic aid for southern Carinthia. They also expressed their objections to the projected new provincial election law as blocking all chances for a Slovene seat in the provincial legislature. (Klagenfurt KARTNER TAGESZEITUNG & VOLKSZEITUNG, May 16) --- Carinthian Governor Leopold Wagner rejected Slovene assertions that southern Carinthia is being economically discriminated against. (Independent DIE PRESSE, KURIER, May 17)

FOI Case No: 7903512 Documents Released on March 21, 1980

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(143) 18 May 79 p. -1-

NEWS ROUND-UP 96/79

Yugoslav Relations: According to a report of the Yugoslav Presidency issued in Belgrade May 15, Austrian-Yugoslav relations are improving continuously. Frequent mutual contacts in recent years promoted bilateral cooperation and led to mutually advantageous expansion of relations, it said. It further pointed out that Yugoslavia will continue its efforts to reach full implementation of Slovene and Croat minority rights under the Austrian State Treaty. (Independent SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, May 17) --- An Austrian customs guard on a patrol along the Styrian-Yugoslav border on May 14 was taken prisoner by two Yugoslav border guards and released only after several hours of questioning. The Austrian Foreign Ministry will not take action until a joint investigation on the spot will show whether the incident took place on Austrian territory. Local Yugoslav authorities have already conceded that it might have been a mistake on the part of the two Yugoslav soldiers. (Independent DIE PRESSE, KURIER, KRONEN-ZEITUNG, Graz KLEINE ZEITUNG, May 18)

#(144) (20) May 79 p.-2-

Carinthian SP: At their provincial congress, Carinthian Socialists re-elected Governor Leopold Wagner provincial party chairman with 411 of 414 votes. As guest speaker, Chancellor Bruno Kreisky pledged massive financial support of the federal government for the province. (Klagenfurt Socialist KARNTNER TAGESZEITUNG, May 20)

#(145) (06) Jun 79 p.-2-

Slovene Trials: Three Salzburg trials of six Slovene minority members scheduled for June 7-8, had to be cancelled after the six defendants addressed petitions to President Kirchsclager to quash the proceedings (for offenses in the 1976 controversies over the ethnic census). (Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, June 6)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(146) (08) JUN 79 p.-2-

Slovene Visitors: Deputy Prime Minister Dusan Sinigoj and Deputy Foreign Minister Tone Poljsak of the Republic of Slovenia are currently on a visit in Vienna. They were received by Vienna Mayor Gratz yesterday. The visitors' program also includes talks with Chancellor Bruno Kreisky and Foreign Minister Willibald Pahr. (Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, June 8)

#(147) (19) JUN 79 p.-2-

Slovene Trial: Mirko Messner, CP District Secretary in Klagenfurt, and a Slovene student will go on trial in a Salzburg court on July 1 on a charge of having violently resisted police during an ethnic minority demonstration in St. Kanzian (Carinthia) on Aug. 8, 1976. While other Salzburg trials of Slovene minority members have been postponed indefinitely pending an amnesty appeal to President Kirchschiäger, no such applications have reportedly been filed by Messner and the other defendant, (Independent SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, June 19)

COMMENT -- In its summation of the Vienna summit, independent weekly WOCHENPRESSE of June 20 plays up President Carter's reference in his arrival statement to Austria's independence, sovereignty and neutrality. "It was the first declaration on Austria's international status ever delivered by a U.S. President in such an unambiguous form," the weekly finds.

II. 25 Jun 79

17

YUGOSLAVIA

VRHOVEC RECEIVES REPRESENTATIVES OF MINORITIES IN AUSTRIA

Carinthian Slovenes

LD241113 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1908 GMT 22 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Zagreb--Josip Vrhovec, federal secretary for foreign affairs, today received a delegation of Carinthian Slovenes from Austria led by Dr France Cviter, president of the Federation of Slovene Organizations, and Dr Matevz Grilc, president of the National Council of Carinthian Slovenes.

The representatives from Carinthian Slovene organizations acquainted the federal secretary with the position of the Slovene national minority in Austria and with the problems of its further national, cultural and economic development on the basis of the provisions in the Austrian State Treaty. They also expressed satisfaction at the constant strengthening of relations and expansion of cooperation between the Slovene national community in Austria and the nations and nationalities of the SFRY, which they see as a significant positive factor for enriching all the good-neighborly links between the Austrian peoples and the nations and nationalities of Yugoslavia and the comprehensive development of Yugoslav-Austrian cooperation.

The federal secretary pointed to the SFRY's principal interest in the position and rights of the Slovene and Croatian minorities in Austria and confirmed support for the just demands of these minorities so that their unhindered all-around development on the basis of the State Treaty can be insured. Josip Vrhovec also emphasized that promoting the position and rights of the national minorities represents a significant factor in linking and strengthening friendly cooperation between the two countries. The federal secretary stressed that Yugoslavia consistently calls for the development of comprehensive, good-neighborly relations with Austria, starting from the conviction that realizing democratic, stable and equitable relations in Europe is in accordance with the provisions of the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference on European Security and Cooperation.

II. 25 Jun 79

1 8

YUGOSLAVIA

Burgenland Croats

LD241114 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1345 GMT 23 Jun 79 LD

[Text] Zagreb--Josip Vrhovec, federal secretary for foreign affairs, today received in Zagreb representatives of Burgenland Croats in Austria--Dr Ivan Mueller, president of the Croatian Cultural Society; Alfons Kornfeind, secretary of the Croatian Cultural Society; Stefan Emmrich, vice president of the Printing Society; Marijana Grandich, president of the Croatian Academic Club; and Hubert Resetarich, chairman of the Committee for the rights of Burgenland Croats. Representatives of the Croatian national minority in Austria acquainted the federal secretary with the position of Burgenland Croats and their endeavors to achieve the most meaningful and comprehensive progress possible for the minority community on the basis of the Austrian State Treaty. They also expressed satisfaction over the development of ties and cooperation with the Socialist Republic of Croatia and the SFRY; they see in this a significant contribution to the better acquaintance and friendship of the Austrian people and the nations and nationalities of the SFRY as well as consolidation of the cooperation between the two neighboring countries as a whole.

On this occasion Federal Secretary Josip Vrhovec also confirmed the principled interest of Yugoslavia in the position and rights of the Croatian and Slovene national minority in Austria. He stressed that Yugoslavia will continue to work towards the Burgenland Croats and Slovenes in Austria being ensured the best possible conditions for their unhindered comprehensive development in line with the provisions of the State Treaty. By proceeding from the lasting orientation towards the development of good-neighborly relations with all neighboring countries, Yugoslavia works consistently for the further promotion of the Yugoslav-Austrian cooperation, Josip Vrhovec stressed. He stressed at the same time that our country is in this way making the best contribution to expanding equitable cooperation and to building democratic and stable relations between states and peoples in this area, in the spirit of the Final Act of the Conference on European Security and Cooperation.

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(148) 03 JUL 79 p.-1-

NEWS ROUND-UP

124/79

Yugoslav Relations: At the meeting of the government heads of Slovenia, Croatia and Austria's southern provinces in Mureck, June 30, Carinthian Governor Leopold Wagner said that relations between Slovenia and Carinthia are better today than is generally assumed because the people on both sides of the Karawanken mountain range want close contacts. Slovenia's chief executive Anton Vratusa cited the project of a Karawanken highway tunnel as a special example for the results of this what he called neighborhood policy. (Independent DIE PRESSE, July 3; Klagenfurt Socialist KARTNER TAGESZEITUNG, July 1)

FOI Case No: 7903512 Documents released on 21 March, 1980

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(149) (11) Jul 79 p.-2-

Minority Issue: The Hungarian minority advisory council will be the first such institution to be created under the three-year-old ethnic minority law. The council will have its organizing meeting tomorrow in the Chancellery. The Czech minority council is to follow soon while no agreement is in sight for the projected Slovene and Croat minority councils. (Independent DIE PRESSE, July 11)

#(150) (12) Jul 79 p.-2-

Slovene Trial: A Salzburg trial of Klagenfurt CP District Secretary Mirko Messner and student Johann Malle for having resisted police during a minority demonstration in 1976 was recessed yesterday pending a decision on a defense motion for a change of venue to Klagenfurt. The public prosecutor supported the defense motion. Defense Attorney Matevz Grilc had argued that the defendants would have no right in the Salzburg court to use Slovene and that earlier fears of disturbances in case of a trial in Klagenfurt are no longer warranted. One other defendant in similar proceedings arising out of the 1976 demonstrations has meanwhile been amnestied by President Rudolf Kirchschläger. Other amnesty applications are still pending and under study by the Justice Ministry. (Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, Communist VOLKSSTIMME, July 12)

#(151) (14) Jul 79 p.-2-

Minority Councils: Despite Chancellor Bruno Kreisky's hopes to the contrary, chances are slim for overcoming the difficulties in the way to formation of the ethnic minority councils for the Czechs, Croats and Slovenes. In the case of the Vienna Czechs, the old-time local Czechs claim a monopoly in the council while Kreisky reportedly also wants recent Czech immigrants represented. The Burgenland Croats are also split over the question whether the assimilation-advocating group headed by Friedrich Robak should also be represented in the Croat advisory council. (Independent DIE PRESSE, July 14)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AIRGRAM NO. A-126, 16 JULY 1979

Description given in the Affidavit of Thomas W. Ainsworth and Department of State's Document Index filed on February 18, 1981 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, in Civil Action No. C-79-2787 MHP.

Document No. E-1; Description: 21 page secret Airgram from the United States Mission to NATO to the Department of State Number A-126 dated July 16, 1979 transmitting a report by a friendly government setting forth an estimate of the prospects for Yugoslavia for a period of two or three years. Denied pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(1) and Executive Order 12065 [3 C.F.R. 190 (1979) 1-301()] because this report was given to the United States government in confidence by a foreign government. As Foreign Government information, no unclassified portions of the report are segregable. The covering one paragraph airgram identifying the confidential source has no other substantive content.

4. Further details concerning Document E-1 are: It is a one page State Department Airgram, with one 20 page enclosure, whose classification was authorized by the Charge d'Affairs, U.S. Mission NATO, L. Legere and which may be reviewed for declassification on July 12, 1989.

