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3
Kojls
ma
Mrs. Dolly Svobodny
49 Rolling Hill Road
Manhasset, New York 11030
Telephone (516) 869-8457

17 October 1985

Dear President Reagan:

I was very disappointed and shocked that you turned down the request to allow the American Airmen of World War II build and dedicate a memorial monument in Washington, D.C. to General Draza Mihailovich of the Chetniks who fought valiantly against the Nazis and Communists in Yugoslavia.

I am shocked that you turned your back on such a good friend who shared your same ideals for freedom and democratic societies.

I hope you have learned your lesson about your good friends in Belgrade who were so quick to deny your request on M. Abbas.

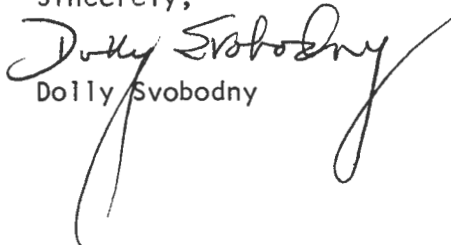
Why not turn the tables on Belgrade now and approve the monument?

I have been a strong supporter (emotionally and financially) of yours. I feel you have let the free, anti-Communist world down by buckling down to the "Communist requests" in denying permission for the Mihailovich monument and cannot understand your reasoning.

There are many loyal, anti-Communist Serbian-Americans in the U.S. who are also among your staunchest supporters. It was bad enough that Chetniks lost out because Churchill and other Allied leaders of WWII and the "free world" abandoned Yugoslavia to the Communists but your action now can prove to be the final insult.

Mr. President, where is your freedom-fighting spirit these days?

Sincerely,


Dolly Svobodny

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

11-5-85

Brenda:

Does this man want
anything or is he just
voicing his opinion?

I've read it twice and
can't tell! Let me
know — thanks!

Jan!

SLOBODAN D. VUCICEVIC, M.D., S.C.

ORTHOPAEDIC SURGERY & SURGERY OF THE HAND
3501 SOUTH HARLEM AVENUE
BERWYN, ILLINOIS 60402

BERWYN PHONE
312 - 749-0117

6900 SOUTH MADISON
WILLOWBROOK, ILLINOIS 60521
312 - 920-1160

October 21, 1985

Mr. Ronald Reagan, President
United States of America
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

In the past I wrote to your office and I received a reply from some of your aides concerning Yugoslavia and Bill H. R. 77, on which you showed a reverse in your policy. Comparing your letter issued when you were earning your gubernatorial campaign in California to Citizens Committee for General Mihailovich and your late letter issued as a result of introduction of Bill H. R. 77 in the Congress.

As a Republican and a very proud American of Yugoslavian heritage, I would like to say out front that I am really ashamed of the attitude that has been expressed by our highest office in the Nation as well as the lack of consistency that has been a factor in our foreign policy. This inconsistency has been a factor for many years in the past. It certainly looks like it is one of the best propaganda weapons for Communist forces around the world and specifically the best propaganda force in the countries enslaved by the Communist regimes which I had a chance to experience as previous citizen of Yugoslavia. I lived over there for 25 years. I was born and raised there and finished medical school there and as of 1974 I am a citizen of United States and very proud of my new adopted nation. I would like to tell you that American dealings with corrupted regime of Yugoslavia in the last 40 some years was nothing but a shameful one with complete disregard for any human rights for the enslaved people in that troubled nation and for that matter the all eastern European nations.

I wrote to you on two occasions concerning your visit to Bitburg Cemetery and I also wrote to you concerning the facts of H. R. 77. Both of those letters expressed to you what disheartening news is when people who love America and consider our principles as highest achievement in the history of humankind see that our dealings with people are different from our principles.

That can be very obviously seen in orchestrated effort of our State Department which did everything in its power with help from liberal media to kill the truth of fight and sacrifice of all the freedom-loving Yugoslavs for their own liberty and prosperity of whole nation. I had to admit shamefully your own view on that fact has been reversed at the public conference when you were asked about facts of Mihailovich you regretably denied that you know much about it despite the fact that you wrote about the General. If our OSS documents as well as our own 530 rescued American soldiers in war occupied Nazi Europe are not sufficient proof for you to know who was a friend and who was proNazi ally in that time that certainly leaves much to be desired for the people who are managing our foreign policy to go back to the drawing board and get history books and read about it. If anything, they can review some of the facts from captured material from German archives as well as from British sources.

On this occasion I would like to enclose to you two pieces of information. One is the letter from David Martin who wrote the Task Force in Congress House Administration Committee concerning General Mihailovich's war effort. You can see he certainly was fighting for freedom of all Yugoslavs not only for Serbs. Being of Serbian decent, it makes it more dear to my heart. Another piece of information is to prove the ill-conceived dealings done by our ex-Ambassador in Yugoslavia, Eagleburger, who certainly did a lot of damage to our image in that troubled nation making all kinds of economical dealings and mismanagement of the billions of Western Banks for sake of corrupted regime in Yugoslavia and eventually resigning his post as State Department official to take over as the Chairman of Joint Venture of Communist Administration and American market as Yugo Car, Inc. (Enclosure of all the facts in the letter from Mr. Beljakovic.)

Once again I would like to mention that I know this letter probably will not be read by you, Mr. President, but one of your aides. I would like to suggest again that someone read back to just before World War II, Chamberlain's dealings with Nazi regime in Germany at that time and you will see the trend that certainly continued to be the fact of life in post World War II in dealings of free country with Communist dictator regimes which is not much different in its basics from defeated Nazi ideology.

