

EUR

DECLASSIFIED
PA/HO, Department of State
E.O. 12958, as amended
June 22, 2004

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

November 13, 1972

Copies to:

Dear Dick:

C
EUR ✓
L
S/CCT
S/PRS
RF

My purpose is to ask your views on how this Govern-
ment can be most effective in combatting and preventing
the promotion and practice of terrorist violence by
Yugoslav emigre groups within the United States, to
encourage your continued efforts to counter such acti-
vities, and to ask you to undertake a new investigation
of these activities.

PO 23-X

We want to be sure that the United States is doing
everything possible to prevent the use of our country
as a staging ground for terrorism, both to assure our
continued good relations with Yugoslavia and to meet
the urgent objectives set in the President's directive
establishing the Cabinet Committee to Combat Terrorism
on September 25.

We have always been concerned about the dangers
of terrorist activities by such emigre groups within
the United States, but the recent escalation of emigre
terrorism worldwide has heightened our concern. Yugo-
slav emigre groups have been responsible for the assas-
sination of the Yugoslav ambassador in Stockholm in
January 1971; for the bombing of a Yugoslav passenger
aircraft on an international flight in January 1972,
killing all but one of the passengers and crew; for
the hijacking of a Swedish airliner to Madrid in Sep-
tember, 1972; for the infiltration into Yugoslavia
of an armed band of 19 men in June 1972 and for the
ensuing deaths of 13 members of the Yugoslav police and
army; and for numerous other acts of violence and killing,
particularly in the Federal Republic of Germany and inside
Yugoslavia.

The Honorable
Richard G. Kleindienst,
Attorney General.

As you know, and as I'm sure Ambassador Granfil indicated in your recent meeting, the Yugoslav Government is concerned that these attacks have been supported and sometimes instigated from within the United States. It has also expressed reservations about the adequacy of our efforts to prevent this. On August 21, the Yugoslav Government submitted a detailed memorandum expressing its particular concerns about specific individuals and groups within the United States whose activities it regards as threatening.

While this memorandum may not substantiate that violations of U.S. law have occurred, I strongly feel that it requires us to place a high priority on investigation and other appropriate action to assure that the United States is not being used as a base for terrorism. I would, therefore, appreciate your undertaking further investigation and study of such activities to determine if United States laws are being violated by Yugoslav emigres, or whether additional legislation might be desirable. For example, if it appears that funds raised here are being channeled into terrorism abroad, we might wish to consider legislation to prohibit this.

We hope that you can let us have your views as soon as possible about these problems. It would be helpful to us initially if we could inform the Yugoslav Government that the Department of Justice has the activities of Yugoslav emigre groups under investigation.

With best personal regards,

Sincerely yours,



William P. Rogers

Enclosure: Yugoslav Memorandum
of August 21, 1972.

Concurrence:

L/EUR - H. S. Russell (in draft) *RS*
L - C. N. Brower (in draft) *RS*
EUR/EE - J. A. Baker, Jr. *RS*
S/CCT - Ambassador Meyer *RS*
EUR - W. J. Stoessel, Jr. *RS*

EUR/EE:RGJohnson:L/EUR:JCrook
10/27/72 *RS* *RS*