FOI Case No: 7903512 Documents Released on March 21, 1980

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(152) 26 Jul 79

NEWS ROUND-UP 140/79

Minority Issue: The (leftist) Central Association of Slovene Organizations in Carinthia issued a statement earlier this week denying all-out support for the Socialist Party in the upcoming provincial legislature elections. Though the Association's deputy chairman Ogris holds a favorable position on the party's ticket, the role of the SP in the creation of the Ethnic Minorities Law (rejected by the Slovenes) cannot be ignored, the statement reportedly said. (Independent DIE PRESSE, July 26)

#(153) 26 Jul 79 p.-2-

Local Trend: While Vorarlberg was the only province where the Socialists suffered heavy losses in last May's national elections, a recent poll showed the Socialists to be the only party expecting to gain in the provincial legislature elections on Oct. 21. On the basis of this poll, the Socialists might jump the 30% hurdle for the first time, increasing their share from 27.6% in the 1974 elections to a projected 32.4%. The ruling People's Party would drop from 56.9 to 53.4% while the Freedom Party would just about hold its own with 13.9% in 1974 and an expected 13.6% this year. (Independent VORARLBERGER NACHRICHTEN, July 24)

Minority Subsidies: Of the five million schillings budgeted for ethnic minority subsidies by the federal government, only 173,000 schillings were actually spent. A government report points out that the granting of such subsidies is conditioned on the advice of the ethnic minority councils (which do not yet exist). The funds spent last year went entirely to the Hungarian minority upon proper application. (Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, July 26)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE TELEGRAM ZAGREB 00635, 30 JULY 1979

Description given in the Affidavit of Clayton E. McManaway and Department of State's Document Index filed on April 21, 1980 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, in Civil Action No. C-79-2787 ACW.

Document No. 10.

30 July 1979, 1-page CONFIDENTIAL telegram (Zagreb 635). Released with portions of paragraphs 2, 3 and all of paragraph 4 deleted pursuant to the [5 U.S.C. 552] (b)(1) exemption.

Account of Yugoslav-Austrian relations with foreign government source deleted.

ACTION
COPY

CONFIDENTIAL
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

PAGE 01 ZAGREB 00635 050053Z
ACTION EURE-12

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 /057 W
-----097281 050141Z /62

R 301500Z JUL 79
FM AMCONSUL ZAGREB
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6121
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ZAGREB 635

E.O. 12065: GDS 7/30/85 (GROBEL, OLAF) OR-M
TAGS: PINR, PINT, YO, AU
SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. [APPROXIMATELY SIX LINES OF THE TEXT APPEARING IN THIS PLACE WERE WITHHELD FROM DISCLOSURE] REGARDING THE MINORITY PROBLEM. HE HAS NOTED A RELATIVELY MODERATE STANCE OF THE SLOVENIAN PRESS SINCE ABOUT THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR TOWARD AUSTRIAN TREATMENT OF SLOVENES IN CARINTHIA, WITH AN ABSENCE OF POLEMICS. REGARDING PROVINCE-TO-PROVINCE RELATIONS, THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF USEFUL EXCHANGES RECENTLY BETWEEN LOCAL OFFICIALS ON PROBLEMS OF MUTUAL INTEREST (FOR EXAMPLE, ON JOINT EXPLOITATION OF THE MUR RIVER, ALONG THE YUGOSLAV-AUSTRIAN BORDER, FOR HYDROELECTRIC POWER). PREPARATIONS ARE IN PROGRESS FOR AN OFFICIAL VISIT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SLOVENIAN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, ANTON VRATUSA, TO HIS COUNTERPART IN GRAZ, AND A VISIT BY FEDERAL SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS VRHOVEC TO VIENNA IS ALSO IN PROSPECT.

3. [APPROXIMATELY THREE LINES APPEARING IN THIS PLACE WERE WITHHELD FROM DISCLOSURE] THAT HUA COUNSELED TITO TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH "THE SMALLER COUNTRIES OF EUROPE." IN PUBLICIZED REMARKS FOLLOWING THE HUA VISIT, TITO SAID THAT YUGOSLAVIA WOULD CONTINUE TO WORK FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS AND COOPERATION WITH ITS NEIGHBORS (SEE 78 BELGRADE 6688, PARA 11).

4. [THE ENTIRE FOURTH PARAGRAPH CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY EIGHT LINES WAS WITHHELD FROM DISCLOSURE]
GROBEL.

CONFIDENTIAL

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(154) (08) Sep 79 p.-2-

Slovene Candidacy: Ticket-leader Karl Smolle conceded that KEL, the Carinthian Unity Ticket, has hardly any chance to win a seat in the provincial legislature elections on Oct. 7, but the candidacy marks the starting point for increased activities of the Slovene minority. In 1975, the Slovene ticket registered 6,000 votes, but the figure is likely to be lower this year because the Socialist Party placed Johann Ogris, a prominent Slovene official, on a safe position of its ticket. (Independent SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, Sept. 8)

#(155) (18) Sep 79 p.-2-

Slovene Issue: In a special interview, Carinthian Governor Leopold Wagner claimed that the situation with regard to the Slovene minority issue in the province has calmed down and spoke also of an improvement of relations with Yugoslavia in the past few months. Wagner further regretted the continuing boycott of the minority advisory council by the Slovenes and asserted that the minority leaders have obviously underestimated the extent of the tripartite agreement which eliminated the minority issue as a bone of political contention between the parties. Wagner also expected the Slovene ticket for the upcoming provincial elections to suffer some setbacks. Meanwhile, Franc Zwitter, chairman of the (leftist) Central Federation of Slovene Organizations, sharply criticized the political parties for the Ethnic Minorities Law as having prevented an acceptable solution of the minority's vital problems. (Independent DIE PRESSE, Sept.18)

#(156) (19) Sep 79 p.-2-

Carinthian Bombing: A bomb exploded yesterday afternoon in the Volkermarkt (carinthia) city hall wing housing the museum of the 1919-20 defense of southern Carinthia against Yugoslav incursions and the 1920 plebiscite in the bilingual area of the province. Heavy damage was caused and three persons were injured by the bomb blast. Police have arrested a 19-year-old suspect, but are not sure whether political motives can be assumed. The suspect is being detained in a psychiatric clinic. Political leaders of the province, in first reactions, condemned the incident. (All papers, e.g. Socialist AZ, independent KURIER, independent KRONEN-ZEITUNG, Sept. 19)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(157) (23) Sep 79 p.-2-

Carinthia Bomb: The woman arrested in connection with the recent bombing of the Völkermarkt city hall has now been identified as Mira Blaj (or Blei) of Maribor. Her passport on the name of Mira Lorger had been stolen, according to Yugoslav police information. Carinthian Governor Leopold Wagner noted with satisfaction that the bombing had no effect on the parties' style in the current provincial election campaign. (Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, et al., Sept. 22 & 23)

#(158) (27) Sep 79 p.-2-

Bombs: 28-year-old Mira Blei (alias Lorger) yesterday confessed to an investigating magistrate to be responsible for the bombing of the Völkermarkt (Carinthia) city hall last week. The Maribor woman also disclosed that Luka Vidmar who is still in hospital care was her accomplice. She claimed that the bomb exploded prematurely. (All papers, e.g. Socialist AZ, Sept. 27) -- A bomb explosion heavily damaged the Andreas Hofer monument in Meran (South Tyrol) early yesterday morning. Leaflets found near the site point to an "Italian Movement for Alto Adige" as the perpetrators of the act. The South Tyrol People's Party sharply condemned the bombing. (All papers, e.g. Socialist AZ, Sept. 27)

FOI Case No: 7903512 Documents Released on March 21, 1980

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(159) (28) Sep 79 p.-2-

grade, König also met with Yugoslav Deputy Prime Minister Ivo Margan. (Independent DIE PRESSE, Sept. 28)

Carinthia Bomb: Confronted with the confession of Mira Blei-Lorger, 32-year-old Yugoslav Luka Vidmar has now also admitted to a Klagenfurt investigating magistrate his part in last week's bombing of the Völkermarkt city hall. Vidmar who is still in hospital after a leg amputation confessed to have manufactured the bomb. (All papers, e.g. semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, Sept. 28) --- Yugoslav Government Spokesman Mirko Kalezic yesterday termed the Völkermarkt bombing an "unpleasant development" and objected to speculations in the Austrian press as apt to impair the development of good neighborly relations and the implementation of national rights of the ethnic minorities in Austria. The Yugoslav public condemns the bombing, he also said, adding that Yugoslavia actively opposes terrorism. (Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, et al., Sept. 28)

Election Complaints: Spokesmen of the Slovene minority ticket yesterday announced plans for a complaint to be filed with the Constitutional Court against the revised Carinthian local election law after the provincial legislature elections on Oct. 7. According to the group, the division of the province in four electoral districts discriminates against smaller groups and this also violates Art. 7 of the State Treaty. (Independent DIE PRESSE, Sept. 28) --- The Constitutional Court will have to deal with three complaints against local elections in its fall term, an FP complaint against the Lower Austrian provincial legislature elections and an independent group's complaint against the Salzburg provincial legislature elections of last March as well as a Socialist complaint against the Tyrol agricultural chamber elections. (Independent KURIER, Sept. 28)

FOI Case No: 7903512 Documents Released on March 21, 1980

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(160) 03 Oct 79 p. -1-

NEWS ROUND-UP 187/79

Minorities Conference: Addressing an eight-nation ethnic minorities conference in Koper (Slovenia), former Slovenian Prime Minister Mitja Ribicic strongly condemned the recent bombing of the Völkermarkt city hall in Carinthia. His remark that this plot was directed against Yugoslavia's policy of non-alignment, peaceful coexistence and good relations with neighbors is interpreted by observers as indicating Yugoslav concern that opposition quarters inside Yugoslavia might have been responsible for the bombing. The Koper conference, Sept. 29-30, was attended by Austrian Slovene officials Franci Zwitter and Filip Warasch. (Graz Socialist NEUE ZEIT, semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, Oct. 2)

CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION, 16 OCTOBER 1979

Description given in the Affidavit of Clayton E. McManaway and Department of State's Document Index filed on April 21, 1980 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, in Civil Action No. C-79-2787 ACW.

Document No. 18.

16 October 1979, 2-page CONFIDENTIAL Memorandum of Conversation. Denied in full pursuant to the [5 U.S.C. 552] (b)(1) exemption.

Account of a meeting between the Department of State and an Austrian government official, containing foreign government information and policy concerning regional politics, as well as comment about an official of the Austrian government.

CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION, 16 OCTOBER 1979

Description given in the Affidavit of Thomas W. Ainsworth and Department of State's Supplemental Document Descriptions filed on October 5, 1981 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, in Civil Action No. C-79-2787 MHP.

6. Paragraph L [Memorandum Decision and Order, Part II-L, September 2, 1981, page 9] concerning Memorandum dated October 16, 1979 (document No. 18): The Memorandum originally bore the administrative control designation "Limited Official Use." Department of State security regulations (5 FAM 958.1) provide that material so designated shall be physically handled and transmitted as if it were classified "Confidential." On March 11, 1980 the Deputy Secretary of State, after reviewing the Memorandum, classified it Confidential in accordance with Section 1-606 of E[xecutive] O[rder] 12065, [3 C.F.R. 190 (1974)]. It is scheduled to be reviewed on January 1, 1986 for possible declassification. It has been withheld in its entirety under exemption [5 U.S.C. 552] (b)(1). The memorandum consists of an account in four paragraphs of a conversation between the Political Counsellor of the American Embassy, Vienna, [Woodward Romine] and a member of the Upper House of the Austrian Parliament. The first paragraph identifies the Austrian official and describes the circumstances of the Embassy officer's call on him. The second paragraph sets forth the views of the Austrian official concerning recent provincial elections in Austria and the expectations and future political plans of the Austrian political parties concerned. The third paragraph sets forth the Austrian official's view of the role of the Slovenian minority in the recent elections, and his expectation for future developments concerning the minority situation. The paragraph includes Embassy comments on the views expressed by the Austrian official. The fourth paragraph summarizes the Embassy officer's personal impression of the Austrian official. The Austrian official in view of the content of his statements, must have intended this information to be regarded as imparted in confidence.

CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION, 16 OCTOBER 1979

[Continued]

The manner in which this political information is set forth in the memorandum would, moreover, identify the source. The circumstances of the Embassy officer's call on the Austrian official would if disclosed also tend to identify that official. The Embassy comments on the Austrian official's views would if disclosed be likely to inhibit foreign officials from frank and confidential conversations with U.S. diplomats, and thereby adversely affect the gathering of information important to formulation and execution of U.S. foreign policy. For these reasons, no parts of the memorandum can be segregated and released without causing identifiable damage to U.S. foreign relations and the national security. The document meets the criteria of Sections 1-301 (b), 1-301 (d), 1-302 and 1-104 of E.O. 12065 for continued classification as Confidential. No part of the memorandum mentions, or suggests the existence of, any U.S. role, obligation or responsibility under the Austrian State Treaty.

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(161) 19 Oct 79 p.-1-

NEWS ROUND-UP 198/79

Yugoslav Visitor: Yesterday's talks between visiting Yugoslav Foreign Minister Josip Vrhovec and Austrian Foreign Minister Willibald Pahr as well as toasts at a luncheon seem to indicate a favorable turn in Austrian-Yugoslav relations and a clarification of misunderstandings over Austria's ethnic minority policy. In the afternoon, Vrhovec also met with leaders of the Burgenland Croat Cultural Association and of the two major Slovene minority organizations. In his toast, Foreign Minister Pahr stressed the importance of non-aligned nations for the maintenance of peace and spoke of parallel Austrian and Yugoslav interests in this connection. He further pointed out that the development of ethnic minorities in Austria is assured. Vrhovec, in turn, recalled President Tito's remark that Austrian-Yugoslav relations have taken a promising turn, adding that the cooperation of the two nations with differing social systems can be described as of exemplary nature. He further welcomed Austria's readiness to guarantee the free development of the ethnic minorities. Meanwhile, the (Socialist-aligned) Mayors' Conference of Burgenland Croat Communities welcomed what it called "a clarification of the situation" as a result of the Vrhovec visit. The group pointed out that the majority of the Burgenland Croats do not want any special privileges. Yesterday it was also learned in connection with the Vrhovec visit that Chancellor Bruno Kreisky and Yugoslav Prime Minister Veselin Djuranovic might meet, Nov. 5, for the ceremonial start of work on the Karawanken highway tunnel. (All papers, e.g. independent DIE PRESSE, Socialist AZ, semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, Oct. 19)

Burgenland Croats: In a recent letter to Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, the Burgenland Croat Cultural Association again rejected the Chancellor's appeal to join the Croat minority advisory council under the ethnic minorities law. The letter pointed out that Association objects to the projected council membership of ethnic assimilation advocates such as Friedrich Robak's mayors' conference. (Burgenland People's Party weekly BVZ, Oct. 17)

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(162) 22 OCT 79 p.-1-
#(163) 22 OCT 79 p.-2-

NEWS ROUND-UP

199/79

Yugoslav Visitor: In a Vienna press conference concluding his official visit to Austria, Oct. 19, Yugoslav Foreign Minister Josip Vrhovec underlined the improvement of Austrian-Yugoslav relations as a positive example. He also pointed to the ethnic minorities as a positive element for greater understanding between the two nations, adding that the Croats and Slovenes living in Austria can best find a solution for their problems in a direct dialogue with the Austrian government. He further noted that Austria has pledged its readiness to maintain the identity of its ethnic minorities. Vrhovec again condemned any kind of terrorism such as the recent bombing of the Völkermarkt city hall. Talking on other topics, Vrhovec advocated that the Madrid CSCE follow-up conference should be staged on the ministerial level. On the last day of his visit, Vrhovec was received by both President Rudolf Kirchschlager and Chancellor Bruno Kreisky. (All papers, e.g. independent DIE PRESSE, Socialist AZ, comunique in semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, Oct. 20)

COMMENT -- Independent DIE PRESSE of Oct. 20 runs a very positive assessment of the Vienna visit of Yugoslav Foreign Minister Vrhovec, speaking of a veritable breakthrough in mutual relations.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE CONFIDENTIAL TELEGRAM VIENNA 11650

25 OCTOBER 1979

Description given in the Affidavit of Thomas W. Ainsworth and Department of State's Supplemental Document Descriptions filed on October 5, 1981 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, in Civil Action No. C-79-2787 MHP.

3. First paragraph F [Memorandum Decision and Order, Part II-F, page 6, September 2, 1981] concerning Vienna telegram 11650 (document No. 11): The telegram dated October 25, 1979 was classified Confidential at origination pursuant to Executive Order 12065 [3 C.F.R. 190 (1979)] and scheduled for automatic declassification ("GDS") on October 25, 1985. The telegram consists of six paragraphs, of which paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 have been withheld under exemption [5 U.S.C. 552] (b)(1). The Court has accepted the validity of the excisions from the first three paragraphs. Paragraphs 4 and 5 consist of an account by the foreign government official of subjects other than the minority question which were discussed during the visit of the Yugoslav Foreign Minister to Austria. These views and positions of the Austrian and Yugoslav Governments on these other subjects have not been made public to the best of my knowledge. This information must be regarded as having been communicated to the U.S. Government in confidence and comes within the scope of Section 1-301 (b) of E.O. 12065. Paragraph 6 of the telegram sets forth the assessment of the American Embassy in Vienna of the impact of the Yugoslav Foreign Minister's visit on Austria's relations with neighboring countries, and includes the substance of information received from the foreign official. This Embassy assessment if disclosed could adversely affect our relations with one or both countries concerned. It therefore comes within the scope of Sections 1-301 (b) and 1-301 (d) of E.O. 12065. There is no mention in these three paragraphs of the minority question or of any U.S. obligation or role under the Austrian State Treaty.

CONFIDENTIAL
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

PAGE 01
ACTION EURE-12

VIENNA 11650 280523Z

INFO OCT-01 ADS-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-06 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
SMS-01 /068 W -----060728 280539Z /10

R 251611Z OCT 79
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4299
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 11650

E.O. 12065: GDS-10/25/85 (ROMINE, WOODWARD) OR-P
TAGS: PEPR, YO, AU
SUBJECT: VISIT OF YUGOSLAV FOREIGN MINISTER JOSEF VRHOVEC
TO VIENNA OCTOBER 17-20

1. (C-ENTIRE TEXT)

2. [A LINE AND A HALF OF THE TEXT APPEARING IN THIS PLACE
WAS DELETED-----]AUSTRIANS ARE HIGHLY PLEASED WITH RE-
SULTS OF THE VISIT OF YUGOSLAV FOREIGN MINISTER JOSEF
VRHOVEC. OBJECT OF THE VISIT, [---DELETION---] WAS TO ESTAB-
LISH FOR PUBLIC RECORD THE DETERMINATION OF THE TWO
COUNTRIES TO IMPROVE AND STRENGTHEN THEIR RELATIONS. THE
VISIT THEREFORE PRINCIPALLY DEALT WITH BILATERAL AFFAIRS
WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE MINORITIES QUESTION. THE
AUSTRIANS [---DELETION---] WERE ANXIOUS TO CONVINCED THE YUGO-
SLAVS THAT AUSTRIA IS DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO
GUARANTEE TO MINORITY GROUPS THAT THEY MAY HAVE THEIR OWN
CULTURAL AND SOCIAL IDENTITY AND MAY WORK FREELY AND WITH-
OUT DISCRIMINATION WITHIN AUSTRIAN SOCIETY. IN THIS
CONNECTION, [---DELETION---] THE AUSTRIANS ARE NOW CONSIDER-
ING ESTABLISHING MORE KINDERGARTENS FOR SLOVENIAN-SPEAKING
CHILDREN, WHICH HAS BEEN A MEASURE OFTEN DEMANDED BY THE
LEADERS OF THE SLOVENIAN ETHNIC GROUP, AND GIVING MORE
RADIO TIME TO SLOVENIAN LANGUAGE PROGRAMS. THE ONLY
MEASURE WHICH THE AUSTRIANS COULD NOT ACCEPT WAS TO ACT TO
PREVENT ASSIMILATION OF SLOVENIANS INTO THE GERMAN-SPEAKING
COMMUNITY. THIS [---DELETION---] WAS BOTH POLITICALLY AND
ADMINISTRATIVELY IMPOSSIBLE AND THE YUGOSLAVS UNDERSTOOD
THIS. [-----DELETION-----] THE MINORITY GROUPS ARE
GRADUALLY BEING ASSIMILATED BUT THAT THIS MAKES THE PROBLEM
EVEN MORE DELICATE, SINCE THE REMAINING MEMBERS OF THE
ETHNIC GROUP FEEL MORE AND MORE ISOLATED. THIS CALLS FOR
INCREASED ATTENTION TO THE RESPECT OF THEIR RIGHTS AND
SUPPORT OF THEIR STATUS.

3. THE AUSTRIANS WERE PARTICULARLY PLEASED THAT VRHOVEC, IN ONE OF HIS PUBLIC UTTERANCES, ADVISED THE MINORITY GROUPS TO SEEK TO SOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS THROUGH A CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE AUSTRIAN AUTHORITIES. THIS SIGNIFIED[---DELETION--]YUGOSLAV RECOGNITION THAT THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT IS DEALING CAREFULLY AND EQUITABLY WITH THIS PROBLEM, AND THAT IT IS PRESENTLY NOT A SUBJECT OF DISPUTE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

4. [THE ENTIRE PARAGRAPH 4 WAS WITHHELD FROM DISCLOSURE]

5. [THE ENTIRE PARAGRAPH 5 WAS WITHHELD FROM DISCLOSURE]

6. [THE ENTIRE PARAGRAPH 6 WAS WITHHELD FROM DISCLOSURE]

[PARAGRAPHS 4, 5, AND 6 CONSISTED OF APPROXIMATELY 2Ø LINES OF TEXT AND WERE DELETED IN THEIR ENTIRETY]

CONFIDENTIAL

SOURCE: American Embassy, Vienna, Austria
Prepared by the Political Section

#(164) 05 DEC 79 p.-2-

Slovene Talks: Upon initiative of Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, talks will take place in the Chancellery on Dec. 7 between representatives of the government and of the Parliamentary parties, on the one hand, and the two major organizations of the Slovene ethnic minority in Carinthia. In his invitation to the latter Kreisky has reportedly said he wanted to offer the Slovene organizations an opportunity to explain their refusal to join the minority advisory council. (Semi-official WIENER ZEITUNG, Dec. 5; Independent SALZBURGER NACHRICHTEN, Dec. 4)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AIRGRAM NO. A-18, 7 FEBRUARY 1980

Description given in the Affidavit of Thomas W. Ainsworth and the Department of State's Document Index filed on February 18, 1981 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, in Civil Action No. C-79-2787 MHP.