I still remain deeply committed to our democracy and our way of liberty, but I would reiterate statement by many philosophers in the past which is essential to the humankind that deeds speaks much more elequent than any words. I think something of that nature should be applied in our foreign policy and once and for all we should deal with other countries in a manner that speaks and is not underhanded and ill-fated manner continue to be murderers of the truth as is the case of General Mihailovich where we disregarded our own Legion of Merit which is the highest medal that can be given to any foreign soldier. Maybe some of your people from the Yugoslavian Embassy can look into the general populace feeling and writing that is going on now throughout Yugoslavia and they will see the people in the troubled nations still remember and treasure in their hearts General Mihailovich and his effort, but due to Communistic power supported and propped up with Western nation's money they can't do much about it but just continue to suffer and hope for some better signal and certainly some better leadership in international policy.

I do apologize if I did express my views harshly, but I like to express them in the way that freedom-loving Yugoslavs feel. Some of them do not have enough chance to express them because they are living under Communist tyranny and some of them in this country certainly feel that even if they express them they will not matter in any way. Therefore, they feel that it would be an ill-fated effort, but I still believe that the truth will eventually penetrate and reach even the highest level in spite of mismanagement of middle echelon. I do trust that if this letter comes to the President's attention or somebody in his direct circle that it will not fall on deaf ears.

In our recent episode with our public statement everything that we did we managed to offend one foreign nation that has been trying to be quite a good ally of us as well as we managed to cause resignation of Prime Minister of the Italian Government and you saw what did happen with Yugoslavian murderous regime who just without any respect for America continue to harbor world murderer Mohammed Aabass and in spite of such a tremendous "friendly relationship" that America claims with Yugoslavian Nation and your public statement concerning the late visit of Primier of Yugoslavia, Miss Milka Planic.

In conclusion I would like to just mention with what right we can expect respect and admiration from others, if you do not express the same concern and same effort toward them alike.

Respectfully yours,

Slobodan D. Vucicevic, M.D.

SDV:js

Enclosures

cc: George Schultz
cc: Philip Crane
cc: Tip O'Neal, Speaker of the House
cc: Mr. Lugar, Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
cc: New York Times
cc: Washington Post
cc: Chicago Tribune
cc: Owen Beber, President United Workers of America
cc: Honorable Jesse Helms, U.S. Senator
cc: Honorable Patrick Buchanan, Advisor to the President
cc: Honorable Robert McFarlane, Security Advisor
cc: George Will, Syndicated Writer
cc: Jack Anderson, Syndicated Columnist

William M. Nikolin
Dipl. & Consular Off.
(Ret.)
350 Grandall Ave.,
Youngstown, Ohio,
44504

Hon. Philip M. Crane
Congress of the United States
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Sir:

I had the pleasure of being a witness on July 12, 1985, Room H-323, the Capitol, on the subject of H.R. 77, a bill to authorize the National Committee of American Airmen rescued by Gen. Draza Mihailovich to establish a monument to him in Washington, D.C.

As a veteran of WW II and an eye witness to many violations of Democratic principles which occurred, not only in our foreign policy, but also in the unauthorized support of communists at that, which to replace in Yugoslavia the support of WW II. I was an eye witness when Churchill had to force Tito to return to the Island of Vis (Mid-Adriatic) on an English sea-plane. Later our intelligence received information that Tito used the same sea-plane to go to Odessa, where Soviet troops were located; that was in May of 1944. He remained with Gen. Tolbuhin until Oct. 20, 1944, when Soviet troops entered Belgrade, Serbia. At that time, no Germans were in Serbia; they had been pushed out of Serbia by Mihailovich troops. No one invited the Soviets to enter Yugoslavia, which was an ally country. Tolbuhin installed Tito and Communist Party to take over Yugoslavia.

While posted at the American Embassy, circa Jan. 2, 1948- June 26, 1955, I attended the 5th Congress of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia, held in Belgrade, and in their self-criticism they publicly stated that they had killed close to 700 Germans. The reason given for such a small contribution was that they were in the Dinaric region of Mountains (mostly in Croatia-Dalmatia) where Italian troops were occupying that particular terrain. Delegates stated that geographically it was impossible to come closer to German forces.

But we all know that Gen. Mihailovich was located in the area of great importance to Germans for that area was a German life-line, Belgrade-Thessalonika-Athens-Crete. I will not go into details, but believe me, while in Yugoslavia for more than seven years with the American Embassy, I had the chance to speak to thousands of Serbian veterans of WW II, who fought in the ranks against Germans under the command of Gen. Draza Mihailovich. They cannot all be liars, for many had wounds to prove that they were in Ravna Gora with the General.

I believe that your support of H.R. 77 is justified.

Sincerely,

William M. Nikolin

William M. Nikolin

William H. Nikolin
Dipl. & Consular Off. (Ret.),
350 Crandall Ave.,
Youngstown, Ohio, 44504

Congressman James A. Traficant, Jr.
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Sir:

I had the pleasure of being a witness on July 12, 1985, Room H-328, the Capitol, on the subject of H.R. 77, a bill to authorize the National Committee of American Airmen rescued by Gen. Draza Mihailovich to establish a monument to him in Washington, D.C.

As a veteran of WW II and an eye witness to many violations of Democratic principles which occurred, not only in our foreign policy, but also in the unauthorized support of communists at that time which took place in Yugoslavia in support of Tito. I was an eye witness when Churchill had to force Tito to return to the Island of Vis (Mid-Adriatic) on an English sea-plane. Later our intelligence received information that Tito used the same sea-plane to go to Odessa, where Soviet troops were located; that was in May of 1944. He remained with Gen. Tolbuhin until Oct. 20, 1944, when Soviet troops entered Belgrade, Serbia. At that time, no Germans were in Serbia; they had been pushed out of Serbia by Mihailovich troops. No one invited the Soviets to enter Serbia (Yugoslavia), which was an ally country. Tolbuhin installed Tito and Communist Party to take over Yugoslavia.

While posted at the American Embassy, Belgrade, circa Jan 2, 1948 - June 28, 1955, I attended the 5th Congress of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia, held in Belgrade, and in their self-criticism they publicly stated that they had killed close to 700 Germans. The reason given for such a small contribution was that they were in the Dinaric region of Mountains (mostly in Croatia-Dalmatia) where Italian troops were occupying that particular terrain. Delegates stated that geographically it was impossible to come closer to German forces.

If we are to accept British documentary research found in their FAX BRITANNICA in which they state that the Germans had 26 divisions in the Serb-Greece

area and that in the period of fighting, from April 1941 to Dec. 1941, the Germans lost 80 thousand killed and over 125,000 wounded, and we know that Gen. Mihailovich, with his Chetniks (Guerrillas) did most of the fighting, it becomes evident that the British-American support of Tito's Soviet forces in Yugoslavia was an obvious mistake.

We also know that Gen. Mihailovich was located in the area of great importance to Germans for that area was a German life-line, Belgrade-Thessalonika-Athens-Crete. I will not go into details, but believe me, while in Yugoslavia for more than seven years with the American Embassy, I had the chance to speak to thousands of Serbian veterans of WW II. who fought in the ranks against Germans under the command of Gen. Draza Mihailovich. They cannot all be liars, for many had wounds to prove that they were in Ravna Gora with the General.

I believe that your support of H.R. 77 would be justified.

Sincerely,

William M. Nikolin
William M. Nikolin

1500 North Hancock Street
Arlington, VA 22201
July 20, 1985

The Honorable Mary Rose Oakar, Chairman
Task Force on Libraries and Memorials
U.S. House of Representatives - Suite 2436
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Madam Chairman:

First of all, I would like to congratulate you on the fair and evenhanded manner in which you chaired last Friday's hearing on H.R. 77. I was not one of the witnesses (I have Parkinson's), but I was introduced, I believe by Colonel Davis, as an expert on the history of the period.

There is one matter of history on which I should like to make a statement for the record. This has to do with the Ustashi massacres. Former Congressman Blatnik did testify with feeling and at length on this subject. Regrettably, some of the witnesses ignored the Ustashi massacres entirely and, instead, accused the Mihailovich forces of engaging in massacres against the Croatian population.

If there is one thing on which the followers of Tito and the followers of Mihailovich agreed, it was the Ustashi massacres, which began almost immediately the quisling regime of Ante Pavelic was installed in power by the Nazis. The number of victims is conservatively estimated at 600,000. The facts of the massacres would, indeed, be incredible if they had not been authenticated from so many different sources. The Ustashi militia, who were responsible for the massacres, represented only a small minority of the Croat people. But the immediate reaction of Serbs whose mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters were among the massacred were not at first disposed to distinguish between Croats and Ustashi. Certain independent Serb formations did engage in counter-massacres although the number of victims was only a tiny fraction of those killed by the Ustashi. It is to be emphasized, however, that, at the time in question -- that is, the first several months after the occupation -- the Mihailovich movement was still in gestation, and the commanders of these independent Serb formations did not act under Mihailovich's orders.

In addition, certain Moslem formations under German command engaged in massacres of the Serb population in their areas.

On December 19, 1943, Mihailovich was celebrating the feast of his patron saint, Saint Nicholas. The festival was attended by representatives from all over Yugoslavia. In a speech delivered at the luncheon, Mr. Predavacs, a Croat engineer and the son of the first vice-president of the Croat Peasant Party, said the following:

....In the name of the Croat people I thank you, General Mihailovich, for your three great achievements.

Firstly, for having preserved the Yugoslav ideal among the Serbs even after it had been stained by the blood of 700,000 Serb martyrs

who were slain by the Ustashi terrorists. It was you who had the boldness to hoist the Yugoslav colours at Ravna Gora under the most difficult circumstances, and at a time when many Serbs thought that reconciliation could never be possible between them and the Croats.

Secondly, for having refused to preach the principle of vengeance against the Croats, demanding instead the punishment only of those who were guilty of the crime committed.

Thirdly, for having taken, in the name of all the Yugoslavs, an energetic attitude to defend democracy against dictatorship of every kind, whether it came from the right or the left.

Toward the end of September 1943, the Chetniks stormed the town of Visegrad, killing some 200 of the enemy, and then blew up a 450-foot steel bridge. Some of the Chetniks whose families had been massacred by the Moslems and who were still fired by the desire for vengeance, started throwing Moslem men and women off the bridge. The Mihailovich commanders quickly brought this situation under control by executing several soldiers who had been involved in the abuse of the Moslem population. This I have on the authority of Colonel Albert Seitz, the chief of the American mission to Mihailovich, and Brigadier C. D. Armstrong, the chief of the British mission to Mihailovich, at that time.