Document No. E-2; Description: 14 page Confidential Airgram No: A-18 from the American Embassy at Belgrade to the Department of State No. A-18 dated February 7, 1980 giving the Embassy's assessment of the state of the Yugoslav government's relations with its neighbors. Denied pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552 (b) (1) & (5) and Executive Order 12065 [3 C.F.R. 190 (1979)] 1-301 () because the Airgram contains material which if made public would cause at least identifiable damage to the foreign relations of the United States and also because it consists of opinions and assessments of a field mission made for the use of the Department of State which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency. There are no reasonably segregable portions which are not covered by either or both of the cited exemptions.

5. Further details concerning Document E-2 are: It is a 14 page State Department Airgram the classification of which was authorized by the Deputy Chief of Mission at Belgrade, J[ohn] D. Scanlan and which may be reviewed for declassification on January 31, 1986. J. D. Scanlan occupied a position which was designated as one authorized to classify documents at least at the level of Document E-2.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AIRGRAM NO. A-18, 7 FEBRUARY 1980

Excerpt from the Memorandum Decision and Order of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, issued on September 2, 1981, in Civil Action No. C-79-2787 MHP.

N. Document E-2 -- Airgram A-018 -- withheld in its entirety: As with document 14 (discussed at I. above), defendant has relied on the [5 U.S.C. 552] (b)(5) exemption as well as the (b)(1) exemption in withholding this document. However, the amount of material withheld here (fourteen pages) is far greater than that involved as to document 14. The court therefore finds that the present Vaughn [v. Rosen, 484 F.2d 820 (1973)] index is inadequate, and defendant is ORDERED to produce the document for in camera inspection to determine whether there are segregable non-exempt portions. Because an in camera inspection is to be performed on other grounds, defendant need not submit any supplemental affidavit on the violation of law issue, and the court will also assess that issue at the time of the in camera inspection.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AIRGRAM NO. A-18, 7 FEBRUARY 1980

Description given in the Affidavit of Thomas W. Ainsworth and Department of State's Supplemental Document Descriptions filed on October 5, 1981 in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, in Civil Action No. C-79-2787 MHP.

7. Paragraph N [Memorandum Decision and Order of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, Part II-N, September 2, 1981, page 9] concerning Airgram A-18 from the American Embassy at Belgrade dated February 7, 1980 (document No. E-2): This Airgram was classified Confidential at origination under E[xecutive] O[rder] 12065 [3 C.F.R. 190 (1979)] and scheduled for automatic declassification ("GDS") on January 31, 1986. Although the document is available for the Court's in camera review pursuant to its Order of September 2, the following information is furnished in the hope that it will obviate the need for such review, or alternatively assist the Court to determine that the document is properly withheld in its entirety under exemptions [5 U.S.C. 552] (b) (1) and (b) (5). As stated in my previous affidavit in this case executed on October 17, 1980 [filed on February 18, 1981], the subject of the document is an assessment of Yugoslav relations with neighboring countries. The airgram begins with a section entitled "Summary and Conclusions" (pages 1-4) which contains eight paragraphs. This section consists of Embassy's analysis and comments, with illustrative factual material, on this politically sensitive regional question. The remainder of the airgram consists of separate sections dealing with Yugoslav relations with the following countries: Italy (pages 4-5); Austria (page 6); Greece (pages 7-8); Hungary (pages 8-9); Romania (pages 9-10); Bulgaria (pages 11-12); and Albania (pages 13-14). Part of one paragraph of the section dealing with Yugoslav-Austria relations, and one related sentence in the Summary section, deal with the minority question which is the subject of the Plaintiff's request. They treat the minority question solely in terms of Austrian-Yugoslav bilateral relations and do not mention or suggest the existence of, any US role or obligation under the Austrian State Treaty. The subject of relations among the countries concerned is an important and sensitive subject in terms of international stability in Eastern Europe and consequently is of significant

interest to the US for reasons of foreign policy and foreign relations. The Embassy assessment of these relations in this airgram constitutes a cohesive piece of analytical political reporting. It reflects confidential contacts with Yugoslav sources as well as frank comments by US officials intended as a contribution to the policy formulation process. An attempt to segregate bits and pieces of this analysis for disclosure would be likely inadvertently to disclose the general pattern of analysis and consequently its conclusions. Such disclosure would be likely to inhibit contacts of US diplomats with Yugoslav officials and other sources of information, cause adverse reactions in one or more of the countries concerned, and thereby adversely affect US foreign activities and foreign relations. The document therefore meets the criteria of Sections 1-301 (d), 1-302 and 1-404 of E.O. 12065 for continued classification as Confidential. The document also continues to warrant protection under exemption [5 U.S.C. 552] (b)(5) because its disclosure would be likely to inhibit the free flow in the future of such analytical reporting for use in policy formulation.

Excerpt from the Order of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco, issued on March 19, 1982, in Civil Action No. C-79-2787 MHP.

This court has previously noted the Ainsworth affidavit is charily worded and insufficient to justify withholding material on the grounds asserted. While it accurately describes the nature of the fourteen-page document, the affidavit makes only general and overly broad assertions about the national security reasons for exemption. Those statements are not tied to any identifiable damage to the national security that would result from disclosure. An in camera inspection of the document reveals why. It is difficult to see how the disclosure of those portions of the document relative to plaintiff's FOIA [Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552 (1976)] request here could possibly affect national security.

First, it should be noted that much of the document is not relevant to plaintiff's request for it deals with the relations of Yugoslavia and all of its neighbors. Only a brief sentence in the introductory summary and one page in the body of the memo discuss Austria. Of that, only a small portion relates to the issue that is the focus of plaintiff's request. That portion is essentially factual, makes no reference to United States relations with any country, and is not the kind of material that could reasonably be expected to affect national security if disclosed.

Further, that portion which is the subject of plaintiff's request is readily segregable. The requirement of 5 U.S.C. 552 (b) that "any reasonably segregable portion of a record shall be provided" has been held to apply to (b)(1) and (b)(5) exemptions. EPA v. Mink, 410 U.S. 73, 92 (1973); Church of Scientology v. U.S. Department of the Army, 611 F.2d 738, 743-44 (9th Cir. 1979).

For the same reasons, this court finds the (b)(5) exemption is not justified by the in camera review. This court is at a loss to understand how these essentially factual statements or statements of matters of common knowledge to any

person moderately knowledgeable in foreign affairs could be construed as relating to policy formulation or the deliberative process. The purpose of the (b)(5) exemption is to protect materials developed in the deliberative process of decision-making, but not factual materials unless they are inextricably intertwined with policy-making matters. The relevant portions of document E-2 [Airgram No. A-18] are of the "low level, routine, factual reports" contemplated as being outside of or segregable from exemption (b)(5) records. EPA v. Mink, 410 U.S. at 92.

Even more troublesome than the broad assertions made in the affidavit to justify the exemptions are the inaccuracies it contains. Reference is made to confidential contacts with Yugoslav sources. Yet the only reference to any Yugoslav in the relevant portions of the document is to the Foreign Minister and his state visit to Austria. Another assertion was that the document contained frank comments by United States officials. Nowhere in that part of the document referring to Austria is there any mention of any United States official by name or other reference.

For the foregoing reasons, the defendant shall disclose to plaintiff those portions of the document designated by this court. One phrase may be deleted, since it appears to be a comparison of conditions between two countries, one of which is not of interest in this litigation. Disclosure shall be made within thirty (30) days of the date of this order.

In addition, defendant shall submit, within thirty (30) days of the date of this order, an affidavit or declaration under the penalty of perjury from a person who has first-hand knowledge of document E-2 (A-018) and its contents stating whether pages 1 and 6 of the document are, in fact, true and correct copies of the original document A-018, ref. Belgrad 0731.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
A I R G R A M

FILE DESIGNATION

CONFIDENTIAL

A-18

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INFO: Athens, Berlin, Bucharest, Budapest, Moscow, Trieste,
Prague, Rome, Sofia, Vienna, Warsaw, Munich, USNATO,
USUN New York, USDOCOSOUTH Naples, USCINCEUR
Vaihingen Ger, CINCUSAFE Ramstein AB GE

EO12065: GDS 1/31/86 (DUNLOP, Thomas P.H.) OR-P

FROM : Amembassy BELGRADE DATE: Feb. 7, 1980

SUBJECT: Yugoslavia's Relations With Its Neighbors

REF : Belgrade 0731

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Yugoslavia is a Balkan state with seven neighbors, historically disputed borders, and significant Yugoslav minorities located within four of those neighboring states. [Two paragraphs consisting of and estimated 24 lines have been withheld from disclosure on the first page.]

Page Two

[An estimated 22 lines appearing on the upper part of Page Two have been withheld from disclosure.] Differences with Austria over the Slovenian and Croatian minorities, which only a year earlier had occasioned press attacks, were soft pedaled. [An estimated 17 lines appearing on the lower part of Page Two were withheld from disclosure.]

Page Three

[An estimated 10 lines appearing on the upper part of Page Three have been withheld.] Yugoslavia's trade deficit with Austria is still a problem, but economic and border cooperation is expanding and the minority issue has been defused (at least temporarily) by Austrian pledges to help ensure the development of Yugoslav minorities.

[An estimated 25 lines appearing on the lower part of Page Three have been withheld from disclosure.]

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AUSTRIA

Relations are good. Austria is neutral by treaty; has neither territorial pretensions against Yugoslavia nor significant "Austrian" minorities in Yugoslavia; and has a strong interest in Yugoslav independence and stability. Yugoslav claims to portions of Carinthia have lain dormant for decades, but the Yugoslavs have pressed the Austrians -- sharply at times -- regarding the Carinthian Slovene and Burgenland Croat minorities. An irritant sure to excite sharp criticism in the Yugoslav press is the activity of the "Heimatdienst", which is perceived in Yugoslavia as an implacably anti-Yugoslav, fascist organization potentially capable of employing violence. Unlike Bulgaria, Austria recognizes Yugoslav minorities. It has allowed them considerable autonomy in educational communal affairs; initiated Croatian radio broadcasts (January 1979); increased the number of minority kindergartens; and attempted to maintain a dialogue with minority representatives. The Yugoslavs find Chancellor Kreisky's "policy of small steps" satisfactory and were pleased by Austrian assurances during Foreign Minister Vrhovec's October 1979 visit that Austria would assist the survival and development of the Yugoslav minorities.