As the war drew to a close, Serbian, Croatian, and Moslem peasants realized progressively that, as far as the future was concerned, they had a common enemy in the Communists. Extremist attitudes began to dissolve, and cooperation took their place. Retreating through eastern Bosnia with Mihailovich in October 1944, Lt. Colonel Robert H. McDowell, the chief of the American mission to Mihailovich, came to the territory in east Bosnia of one of Mihailovich's commanders, Pop Sava Bozich, a Serbian soldier-priest who had 10,000 well-disciplined troops under him -- Serbs, Croats, and Moslems.

This was the direction in which things were moving in Yugoslavia as the war approached its end. As another evidence of this, I cite the testimony of a Yugoslav Moslem refugee in Toronto who told me that, toward the end of the war, there were entire Moslem units in the Mihailovich army and publications put out by Moslem intellectuals which strongly supported him.

In conducting the recent hearing, you asked all those whose testimony did not provide a clear answer to the question whether they supported the proposed legislation. I strongly support H.R. 77.

For that matter, I would have no objection if the American airmen rescued by Tito were to come together and ask for legislation permitting them to erect on Federal land a monument expressing their gratitude for the saving of their lives. I think it noteworthy that there has been no organization of American airmen rescued by Marshal Tito; indeed, to my knowledge there

has not even been a letter to the Editor from one of the airmen. I do not say that they were systematically abused by the Partisans. On the whole, they were properly treated in the sense that they were given food and medical attention and were not turned over to the Germans. But with few exceptions they were subjected to a condition resembling house arrest which gave them little opportunity to converse or exchange thoughts with their Partisan rescuers. They were not treated as enemies, but then neither were they treated as friends and allies.

The airmen rescued by the Mihailovich forces, on the other hand, were given complete freedom of movement. Collectively, they had very wide contact with the Chetnik peasantry. If, after 40 years, they are still motivated and emotionally committed to somehow express their gratitude, it is because their numerous contacts convinced them that Mihailovich and his forces represented a political philosophy akin to their own, and because they received the airmen as cherished allies, more important than themselves to the victorious conclusion of the war against the Nazis. For this reason, they always fed the American airmen first and themselves got along on what was left over -- which was frequently little or nothing.

It is time that the State Department stopped being shamefaced about General Eisenhower's recommendation that the Legion of Merit be awarded to General Mihailovich and of President Truman's statement in conferring the award. The honor of the United States is also involved in the pending legislation. While he was still alive, Mihailovich did not receive even a letter of gratitude from the U.S. government for rescuing and arranging for the return to combat duty of so many American airmen. The least the United States can do at this very late juncture is to follow through on the statements of General Eisenhower and President Truman by contributing the small parcel of Federal land on which the American airmen rescued by Mihailovich can then build their memorial of gratitude.

I hope you will see fit to print this statement in the Record.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely,

David Martin

David Martin

DM/ekh



THE SERBIAN DEMOCRATIC COALITION

P.O.B. 20030 CHEROKEE STATION PO.
1539 FIRST AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y. 10028

Hon. Richard Lugar, U.S. Senator
Chairman of U.S. Senate Committee on
Foreign Relations
4229 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

New York, September 20, 1985

Re: The questionable business
practices of Lawrence
Eagleburger, former American
Ambassador to Yugoslavia, and
later Undersecretary of State.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

During the Fall of last year, we heard that the already crowded American auto market would be invaded by another foreign entry, "Yugo" from Yugoslavia. Soon after that, "Yugo-American, Inc.", Montvale, N.J., began to aggressively advertise the forthcoming arrival of the Yugoslavian compact at an attractive price tag of \$4,000.00. As a bargain, in comparison with other imports of the same size, the car was particularly targeted for lower income families, retirees and students. In August 1985, the first 500 cars were unloaded in Baltimore, Maryland, and about a dozen authorized dealers on the U.S. eastern seaboard soon announced that their initial allotments had been sold beforehand. From about 20,000 cars by the end of 1985, the number of cars to be sold in the following years was ambitiously set at about 200,000 per year.

Naturally, the state controlled press in communist Yugoslavia lauded this as a huge commercial success, the affirmation of their industrial potential and a breakthrough in their penetration of the American markets. The fact that "a little car was accepted as a big guest" in the country where the production of quality cars started was to open the door for export of other goods as well. It was pointed out that in order to meet the strict American standards, they had to make significant structural changes in the car. While the current line has only a standard shift, the future models will feature automatic transmissions along with air conditioners, more variety in colors, etc. At the welcoming ceremony in Baltimore on August 18, 1985, according to "Politika", from Belgrade, "Toma Savic, the Director of Sales of 'The Red Star' factory, pointed out that this was a happy day for the manufacturer who had realized his promise and done everything which was in his power and was now putting the product into the hands of exporters, dealers and buyers."

For a casual American observer, in a country with virtually unrestricted import policies on foreign goods, this probably looked like a commendable effort of a rather modest industrially developed country in entering the company of industrial giants and competing with them against all odds. The fact is, however, that the whole venture is rather the result of a clever political ploy designed to bring Yugoslavia additional political respectability in the United States, and at the same time, give substantial cash returns to the architects of the Yugoslavian image of a "friendly nation", which deserves further American economic and political support. One of the speakers who was at hand in Baltimore, Lawrence Eagleburger, former American Ambassador to Yugoslavia (1976-1980), who is now on the board of directors of "The Yugo-American, Inc.", also underlined the Yugoslavian "ability to compete in the difficult American auto market", and saw it "as a new step in the closer relations between the two countries."

Acting in his new capacity as one of the officials of "The Yugo-American, Inc.", organizing the imports of the "Yugo", Eagleburger is a "frequent guest in Belgrade." In a lengthy interview, given to the leading Yugoslavian Weekly "NIN" (The Weekly Information Newspaper), issue May 5, 1985, he touched upon some of his former involvement in the Yugoslavian debt picture:

- Q. The biggest part of the present Yugoslavian debt to the American banks was achieved in the period between 1977 and 1980, in fact when you were former ambassador of the U.S.A. in Yugoslavia. It is known that you personally participated in negotiations about those credits. Do you feel responsible for that?
- A. Of course, I believe that I did a huge favor to the Yugoslavs helping them to get the money they needed at the time. I am not going to apologize for that. If Yugoslavia now has a problem to repay those debts, then maybe it should not have taken them. Your question is a legitimate one: yes, I helped you to get indebted! It is true that I tremendously pressured some American banks to convince them to extend credits to Yugoslavia. This I do not deny, and in that respect, of course, I feel responsible."

Before Eagleburger became Ambassador to Yugoslavia, the United States had helped that country for over twenty-five years. During the period of the so-called "cold war", this was a part of "a calculated risk", and a chance to get through Yugoslavia a glimpse of what was going on in the Communist world to which Yugoslavia still belonged after its secession from the Soviet Block in 1948. Lawrence Silberman, Eagleburger's predecessor in the post in Belgrade, was the first American envoy there who finally understood a true Yugoslavian position, and its basically antagonistic stance against the United States. After getting into an open conflict with Tito personally, who mentioned him by name in one of his speeches, Silberman had to "resign" in 1976. His views on Yugoslavia were later published in "Foreign Policy", Spring 1977, in which he called Yugoslavian communism "a fiddler on the roof of Europe." With the arrival of his successor,

Lawrence Eagleburger, an era of the beautification of the Yugoslavian image was opened, and Yugoslavia was perceived more as an ally of the United States, rather than an adversary, which that country still remained. Before Eagleburger left Yugoslavia to take his State Department post, he was awarded one of the highest civil decorations, "The Medal of the Yugoslavian Flag with Ribbon."

As per newspaper accounts, the primary reason why Eagleburger left his prestigious State Department post of Undersecretary of State in 1984, was his desire "to make some money". The best chance to do that clearly was to return to familiar ground and cash in on the country which owed him the most for his continuous support while he was in Belgrade, and later, in the State Department. Even though some responsible Yugoslavs were aware that businesswise the sale of "Yugo" would not bring them any benefits, they had to go through with this and heed the advice of Lawrence Eagleburger that this would be their "chance of the century." They very well knew that Eagleburger, with the influential Kissinger Associates for whom he worked, could still help them in promoting their friendly image in America. To avoid dealing through Eagleburger in selling "Yugo" as a losing business proposition might backfire on them and cause former Undersecretary to change his tune about Yugoslavia, which would cost them more in terms of preservation of their status in this country than the amount of money which they would put in his pockets.

The biggest fallacy in the whole matter was the belief that the earnings from the sale of this car, and a future increase in the Yugoslavian exports to the United States, would enable them to start rapidly repaying the tremendous national debt of over \$25 billion, which they had not been able to start repaying until then, and postpone it through a perpetual refinancing, which imposes an even greater burden on the Yugoslavian economy. If they had, let's say, succeeded in selling the 200,000 cars annually, this would not have left them an income for the State treasury of more than \$1,000 per car, which comes to \$200,000,000, which is a token of what they needed given the fact that their annual repayment load is about \$5 billion. The Yugoslav press acknowledged the high cost of the car for themselves considering that most of the raw materials for manufacturing the car had to be imported, the \$300 per car cost of transport to America by foreign carrier, the cost of importing some of the parts, not to mention the factory cost. Even though if the car proved to be a good buy, the problem of maintenance in this country had still yet to determine its future marketability and whether this would be a complete or only a partial flop.

A sober assessment of the Yugoslavian economic situation would quickly establish that there is no known cure for the present Yugoslavian illnesses as long as their current political and economic systems exist. Only a dynamic economy with a strong potential, as the Yugoslavian economy might develop into under free conditions, would assure that its increased demands for foreign currencies be met, and American lenders get once what they were coerced by Eagleburger to give to Yugoslavia. Their current unproductive, wasteful, stagnant, and mismanaged economic system will never be able to achieve that. For

years their foreign trade deficit ran somewhere about \$2 billion per year and increased their overall debt. Their main sources of foreign exchange income: tourism and remittances from workers abroad, are dwindling every year, with a reported income from tourism achieving only \$457 million until now, and no prospect that it will even reach \$1 billion this year, when Spain is expected to make \$10 billion. Under the economic pressure in many European countries, the scores of foreign workers, including those from Yugoslavia, are forced to return to their countries, thereby reducing the income those countries had from the exchange of their earnings.