Regular contact is maintained at all levels. Both sides have agreed to annual consultations at the ministerial level. (Austrian Foreign Minister Pahr, in fact, paid a one-day visit January 28). Both cooperate and consult within the CSCE Neutral-Non-Aligned grouping; and there is an extensive exchange of official, professional, journalistic, and other delegations. As noted earlier, Chancellor Kreisky and Federal Executive President Djuranovic held talks in November to mark the beginning of work on the Karawanken Tunnel. On the negative side, unbalanced and fluctuating trade remains a problem. Both sides recognize that the Yugoslav deficit (\$213 million out of a total trade of \$417 million during the first nine months of 1979) is an obstacle to expanded economic cooperation; Yugoslavia is pressing for preferential treatment as a developing country; and Austria has indicated interest in the development and use of energy resources in Kosovo.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

A I R G R A M

Original to be filed in _____ Decentralized files

CONFIDENTIAL

FILE DESIGNATION

HANDLING INDICATOR

A-18

To: Department of State

Info: Athens, Berlin, Bucharest, Budapest, Moscow, Trieste, Prague, Rome, Sofia, Vienna, Warsaw, Munich, USNATO, USUN New York, USDOCOSOUTH Naples, USCINCEUR, Vaihingen Ger, CINCUSAFE Ramstein AB GE

EO12065: GDS 1/31/86 (Dunlop, Thomas P.H.) OR-P

TAGS: PEPR, YO

FROM: Amembassy BELGRADE

DATE: Feb. 7, 1980

SUBJECT: Yugoslavia's Relations With Its Neighbors

REF: Belgrade 0731

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Yugoslavia is a Balkan state with seven neighbors, historically disputed borders, and significant Yugoslav minorities located within four of those neighboring states (Albania is a special case.) It has quarrelled or fought with most of them at one time or another and has long tradition of friendship with none. It is particularly conscious of the fine-tuning required between its domestic politics and foreign relations because of its multi-national federal character and its maverick brand of communism. And it is acutely sensitive to its strategic location between East and West and its vulnerability to outside interference and pressure. Little wonder, then, that the Foreign Ministry's Office for Neighboring States is mirthlessly referred to as the "Office for Worries" -- (BRIGAMA) a Serbian acronym formed from the first letters of surrounding countries.

Despite historical claims to neighboring territory (most notably, in Italy and Austria), Yugoslavia, as a victor in all four of the wars it has fought in this century, is satisfied with the territorial status quo. Ideologically, too, it is not aggressive. Its concern with neighbors is largely defensive: To prevent foreign intervention by or with the assistance of its neighbors; to protect the existing political system from subversion; and to ensure the unity and territorial integrity of the Federation. Because of Yugoslavia's relatively

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For Department Use Only

Drafted by:

Drafting Date: Phone No.:

Contents and
Classification
Approved by

POL:Richard W. Erdman:mw 1/31/80

DCM:JDSscanlan

Clearances: POL:TPHDunlop ECON:SPanizza (draft)

O-12634

large and martial population, well developed defense capability, and industrial base, no neighboring state is in a position successfully to invade or apply military pressure on Yugoslavia except in conjunction of one of the superpowers, or in the event of internal disintegration. Yugoslav policy is thus inspired by a desire to remove the likelihood of willing collaboration with great powers and to eliminate potential bases for subversion.

Desire for Closer Ties

Events over the past year -- the deteriorating international situation, new evidence of Soviet expansionist tendencies, and increased uncertainty over the Tito succession -- have underscored Yugoslavia's vulnerability and led it to seek closer ties with its neighbors wherever possible. Particularly following the NAM summit in September, when Yugoslav energies were released to concentrate on matters closer to home, Tito and other senior Yugoslav officials began to stress in their speeches Yugoslavia's desire for good neighborly relations and cooperation despite differences. Yugoslavia and Albania re-established contact at the ministerial level and agreed to expand trade and cooperation significantly. Differences with Austria over the Slovenian and Croatian minorities, which only a year earlier had occasioned press attacks, were soft-pedaled. And a fresh effort was made to ease tensions -- or at least improve atmospheres -- with Bulgaria over the Macedonian nationality question.

At the same time, Yugoslavia undertook an intensive round of high level exchanges with its neighbors. In October, Italian President Pertini visited Belgrade; the Austrian Trade Minister came to Belgrade; Foreign Secretary Vrhovec visited Austria; Socialist Alliance President Kurtovic had talks in Sofia; Foreign Trade Secretary Rotar paid the first ministerial level visit to Tirana since 1948; and several exchange visits with Hungary took place, including visits by the Hungarian Foreign Trade and Transport Ministers. In November, Tito visited Bucharest for his annual talks with Ceausescu; LCY Presidency Secretary Dragosavac attended the Romanian Party Congress; Austrian Chancellor Kreisky and Federal Executive Council President Djuranovic held talks; and the Greek Chief of the General Staff Davos paid a visit.

Partial Success

Yugoslavia has stable, good, and growing relations with its Western capitalist neighbors based on common (if unvoiced) strategic perceptions, their interest in Balkan stability, and expanding trade. Relations with Italy are excellent and Yugoslavia often points to them as a model of cooperative, equal friendly relations between neighbors with differing internal systems and foreign policy orientations (i.e, NAM and NATO). Relations with Greece are "exemplary" but the Macedonian national issue and Greece's trade deficit remain minor irritants. Relations with Austria are good and improving. Yugoslavia's trade deficit with Austria is still a problem, but economic and border cooperation is expanding and the minority issue has been defused (at least temporarily) by Austrian pledges to help ensure the development of its Yugoslav minorities.

Yugoslavia's relations with its communist neighbors, on the other hand, are -- with the exception of Bulgaria -- on the surface improving but, as an element of Balkan stability, remain uneven and less predictable. Relations with Albania are moving forward, impelled by a shared interest in economic cooperation and heightened concern about potential Soviet inroads into the area. But they are heavily burdened by Albania's paranoia and Yugoslavia's fear of Albanian irredentism. Relations with Hungary are very good -- the most extensive Yugoslavia has in Eastern Europe -- sustained by important trade links, numerous exchange visits, exemplary treatment of minorities, and Hungary's own political and economic evolution. Relations with Romania are very good but lack real depth and warmth. Similar world views and strong commitments to national independence and NAM principles draw them together and enlarge the scope for foreign policy independence. On the other hand, attempts to expand trade and cooperation have not gotten very far; the Yugoslavs (and Tito) worry about the stability of Romania's one-man show; and, while admiring Romanian courage, they are uneasy lest a Romanian miscalculation provoke the Soviets into military action.

Finally, Yugoslavia's relations with Bulgaria are a special case. Despite attempts to improve atmospherics late last

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fall, the Macedonian nationality question is as bitter an issue as ever and the Yugoslavs still regard Bulgaria as a lever for Soviet pressure, a potential military staging ground, and a serious threat to Yugoslavia's territorial integrity. This feeling is stronger now than ever in the wake of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, intensified polemics, (alleged) Bulgarian troop movements, and Tito's illness.

But Underlying Uncertainty

While Yugoslavia can perhaps take some comfort from the improved atmospherics and its good relations with most of its neighbors, the basic security equation remains the same. The western neighbors pose no threat to Yugoslavia, and never have (at least since the war). Albania remains a question mark, an unreliable ally in time of crisis, and a potential threat. Hungary, whatever its real inclinations and despite its extensive ties, would have little choice ultimately but to fall in line behind Moscow during a confrontation. Bulgaria would need little or no encouragement, of course; and Romania, for all its outspokenness, could be of little help. In sum, the key to Balkan stability and Yugoslav security -- as we have known all along -- will be the Yugoslavs' confidence in themselves in the face of internal and external challenges, their resolve to maintain unity and independence, and their ability to learn the lessons of their troubled history.

ITALY

Relations with Italy are excellent. Yugoslavia often points to them as a model of cooperative, friendly relations between neighbors with differing internal systems and foreign policy orientations (i.e., NAM AND NATO). Numerous contacts and consultations occur at all levels; the foreign ministers meet annually; and Italian President Pertini was warmly received in Yugoslavia in October. Party relations are extensive and cordial, fostered by shared outlooks on independent roads to socialism, Eurocommunism, the NAM, and most international issues.

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Extensive trade ties also bind the two countries. Italy is Yugoslavia's third largest trading partner (1978 two-way trade totalled \$1.4 billion) and has earned Yugoslav gratitude by consistently advocating a more forthcoming EC approach in the latter's negotiations on a new EC-Yugoslav trade agreement. There is a flourishing border trade as well, with Yugoslavs taking advantage of Italy's attractive consumer goods market and Italians coming to Yugoslavia (by the millions) for tourism, cheap gasoline, and food. Cultural affinity -- the Yugoslavs' identification with Italian bon vivantism -- also supports excellent relations at the official level.

The Osimo Accords, concluded in 1975, provide the formal framework for relations. These accords resolved the bitter territorial dispute over Trieste which strained relations as late as 1974; regulate border traffic and the treatment of minorities (now mostly a technical rather than a political problem); and provide for the establishment of a jointly financed industrial free border zone. On a deeper level, the impetus for good relations comes from: 1) Yugoslavia's interest in securing its western flank in the face of a perceived growing military threat from the East; 2) Italy's desire to remove Yugoslavia as a potential issue in domestic politics; and 3) the mutual interest in fostering a climate for Yugoslav stability and unity in the post-Tito period.

On the debit side, there is some Yugoslav unease over elements in Trieste which do not fully accept the Osimo Accords, or which oppose the implementation of some elements of the Accords. Occasional anti-Yugoslav provocations by Italian extremists are also a minor irritant. A new fishing accord for the Adriatic has been blocked by Yugoslavs insistence on a bilateral approach, which Italy argues is contrary to its EC commitments. Finally, the trade deficit is growing (though at a slower rate). In 1978 the deficit was nearly \$300 million; in the first 11 months of 1979 imports grew by 36 percent while exports increased only 30 percent; and the 1979 deficit will be roughly \$400 million.

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GREECE

Yugoslavia and Greece have, to use the Yugoslav phrase, "exemplary good neighbor relations". Underlying them are: 1) Greece's overriding concern for Yugoslav independence, Balkan stability, and the prevention of destabilizing great power rivalry in the area; and 2) Yugoslavia's interest in trade (Greece is the only neighbor with whom it has a surplus) and securing its southern flank.

The Macedonian nationality question at times injects a sour note in their relations, such as last November when Greece protested a Yugoslav exhibit on Macedonia held in London. By and large, though, Yugoslavia has made it clear that it wants broadly based relations and believes that the "minority" problem can be solved only in the context of friendship and cooperation. Greece, like Bulgaria, does not recognize the existence of a Macedonian nationality. It does not accept that a "minority" problem exists, downplays the issue to the extent it can, and comments only when compelled to do so by Yugoslav statements. Despite this issue, neither side questions the territorial division of Macedonia and both are strong advocates of Balkan cooperation.

Prime minister Karamanlis paid a state visit in March 1979. LCY Presidency member Dolanc visited Athens in late 1978 for talks with Papandreou and Karamanlis and in February 1979 had talks with Communist Party/Interior officials in Belgrade. Other, lower-level discussions recently took place with the Communist Party/Exterior (which is unhappy with the LCY's dealing with the KKE/Interior). In addition, Federal Executive Council Member Matkalijev held talks on economic cooperation in April; the joint economic commission met in October; and Greek Chief of Staff Davos paid an official visit in late October - early November.