It seems to us appropriate at this point, to take a look at several other side effects of "Yugo's" sale in the American market. Promoters of that sale apparently were not concerned with what an adverse effect this would have on the productivity of the American auto makers, and lay-off of their workers because some foreign car was brought in to take jobs away from them. The amount America pays for that Yugoslav car is the amount by which the American trade deficit will be increased. The U.S. as a country did not gain friends in Yugoslavia because of the heavy lending to their oppressive government, but only enemies. The Yugoslavian government itself conveniently created anti-American feeling by telling their people that the present austerity measures imposed on them at the request of International Monetary Fund (IMF), the principle leader who reduced their standard of living by about 7% for the last five years in a row, is a result of the heavy pressure by "the hungry American capitalists", who actually lured them into taking that money and buy American goods with it when they did not need them. That bitterness against the West radiates even through the columns of "a moderate", "NIN", and other leading Yugoslavian publications.

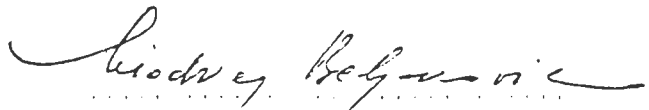
Who are then the real beneficiaries of such an American policy of political and economic generosity towards the Communist Yugoslavia? First of all, there is no doubt that early takers were various corrupt communist officials, who pocketed a good portion of that money through deliberate "missed investments", and now, Eagleburger, and others, who knew very well about the ineptness of the Yugoslavian officials in managing their country's economy, and in subsequent business deals with them such as the sale of "Yugo", are taking advantage of their incompetence for their own benefit. Only \$1 from each 200,000 of sold cars per year would have given Eagleburger an income almost three times as large as the one he had as Undersecretary of State. In our opinion, for a former official of the U.S. government to conduct such questionable business as Eagleburger does, is incomprehensible. Is he registered as a foreign agent? Many people even before called him an Ambassador of Yugoslavia to the United States rather than an American ambassador in Yugoslavia. If all this is legal, the question remains to what extent is it ethical and crosses the path of conflict of interest, since Eagleburger's activity while ambassador to Yugoslavia could have easily been predicated on his business plans which later became apparent.

In any case, we do believe that the present developments about the promotion and sale of the Yugoslavian car in the United States, in which a former high Government official figures as a peddler for a foreign

government, gives enormous room for an inquiry by the responsible Congressional forums and the Government agencies. This is even more necessitated because of the fact that the questionable policies toward Yugoslavia Eagleburger advanced are still in force, with all their possible disastrous effects on the real interests of the United States in that part of the world. Therefore, we shall appreciate, dear Mr. Chairman, if you would use the prestige of your high office to initiate such proceedings, or see to it that some other competent forums do so in the near future.

Thanking you beforehand for your favorable consideration of this proposal, we remain

Very Truly Yours,



Miodrag Beljakovic, President

CC: Hon. George P. Shultz
 Secretary of State
 Lawrence Eagleburger, former
 Undersecretary of State
 Hon. Edwin Meese, Attorney General
 Hon. Jesse Helms, U.S. Senator
 Hon. Orrin G. Hatch, U.S. Senator
 Hon. Patrick Buchanan, Advisor to the President
 Hon. Robert McFarlane, Security Advisor
 Hon. John F. McGillicuddy, Chairman of the Board of
 Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co., N.Y.
 Hon. John F. Reed, Chairman of the Board of
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 Hon. Owen Beber, President,
 United Auto Workers of America
 Hon. George Will, Syndicated Writer
 Hon. Jack Anderson, Syndicated Columnist
 Hon. Evans and Novak, Syndicated Writers
 New York Times
 The Washington Post
 The Chicago Tribune

RONALD REAGAN

September 8, 1979

Mr. Michael Radenkovich
Vice President
California Citizens' Committee to
Commemorate General Draja Mihailovich
P. O. Box 1617
Santa Monica, California 90406

Dear Mr. Radenkovich:

Please convey to the California Citizen's Committee to Commemorate General Draja Mihailovich my sincere appreciation for their kind invitation to attend tonight's dinner to commemorate General Mihailovich. Unfortunately, prior commitments prevent me from being with you.

I believe that the spirit in which you have gathered here to honor the memory of General Mihailovich, the faithful allied commander and the first anti-Nazi leader in Europe, is shared by the great majority of Americans.

The ultimate tragedy of Draja Mihailovich cannot erase the memory of his heroic and often lonely struggle against the twin tyrannies that afflicted his people, Nazism and Communism. He knew that totalitarianism, whatever name it might take, is the death of freedom. He thus became a symbol of resistance to all those across the world who have had to fight a similar heroic and lonely struggle against totalitarianism. Mihailovich belonged to Yugoslavia; his spirit now belongs to all those who are willing to fight for freedom.

I wish it could be said that this great hero was the last victim of confused and senseless policies of western governments in dealing with Communism. The fact is that others have suffered a fate similar to his by being embraced and then abandoned by western governments in the hope that such abandonment will purchase peace or security.

Thus, the fate of General Mihailovich is not simply of historic significance--it teaches us something today, as well. No western nation, including the United States, can hope to win its own battle for freedom and survival by sacrificing brave comrades to the politics of international expediency.

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: NOVEMBER 07, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. RICHARD L. FELMAN

SUBJECT: WRITES REGARDING STATE DEPARTMENT'S
OPPOSITION TO AMERICAN AIRMEN'S REQUEST TO
THANK GENERAL MIHAILOVICH LIFE-SAVING EFFORTS
DURING WORLD WAR II

		ACTION	DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE C RESP D YY/MM/DD
LINAS KOJELIS		ORG	85/11/07	____/____/____
REFERRAL NOTE:	_____		____/____/____	____/____/____
REFERRAL NOTE:	_____		____/____/____	____/____/____
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COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION          *OUTGOING          *
*                        *                        *CORRESPONDENCE:   *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED          *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM       *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL  *          OF SIGNER *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE      *C-COMPLETED        *          CODE = A   *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET  *S-SUSPENDED         *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*                        *          OUTGOING  *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                        *                        *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE       *                        *                        *
*X-INTERIM REPLY       *                        *                        *
*****

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LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
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Edmonton, Canada

Personnel involved in air
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351099

National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich, Inc.

P.O. BOX 17478, TUCSON, ARIZONA 85731 (602) 885-7005

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, D.C.

28th October 1985

Dear Mr. President:

Subject: An urgent appeal for the reassessment of the State Department's 40 year opposition to the American Airmens' request to thank General Mihailovich for saving their lives during World War II - HR 77.

The attached letter to the State Department is being forwarded to you for your information - and hopefully, your assistance.

For over 40 years now the State Department has given as their reason for opposing us the fact that they did not want to offend the government of Yugoslavia. Yugoslavia's recent role in engineering the escape of the terrorist-murderer of Leon Klinghoffer and their subsequent disregard of our warrant for his arrest left no doubt about how they feel in the matter of offending us.

While I do not presume expertise in the field of foreign policy, I firmly believe that the government of Yugoslavia has as much right objecting to a Mihailovich Memorial in Washington as the government of the United States has in objecting to an Angela Davis statue in Belgrade.

We have waited for over 40 years to repay our American debt of honor to this Allied comrade who you yourself have called a great hero and loyal friend (attached).

Mr. President, we believe the time has finally come. On behalf of the 500 American fighting men whose lives he saved, I urge you in the strongest possible terms to request that your State Department reassess their opposition to us in light of the recent events surrounding the Achille Lauro tragedy. We do not have another 40 years to fight for what we know is right and in the highest traditions of American honor, truth, justice and common decency.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Felman
Major USAF Ret
President

Encls.

ALSO ATTACHED: ONE 185 PAGE BOOK OF NEWS CLIPPINGS TITLED:
"A REPORT ON THE EFFORTS OF THE RESCUED AMERICAN AIRMAN
TO HONOR GENERAL MIHAILOVICH - 1944-1980"

A partial list of those who have supported General Draza Mihailovich over the last 40 years includes: Presidents Harry S. Truman, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Richard M. Nixon & Ronald Reagan, The United States Senate, hundreds of U.S. Congressmen, Secretary of the Air Force Thomas C. Reed, the Department of the Interior, The National Capital Memorial Advisory Committee, U.S. Ambassador to Yugoslavia Laurence Silberman, House Committee Chairman on Foreign Affairs Clement J. Zablocki, U.S. Commission of Inquiry, The Arizona State Senate, Alaska Governor Ernest Gruening, Kansas Governor Alf M. Landon, Kentucky Governor Simeon Willis, Indiana Governor Robert D. Orr, Massachusetts Governor Edward J. King, Nebraska Governor Dwight Griswold, Texas Governor Coke Stevenson, Bishops Fermilian, Irmay & Manning, Alice Roosevelt Longworth, Gene Tunney, John Wayne, The American Legion, Polish War Veterans, Countless Local Veterans Organizations, The Heritage Foundation, Coalition for American, The New York Times, Washington Post, The Toronto Sun, Washington Times, Christian Science Monitor, etc. Special Mention: The Honorable Edward J. Derivinski and Historian David Martin.

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*Rescued Canadian Airman

Honorary Member



National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich, Inc.

23 October, 1985

P.O. BOX 17478, TUCSON, ARIZONA 85731 (602) 885-7005

Mr. William L. Ball, III
Assistant Secretary
Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs
United States Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Ball:

The attached article appeared in the WALL STREET JOURNAL October 23, 1985. It was written by United States Congressman Jim Courter (R-N.J.) and titled "Why Abbas Chose Yugoslavia." It also appeared in THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Your attention is respectfully invited to the concluding sentences in this article, which state:

"QUIET, 'NONALIGNED' YUGOSLAVIA HAS ENCOURAGED, ARMED AND DIRECTLY ASSISTED PLO TERRORISTS FOR MANY YEARS, AND HAS DONE THAT AS A MATTER OF DECLARED STATE POLICY. MR. ABBAS SEEMS TO UNDERSTAND THAT. SO SHOULD WE."

Our concern is as follows: On June 29, 1977, the United States Senate passed, for the second time, a bill granting our committee of over 500 former MIAs permission to erect a memorial to General Draza Mihailovich for saving our lives during World War II after we were shot down in Yugoslavia. This memorial would be funded by private contributions at no expense to the taxpayer, and would be our way of repaying our debt of honor to this anti-communist Commander-in-Chief of the Yugoslavian Army Forces.

Since that time, the bill has died in House committee in every congressional session due to the loud objections of the communist government of Yugoslavia supported by the State Department's policy of not wanting to offend them. This opposition was raised once again by the State Department at a congressional committee hearing on HR 77 on July 12, 1985, and continues to this date.

We would not be worthy of our American citizenship if we sat quietly by and did not voice our objections to having to continue taking a back seat in our country to those who would defiantly collaborate with a terrorist murderer of a crippled fellow American in a wheel chair.