Economic relations are growing, but hampered by a heavy trade imbalance in favor of Yugoslavia, overdependence on a few important export commodities, and uncertainty over the effects of Greece's entry into the European Economic Community. Although total trade increased from \$184 million

in 1977 to \$240 million in 1979, the value of imports from Greece declined from \$82 million to \$55 million. Greece made clear this trend could not continue and Yugoslavia agreed to instruct its import organizations to "buy Greek" where possible. 1979 trade is expected to exceed \$300 million and ten-month figures show that Yugoslav imports from Greece have nearly doubled. Record numbers of Yugoslav tourists also boosted Greek foreign exchange earnings. The Yugoslavs are concerned that meat exports (which account for 60-70% of total exports) and textiles could be drastically reduced by Greece's entry into the EEC. They have sought to diversify their exports and obtain a long-term export agreement as a hedge. Greece has resisted this but indicated it would support Yugoslav interests with the EEC. Industrial cooperation is developing favorably; agreement "in principle" has been reached on an oil pipe-line between the Aegean and Skopje; but transport remains a problem. Greece would like to increase truck-transit permits through Yugoslavia from the present 25,000 but Yugoslavia has given no commitments. Since this would be a major lever in its relations with the EC after Greek accession in 1991, Yugoslavia may be deliberately keeping the issue open.

HUNGARY

Foreign Secretariat officials characterize Yugoslavia's relations with Hungary as good -- "the most extensive in Eastern Europe." There are numerous official exchange visits. Scientific and agricultural cooperation is well developed. And two-way trade -- on a convertible currency basis since 1973 -- is projected to reach \$450 million in 1979. Yugoslavia has run a large deficit (\$172 million out of a total trade of \$413 in 1978) but figures for the first ten months of 1979 indicate that Yugoslavia's export-import ratio with Hungary is improving substantially.

The Hungarian minority in Yugoslavia, concentrated in the Vojvodina and Eastern Croatia adjacent to Hungary, numbers about 500,000. Smaller numbers of Serbs and Croats are resident in Hungary. As recently as World War II, Hungary had claims on this area, but now neither side appears to harbor territorial designs on the other. Minorities receive exemplary treatment and in fact do seem to be a "bridge of cooperation", to use the Yugoslav phrase.

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In the past, Yugoslavia's initial reluctance to deal closely with the Kadar regime after the 1956 uprising and Hungary's "enforced" close relationship with Moscow caused difficulties. These problems, however, have been largely overcome, as Hungary has striven to achieve a measure of Soviet acceptance of diversity and ceased to be a slavish satellite. Tito and Kadar have forged a solid mutual understanding; inter-party consultations are frequent; and Hungary, while having to support Soviet positions on international questions, has generally avoided the innuendos and attacks characteristic of the Bulgarian and Czech press. While Hungary would be uncomfortable with and resistant to Soviet military threats or action against Yugoslavia, in the final analysis Yugoslav authorities know that Hungary would be unable to resist Soviet pressures and extend reluctant support. However, they do not allow this "fact of life" to mar their relationship.

ROMANIA

Relations with Romania are very good and often cited as "exemplary". Strong commitments to national independence, NAM principles (non-interference, opposition to hegemony and foreign domination) and different roads to socialism draw Yugoslavia and Romania together and enlarge their scope for independent action. Both have developed extensive relations with China, despite Soviet displeasure. As small countries in the shadow of great power, both advocate detente, disarmament, and Balkan cooperation. Tito and Ceausescu have held annual talks each fall, where identical or similar views have been expressed on most international issues. Party ties are close -- despite wide ideological and social differences -- and party, economic, parliamentary, and other exchanges are frequent.

Economic and military cooperation has lagged behind the development of political relations. Trade (expected to total \$350 million in 1979) has consistently fallen below planned levels; the Yugoslavs are in chronic deficit; and both sides have had to abandon the totally unrealistic \$1 billion trade target for 1980. The Romanians, despite the impression of extensive cooperation conveyed by joint communiques and other documents, have not expressed interest in further joint projects (according to a Yugoslav official)

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and Yugoslavia has resisted Romanian suggestions to cooperate in Third markets. In the military area, Romania and Yugoslavia in the mid-1970s collaborated on the design and construction of subsonic, ground support jet fighter (the Orao-Yurom project). But the Yugoslavs subsequently developed doubts about Romanian technical proficiency, (2 and perhaps 3 of the 5 Romanian prototypes crashed) and the Yugoslavs are now proceeding alone on the first serial production of 100 Oraos.

In contrast to its other neighbors, neither minority nor territorial issues have ever been a significant problem in recent Yugoslav-Romanian relations. Small numbers of Romanians live in Yugoslavia (almost 60,000 according to the 1971 census) and there are small Yugoslav minority groups in Romania (about the same number, according to the Mayor of the Yugoslav town closest to the border, Vrsac). Romania has carefully kept out of the Macedonian dispute, partly because of its desire to maintain good relations with Bulgaria and partly because of its own historical minority and territorial problems with Hungary and Russia, where one issue is whether the Moldavians (as the Soviets argue) have like the Macedonians become a separate nationality from Bessarabians.

For all that the Yugoslavs admire and benefit from Ceausecu's foreign policy independence from Moscow (Cambodia, Afghanistan, defense spending, Greater Warsaw Pact integration, China), they remain somewhat uneasy about his highly personalized rule, Romanian stability, and the possibility of his overstepping the limits and provoking a Soviet backlash which could spill over into Yugoslavia. Tito is also said to find Ceausecu's manner, ambitiousness, and vanity distasteful -- though this of course will cease to be a factor once Tito passes from the scene.

In short, Yugoslav-Romanian relations are close, important, and vital to both countries in their struggle for national independence and equal socialist relations; but they lack depth and warmth owing to the nature of their societies, the personalities of their leaders, and lagging economic relations.

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BULGARIA

Relations with Bulgaria are (probably irretrievably) strained over the implacable Macedonian nationality issue. Yugoslavia interprets Bulgaria's view that "Macedonians" in both Bulgaria and Yugoslavia are really ethnic Bulgarians as an expression of historic "Greater Bulgarian" territorial pretensions. Conversely, Yugoslavia's insistence on the existence of a Macedonian minority in Bulgaria and its self-appointed guardianship role for that minority is seen by Bulgaria as meddling in its internal affairs and a potential threat to Bulgarian territorial integrity. Beyond this, the Yugoslavs are convinced that Moscow is behind Bulgarian "acts" (though they do not doubt that Bulgaria is a willing tool) and that, particularly in the post-Tito period, the Soviets will try to use the Macedonian issue to put pressure on Yugoslavia to curb its independent policies, and to advance their strategic goal of direct access to the Adriatic.

Bulgarian-Yugoslav relations move in rough congruence with Soviet-Yugoslav relations (as Embassy Sofia and we have noted elsewhere). If this pattern holds true -- and we suspect it will -- then there are virtually no prospects for a fundamental change in Yugoslavia's relations with Bulgaria, since Belgrade and Moscow now seem headed for a period of prolonged strain. Unless, of course, a less confident post-Tito leadership, unable to resist Soviet pressures is tempted to seek an accommodation and trades its outspoken independence for greater certainty, stability and smoother relations.

Bulgaria and Yugoslavia have periodically tried to curb their polemics and pursue cooperation despite their differences and mutual suspicion. Such a rapprochement was attempted in June, when Bulgarian Politburo member Kubadinski met with LCY Presidency member Minic in Belgrade. The talks accomplished little, however, and a new round of polemics ensued, reaching a crescendo in October when top Yugoslav officials (including Vice President Kolisevski and LCY Presidency member Dolanc) publicly denounced "Greater Bulgarian" pretensions and the "reawakening of fascist (Bulgarian) forces."

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Tito also expressed his concern, but in a mid-October speech signalled his desire for good neighborly relations and a "step by step" policy of cooperation. This led to high-level talks at the end of October, agreement on increased cooperation, and a somewhat improved atmosphere. Both talked of increasing trade (which in 1978 totalled \$190 million -- \$60 million short of the planned clearing arrangement) and joint development (along with Romania) of the Danube's hydro-electric potential moved forward. Economic exhibits were arranged in Sofia and Skopje; the Yugoslav trade union delegation and Federal Transport Secretary Zelic visited Sofia in November; and Borba, the party's organ encouragingly noted in late November that concrete mutual effort for rapprochement can create the necessary conditions for surmounting differences and disputes.

Now, with the Afghan crisis, Tito's illness, an alleged Bulgarian military build-up in border regions, and the appearance of a controversial Bulgarian review of a book dealing with the Macedonian issue, the underlying negative elements in the Yugoslav-Bulgarian relationship have re-asserted themselves. Yugoslavia, in response, has reportedly reinforced its military posture in the border region and on January 18 officially charged Bulgaria with "territorial pretensions" and posing a "serious threat" to Balkan stability. There are also some reports that Bulgaria has decided to step up pressure against Yugoslavia. On the other hand, trilateral talks on hydro-electric cooperation took place on January 23 in Sofia, as scheduled; Zhivkov assured the Yugoslav representative at the talks (Ivan Stambolic) of Bulgaria's desire for good relations; and a long-planned Bulgarian study delegation arrived in Belgrade for talks on January 22. Relations, it therefore appears, will continue to be a shifting blend of uneasy cooperation, proclaimed good intentions, shrill polemics, and mutual suspicion.

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ALBANIA

Albanian-Yugoslav relations are complex, contradictory, but improving. State relations made substantial gains over the past year, but party relations remain burdened by ideological differences and Albanian attacks on Tito (a "Marxist-Leninist renegade") and Yugoslav "revisionism". For the most part -- and uncharacteristically -- the Yugoslavs have avoided responding in kind or at all to this invective, wisely choosing to interpret it as a manifestation of real independence and far preferable to a more supine Albania susceptible to foreign manipulation or influence. Another factor underlying their relations is the Yugoslav concern that Albania, exploiting regional instability and discontent among Yugoslavia's one million Albanians, might at some point revive now dormant territorial claims to the Kosovo region. (Hoxha, in fact, referred to Albania's "justified claims" as recently as mid-1979, when his diary Reflections on China appeared.) From the Albanian perspective as well, there is concern over possible contamination by Yugoslav "revisionism" and suspicion about concealed Yugoslav desires for Balkan hegemony.

Despite these deep-seated suspicions, Albania and Yugoslavia have been drawn closer together by a variety of forces: Albania's need for economic and political ties in the wake of its rift with China; Yugoslavia's need to secure its south-western flank; a common interest in opposing Soviet expansionism and minimizing opportunities for foreign interference in the area (Yugoslavia would view rapprochement between Tirana and Moscow as a grave threat to its security); Yugoslavia's need to defuse its "Albanian problem" by allowing greater contact and affirmation of Albanian national identity.

Against this background, Albania and Yugoslavia have repeatedly stressed their desire for good neighborly relations and increased cooperation. The Foreign Ministers quietly met in New York during the UNGA and, underscoring the heightened awareness of their mutual strategic interests, an official Albanian editorial declared January 19 that Albania would fight alongside Yugoslavia in the event of a military threat from any quarter. Culturally, an active program has been

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developed for an exchange of professors, books, films, exhibits, and cultural presentations between Kosovar and Albanian institutions. A long-term agreement on scientific cooperation was concluded in June and a protocol on academic cooperation was reached in September (1979).

In the economic field, Foreign Trade Secretary Rotar's October visit to Tirana -- the first ministerial visit since 1948 -- marked a further, major step forward and focussed attention on the still modest but dramatic increase in trade and the mutual interest and potential for increased trade and cooperation. On the basis of presently available figures, two-way trade for 1979 should exceed \$60 million (up from roughly \$35 million in 1978). Trade in 1980 is expected to exceed \$80 million and the 1981-85 trade figure could reach \$500-600 million compared with \$172 for the previous five-year period. Agreement has also been reached for the construction of a rail link between Scutari and Titograd. This project symbolizes the closer bilateral relationship and will provide Albania with an important direct rail and trade link with Europe.

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No. 37

-27-

February 8, 1980

Kreisky Receives Burgenland Croat Delegation -

V i e n n a, February 7 (TANJUG).- Austrian chancellor Bruno Kreisky today received representatives of the Burgenland Croats who handed him two documents. In them, the Burgenland Croats note that it will be 25 years next May since the signing of the Austrian state treaty, while none of the vital obligations Austria assumed under Article 7 of the treaty has been fulfilled.

This has "inflicted serious and irreparable damage" to the Burgenland Croats, the documents say. Nevertheless, the Burgenland Croats are ready to cooperate with the Austrian federal government provided it stated that the law on ethnic groups is aimed at the "consistent encouragement of the preservation and development of the minorities in terms of the obligations assumed."

Chancellor Kreisky promised to members of the delegation that he will study their demands.
(End item) VS/RD

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AIRGRAM

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A 043

TO : Department of State

INFO: BELGRADE

FROM : Embassy Vienna

DATE:FEB 15 1980

SUBJECT : Minority Situation in Austria

REF

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TAGS: PINT, YO, AU

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The situation of ethnic minorities in Austria took a significant turn in October 1979 when Yugoslav Foreign Minister Josip Vrhovec visited Vienna and indicated that his government would like to see the minority issue shifted from the bilateral level to the level of Austrian internal affairs. Subsequently he advised Austria's Slovenes and Croats to negotiate directly with the Austrian Government. The GOA was pleased that Yugoslavia seemed to indicate that for the time being at least it felt that the Slovene and Croat minorities in Austria were receiving fair and just treatment. Meanwhile, international developments may have pushed minority problems further into the background.

Following the advice of the Yugoslav Foreign Minister, the Slovene minority spokesman submitted a list of claims to the GOA on December 7 which are being studied. The Government's reply to the Slovenes is expected in early March.

Strength of Minorities - Austria's ethnic minorities altogether account for less than two percent of the population. In the last official census in 1971, the Central Office of Statistics counted 25,000 Croats in the Province of Burgenland; 20,000 Slovenes in the Province of Carinthia; 8,000 Czechs and Slovaks in Vienna; 4,000 Hungarians in Burgenland. A special

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"language census" in 1977 yielded no usable results because it was boycotted by the minorities. Indications are, however, that assimilation has reduced the minorities' strength in the last few years. Thus an authoritative source of the Carinthian Provincial Government estimated the strength of the Slovenes in Carinthia in November last year at "15,000, perhaps 15,500." The next official census is due in 1981.

Legal Situation - Ethnic minority affairs in Austria are governed by the State Treaty of 1955 and by the Ethnic Groups Act passed by the Austrian Parliament in 1976 for the purpose of complete implementation of the State Treaty provisions. While the State Treaty, in its Article 7, speaks only of the rights of the Croat and Slovene minorities, the Ethnic Groups Act also considers the Czechoslovak and Hungarian minorities.

The Ethnic Advisory Council provided for by the Ethnic Groups Acts as links between the minorities and the Government remain to be established by the Slovene, Croat and Czechoslovak groups. The Hungarians established theirs in 1979. The Slovenes refuse even to consider the formation of such a council because they reject the entire Ethnic Groups Act upon which the council would be based, while the Croats and Czechoslovaks are disunited over the selection of council members.

Slovene Claims - In December 1979, spokesmen of the Carinthian Slovenes called on the Austrian Government to submit a "calendar of operations" -- a terminology reminiscent of the South Tyroleans' demands against Italy -- containing the following claims:

- Bilingualism in all kindergarten schools in the South Carinthian mixed population area;
- Teaching of Slovenian as a compulsory subject, not merely an elective, in all elementary schools of the mixed-population area (at present only 14 percent of the elementary school pupils -- in this school year, 1,065 of a total of 7,435 -- attend Slovenian classes);
- Promotion of economic projects in South Carinthia;
- Increase in Slovenian programs of the Klagenfurt studio of the Austrian ORF broadcasting system and establishment of technical installations which would make it possible for TV viewers in Carinthia to receive RTV Ljubljana;
- Establishment of a commission consisting of Federal and Provincial government members and Slovene minority

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representatives for the purpose of preparing, by 1983, a new law to replace the Ethnic Group Act of 1976.

(Comment: Even a few years ago, such claims would have evoked a furious uproar from the German Carinthians. The absence of such a reaction this time warrants the conclusion that the Government has some leeway in its efforts to satisfy the Slovenes.)

Croat Minority - The Croat situation in Austria is characterized by the minority's division into factions: a Socialist faction which represents about 25 percent of the Burgenland Croats and advocates assimilation, and five conservative factions which agree only in opposing the "assimilants." One of the conservative groups, which calls itself "committee for the rights of the Burgenland Croats," plans to go to the Austrian Constitutional Court and charge the Government with withholding guaranteed rights from the Croats by denying them subsidies on the grounds that they have not yet established an Ethnic Advisory Council.

(Comment: The prospects for such a suit seem slim because the Ethnic Groups Act makes it clear that minority requests for governmental "assistance measures" shall be submitted to the Government by the Ethnic Advisory Councils which are thus legally described as proper channels.)

In a joint action in early February, the five conservative factions submitted to Chancellor Kreisky a memorandum claiming that the State Treaty provisions concerning the minorities remain to be implemented. They invited the Government to negotiate on what they, too, called a "calendar of operations," listing a number of measures which they said would be "necessary to secure the survival and free development of our ethnic group." Such measures should include the subsidization of the organizations of Burgenland Croats; establishment of a Croatian school office in the Burgenland provincial school administration; establishment of ethnic groups bureaus in the federal and provincial governments; and a revision of the Ethnic Groups Act to bring it in line with the spirit and letter of the State Treaty. There is no indication of any willingness of the Government to respond to these claims. In the past, similar complaints of the conservative Burgenland Croats were followed up by statements of the Socialist Croats to the effect that the minority is perfectly satisfied with its present situation.

Conclusions - All in all, ethnic minorities are at present not a major problem in Austria, especially so since the Yugoslav Government has apparently deleted the issue from

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Vienna A-A 043 (4)

its list of top priorities in Yugoslav-Austrian relations. However, the problem must be carefully watched. Perhaps as a reminder to the Austrians that, despite its present tolerant attitude, Yugoslavia would always be attentive to the rights of its minority groups living in this country is a claim by Austrian Slovenes to the effect that Yugoslav Ambassador Novak Pribicevic in Vienna and Consul General Milan Samec in Klagenfurt had assured them that Yugoslavia would "always support" their rights.

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No. 48

-9-

February 19, 1980

Burgenland Croats and Carinthian Slovene Meeting -

Vienna, February 18 (TANJUG) A delegation of the Croatian academic club of Burgenland Croats in Vienna, headed by club president Marijana Grandic, has spent three days in Carinthia as guest of the federation of Slovene Youth and the Federation of the Slovene Organisations in Carinthia.

During the talks held, representatives of the respective organizations reiterated that the only basis for insuring the equality of the Croatian and Slovene nationality groups in Austria is the implementation of Article 7 of the Austrian state treaty. Both organisations also stressed their rejection of the law on nationality groups because it does not guarantee unimpeded development to the Croatian and Slovene nationality groups in Austria. It was decided to intensify contacts between Burgenland Croats and Carinthian Slovenes.

Touring parts of Carinthia, the Burgenland Croats delegation got acquainted with Carinthian Slovene political, cultural and economic activities. On behalf of the Federation of Slovene Organisations, the delegation was received by federation president Franc Zwitter.

(End) NK/SB

Carinthian Slovenes Pardoned -

Vienna, March 13 (TANJUG).- Four Carinthian Slovenes, members of the Slovenian minority in Austria accused of writing slogans demanding the implementation of article seven of the Austrian state treaty and international guarantees for the observance of the national rights have been pardoned.

All similar court proceedings against Carinthian Slovenes should be stopped, considers the executive council of Slovenian organizations in Carinthia.

Referring to the pardon, Austrian chancellor Bruno Kreisky stated in an interview to the social democratic party's central organ "Arbeiter Zeitung" that such proceedings are "mistaken" and only prolong conflicts to be overcome.

Three Carinthian parties, including the social democrats, came out against the pardon. (End)DJS/ZM

Yugoslav-Austrian Relations -

Ljubljana, March 31 (TANJUG),- The Commission for international relations of the assembly of Slovenia, a republic in northwestern Yugoslavia, today evaluated that relations between Yugoslavia and Austria have been developing on the principles of bilateral respect and equality.

Bilateral relations between the two countries have been stimulated and there is a similitude of stands between them on many problems in international relations, the commission asserted.

Progress realized in the development of mutual cooperation also represents a stimulation to both countries for a steady and constructive dialogue that would lead to a quicker settlement of some open questions, among those questions, the commission first of all listed the ensurance of all rights to the Yugoslav ethnic communities in Austria. (more) JV/RP

Yugoslav-Austrian relations -two-

Yugoslavia is truly interested in the further development of the Slovene and Croatian national communities an Austria, the commission concluded. The basis for this and their building their national identity is the consistent and all-round ensurance of the rights from the Austrian state treaty.

The commission considers it necessary that Austria fulfil these obligations, and this through an equal dialogue with the minority organizations. In that way, such solutions that should be acceptable to the national communities, too, would be attained.

Such agreed-on settlements, the commission asserted, would surely contribute to a further strengthening and deepening of goodneighborly relations and mutual confidence and friendship between the two countries. (End) JV/RP

April 11, 1980

Kreisky Press Conference -one-

Belgrade, April 10 (TANJUG)- Austria views with optimism the future development of good-neighbour relations with Yugoslavia and prospects for even more comprehensive cooperation at the economic, political, cultural and other levels, Austrian federal chancellor Bruno Kreisky stated at the press-conference before leaving Belgrade today.

Chancellor Kreisky said that he does not consider Yugoslavia's continual interest in the position of its nationality groups in Austria as interference in Austria's internal affairs.

The Austrian chancellor sees ways for solving questions outstanding concerning the Yugoslav nationality groups in Austria in the expansion of contacts and dialogues between the organisations of the Slovene and Croatian nationality groups and competent Austrian authorities and provincial governments. (more) NK/VK

Kreisky Press Conference -two-

Chancellor Kreisky said that the governments in Vienna and Belgrade will closely cooperate in preparations for the forthcoming European conference Madrid meeting, he stressed that neutral Austria and non-aligned Yugoslavia can considerably contribute to improving the political climate in Europe and the world and to enhancing detente and European consultations.

Reiterating Austria's efforts for a solution to the Middle East crisis on the basis of negotiations with all interested sides participating, Kreisky underlined the necessity of the recognition of the Palestine Liberation organisation as the representative of the Palestinian people. (more) NK/VK

No. 100

-13-

April 11, 1980

Kreisky Press Conference -three-

Referring to activities necessary to preserve détente and transcend the deterioration in international relations including the situation around Afghanistan, Kreisky stressed that the international community, as a whole and the non-aligned countries, in particular, must invest efforts to this end. Solutions offered by the non-aligned would be upheld by many European countries, particularly neutral, Kreisky set out. (End) NK/VK

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON KREISKY - DJURANOVIC TALKS

Politika, April 11, 1980, p.2, c - 3

Successful development of bilateral relations

The President of the Federal Executive Council, Veselin Djuranovic, and the Federal Chancellor, Bruno Kreisky, stated with satisfaction that bilateral relations are developing positively in the spirit of good neighbour relations, upon the basis of equality and mutual appreciation. With mutual endeavours there have been intensified bilateral contacts, while total Yugoslav-Austrian cooperation is steadily growing.

An agreement has been signed on the indemnification of Austrian property in Yugoslavia. New agreements are also prepared the signing of which will expand and enrich the contractual basis of good neighbour cooperation in various spheres.

The Premiers reviewed with special attention questions relating to the position and development of the Slovene and Croatian minorities in Austria whereby they underlined the positive role of national minorities as bridges for the consolidation of mutual understanding between the two countries and their nations and as an important factor in the development of good neighbour relations. They underlined the significance of the overall development of the Slovene and Croatian national minorities in Austria as pre-conditions for the preservation of their national identity. The Austrian side confirmed its readiness to execute all its obligations stemming from the State Treaty and other obligations from international law. It will do everything possible to secure the existence and successful development of the Croatian and Slovene national minorities in Austria and to guarantee successfully the respect of their language and national characteristics, overall development of their culture, education social form of life and their economic position.

T E L E G R A M

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 CHARGE TO
22 APR 80

FROM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE CLASSIFICATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
12065
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TAGS: PEPR, YO, AD
SUBJECT: CHANCELLOR KREISKY'S APRIL 8-10 VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA
ACTION: SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO: AMEMBASSY ATHENS
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1. SUMMARY. AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR KREISKY'S APRIL 8-10 "OFFICIAL FRIENDLY VISIT" TO YUGOSLAVIA WENT SMOOTHLY, PRODUCED NO SURPRISES AND NO BREAKTHROUGHS, BUT APPEARS TO HAVE ACCOMPLISHED ITS BASIC AIM OF CEMENTING GOOD NEIGHBOR RELATIONS AS THE TITO TRANSITION GETS UNDERWAY. DURING THE VISIT—THE FIRST BY AN AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR IN 15 YEARS—KREISKY HAD TALKS WITH HIS HOST, PRIME MINISTER DJURANOVIC, STATE PRESIDENCY VICE PRESIDENT KOLISEVSKI, AND STATE AND PARTY PRESIDENCY MEMBER BAKARIC. THE SIMILAR OUTLOOKS OF "NON-ALIGNED YUGOSLAVIA" AND "NEUTRAL AUSTRIA" WERE PLAYED UP; DIFFERENCES WERE PLAYED DOWN (FOR EXAMPLE THE GROWING TRADE DEFICIT); AND THE AUSTRIANS GOT WHAT THEY WANTED ON THE MINORITY ISSUE—NAMELY, YUGOSLAV ENDORSEMENT OF THEIR POSITION THAT YUGOSLAV MINORITIES SHOULD COOPERATE WITH AUSTRIAN AUTHORITIES TO RESOLVE OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS. END SUMMARY.

2. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COMMUNIQUE, WHICH WAS DEVOTED HALF TO INTERNATIONAL ISSUES AND HALF TO BILATERAL RELATIONS, FOLLOW:

3. DETENTE: THE ARMS RACE, POLICIES OF USE OF FORCE AND SPHERES OF INTEREST, INTERFERENCE AND INTERVENTION/ ARE SERIOUSLY

JEOPARDIZING PEACE. RESOLUTE EFFORTS TO PREVENT FURTHER DETERIORATION AND TO RESTORE DETENTE ARE NECESSARY.

4. CSCE: BOTH SIDES STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF MADRID REVIEW CONFERENCE, CONSISTENT AND FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL ACT, AND THE JOINT ROLE OF NEUTRAL AND NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES IN EUROPE.

5. PALESTINIAN QUESTION: SUPPORT WAS EXPRESSED FOR "ENDEAVORS AND INITIATIVES" TO FIND A COMPREHENSIVE AND LASTING SOLUTION, WHICH WOULD INCLUDE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL, RECOGNITION OF PALESTINIANS' RIGHT TO THEIR OWN STATE, AND SECURITY OF ALL STATES AND NATIONS IN THE REGION. BOTH SIDES STATED THAT PARTICIPATION OF THE PLO ON AN EQUAL FOOTING IN NEGOTIATIONS IS "ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY."

6. AFGHANISTAN: BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER CRISES IN NEAR EAST, KAMPUCHEA AND AFGHANISTAN; CALLED FOR FOREIGN TROOP WITHDRAWAL AND END TO "ANY KIND OF FOREIGN INTERFERENCE", AND REAFFIRMED SUPPORT FOR RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS.

7. NAM: BOTH SIDES STRESSED THE POSITIVE ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF NAM, PARTICULARLY IN PRESENT AGGRAVATED INTERNATIONAL SITUATION.

8. BILATERAL RELATIONS: RELATIONS ARE "DEVELOPING POSITIVELY IN THE SPIRIT OF GOOD RELATIONS." AN AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED ON THE IDEMNIFICATION OF AUSTRIAN PROPERTY IN YUGOSLAVIA.

9. MINORITIES: MINORITIES WERE AFFIRMED AS A "BRIDGE OF COOPERATION." AUSTRIA PLEDGED TO CARRY OUT ITS OBLIGATIONS IN THE STATE TREATY AND TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO SECURE THE EXISTENCE AND SUCCESSFUL DEVELOPMENT OF THE CROATIAN AND SLOVENE

MINORITIES IN AUSTRIA AND TO GUARANTEE REPECT FOR THEIR LANGUAGE AND NATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS, CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION, AND SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION. YUGOSLAVIA AGREED THAT THE POLICY OF DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE AUSTRIAN FEDERAL AUTHORITIES AND THE NATIONAL MINORITY ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTS THE BEST METHOD FOR SETTLING OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS.

10. ECONOMIC COOPERATION: BOTH SIDES NOTED SUCCESSFUL RESULTS IN ECONOMIC COOPERATION TO DATE, FUTURE POSSIBILITIES, AND THE UNFAVORABLE TRADE BALANCE. BOTH EXPRESSED READINESS TO EXPAND TOURISM, PRODUCTION AND THE POWER INDUSTRY.

EAGLEBURGER

No. 140

-16-

May 23, 1980

Slovene Nationality Group in Austria Proposal Rejected

Vienna, May 22 (TANJUG)- The leaders of the three Carinthian parliamentary parties have rejected the "operational time-table" of the Slovene nationality group in Carinthia. The Carinthian Slovene document, approved by Austrian federal chancellor Bruno Kreisky, has been drawn with a view to stepping up the implementation of the Austrian state treaty provisions guaranteeing national rights to the Slovene and Croatian nationality groups in Austria.

Contrary to social-democratic party president and federal chancellor Bruno Kreisky, Leader of Carinthian social-democrats Leopold Wagner maintains that "Austria has fulfilled the state treaty" provisions. The other two Carinthian parties, the people's and liberal, share the above view and criticize the government in Vienna for a "Wrong evaluation of the situation" in Carinthia. (more)SG/MT

Slovene Nationality Group in Austria Proposal Rejected -two-

The common stance of the three Carinthian provincial party leaders is assessed by Carinthian Slovenes as an act of unity based on German-nationalist positions equal to those of the anti-Slovene nationalist organization "heimat-dienst" of Carinthia.

Three years ago, the Law on nationality groups was passed in Austria. The Law radically reduced the formerly recognized bilingual area in southern Austria. Despite the indignation and sharp protests on the part of the Slovene nationality group, a proposal has been advanced for forming the "council for nationality groups" which places representatives of ethnic organizations in a subordinate position. The Carinthian provincial party leadership now make conditional the approval of the "operational time-table" on the nationality groups' agreement to enter the "council for nationality groups." They in this way, reject the gradual solution of the nationality problem in keeping with Article 7 of the Austrian state treaty.
(End)SG/MT

No. 142

-12-

May 25, 1980

Carinthian Slovenes --

Vienna, May 24 (TANJUG) -- Rigid and unyielding positions of Carinthian provincial parties on positive proposals of the Slovene ethnic group for the solution of the minority question in Austria demonstrate that the official policy in Carinthia wants to continue following the forces "the substance of whose life consists of hatred for Slovenes and which need permanent confrontation in order to survive," Slovene organizations in Carinthia assess.

The Socialist, People's and Liberal parties of Carinthia have recently jointly rejected proposals of the Slovene minority for gradual implementation of Article 7 of the Austrian State Treaty, which guarantees the national rights to Yugoslav minorities in Carinthia and Burgenland.

(more) MD/S

Carinthian Slovenes (two)

The Slovene organizations are disappointed so much more as they expected, in view of the improvement of relations between Austria and Yugoslavia and endeavours of the Austrian federal government for Slovenes to participate in the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the plebiscite at which they opted for remaining within the framework of Austria that provincial politicians in Carinthia will show readiness for solution of problems by agreement.

The Slovene organizations point to their own endeavour to renew political dialogue with the federal government, which led to a meeting with Chancellor Kreisky, to whom constructive proposals of the minority were presented.

(more) MD/S

No. 142

-12-

May 25, 1980

Carinthian Slovenes -- three --

Slovenes assess rejection by the provincial parties to join in the renewed dialogue as "an attempt to torpedo" democratic agreement-making.

Carinthian Slovenes bring to notice revival of nationalism and neonazism in Austria, which was manifested also at the recent presidential elections when the candidate of the neonazi party won an unexpectedly large number of votes. They also point to the continuation of the unrestrained campaign against Carinthian Slovenes and their rights. (End)

MD/ZM

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