In view of the Achille Lauro aftermath and President Reagan's "get-tough" policy on terrorism, we pray the State Department will reevaluate its continued opposition to the Mihailovich memorial (HR 77) and, after 40 years, join us and the American people in saying "Thank you, General Mihailovich, for saving over 500 of our boys. No one else in history has done that, and we are mighty grateful." Respectfully submitted,

Richard L. Felman
Major, USAF Ret.
President

A partial list of those who have supported General Draza Mihailovich over the last 40 years includes: Presidents Harry S. Truman, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Richard M. Nixon & Ronald Reagan, The United States Senate, hundreds of U.S. Congressmen, Secretary of the Air Force Thomas C. Reed, the Department of the Interior, The National Capital Memorial Advisory Committee, U.S. Ambassador to Yugoslavia Laurence S. Libman, House Committee Chairman on Foreign Affairs Clement J. Zablocki, U.S. Commission of Inquiry, The Arizona State Senate, Alaska Governor Ernest Gruening, Kansas Governor Alf M. Landon, Kentucky Governor Simeon Willis, Indiana Governor Robert D. Orr, Massachusetts Governor Edward J. King, Nebraska Governor Dwight Griswold, Texas Governor Coke Stevenson, Bishops Fermilian, Irmyay & Manning, Alice Roosevelt Longworth, Gene Tunney, John Wayne, The American Legion, Polish War Veterans, Countless Local Veterans Organizations, The Heritage Foundation, Coalition for American, The New York Times, Washington Post, The Toronto Sun, Washington Times, Christian Science Monitor, etc. Special Mention: The Honorable Edward J. Derwinski and Historian David Martin.

Why Abbas Chose Yugoslavia

Only one day separated Prime Minister Bettino Craxi's insistence that Italy, not the U.S., must be allowed to prosecute the Achille Lauro hijackers from the moment Italy freed the suspected mastermind of the crime. The day after U.S. jets intercepted the Egyptian airliner on which he was a passenger, Mohammed Abbas Zaida, or Abul Abbas, believed by the State Department to be "one of the most notorious Palestinian terrorists . . . in-

Europe

by Jim Courter

involved in savage attacks on civilians," flew to Belgrade—and freedom—on a Yugoslav airliner. Italian authorities handled the boarding at Rome's Leonardo da Vinci Airport and even arranged disguises for Mr. Abbas and Mani Ali Hassan, a senior aide of Yasser Arafat. In flight, Mr. Abbas remarked mildly to another passenger that he would be in the Yugoslav capital "for two or three days . . . for a brief rest."

His confidence was not misplaced. For Mr. Abbas, the ordeal was over. Associated Press reporters on the ground in Belgrade say the two Palestinians were allowed to bypass customs, were greeted by other officials of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and were then driven from the airport in a limousine bearing the license plate of the PLO Embassy. Meanwhile, the American officials who had waged a short, spirited battle to gain Italian extradition of Mr. Abbas to the U.S. began preparing new warrants to present to the Yugoslav government.

But it will be some time before Mr. Abbas sees the insides of any courtroom. As a member of the PLO executive council and chief of the subgroup named the Palestine Liberation Front, he will more likely

be feted in than extradited from the countries of his choosing. Yugoslavia is among the worst offenders. During the past decade innumerable terrorists, Palestinian and pro-Palestinian, have rested, traveled through or undergone guerrilla training there. They come because the Yugoslav government approves of them. Urgent extradition requests by other countries, particularly West Germany, are turned aside. Indeed, one must perhaps go back to 1975 to find the Yugoslavs moving decisively and publicly against international terrorists, and in that instance the three Germans they had seized (on Interpol warrants) were neo-Nazis.

The dignified reception that Belgrade permitted Mr. Abbas is strikingly reminiscent of that once accorded the infamous "Carlos." On Sept. 6, 1976, this Moscow-trained European commander of Palestinian and other terrorists touched down in Belgrade on a flight from Algiers. He had five companions, two of them Germans; they apparently intended to participate in an international terrorist summit that Belgrade was then hosting, according to later reports. Though West German police were waiting for him at the airport, and Yugoslav authorities were already in possession of papers from Bonn requesting his seizure and extradition, Yugoslav agents guided Carlos to an airport VIP lounge and then into the city. Four days later he was allowed to depart on a Yugoslav airliner for Damascus and Baghdad.

A similar incident occurred in 1978 when four of West Germany's most wanted Red Army Faction members were picked up in Zagreb, but then released, despite Bonn's requests for extradition. Libya, Algeria and Iraq had all expressed willingness to receive them. Little wonder that West German counterintelligence later complained that it gets next to no cooperation from the authorities in Belgrade.

Yugoslav ties with the PLO are nothing new. In 1973, Marshal Tito and Soviet Pre-

mier Aleksei Kosygin ended a week of meetings with a communique that declared their "solidarity with the just struggles of the Arab peoples with Israel." In 1978 the Yugoslavs were reported to have built several training camps for Palestinians near their Bulgarian border. By the following year, if not well before, PLO arsenals in the Middle East included a variety of Yugoslav-made weaponry. Yugoslavia also accepted PLO guerrillas evacuated from Lebanon in late 1983.

Mr. Arafat's close deputy, a notorious chief of the Palestinians' European terrorist operations named Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), was received by the Yugoslav minister of defense in February 1981. PLO representatives have held many more meetings with top officials of the Yugoslav government and armed services both in Belgrade and in Lebanon.

There is distressingly little one can say to those astonished by the Italian release of Mr. Abbas before time allowed a full investigation of his alleged role in the murder of Leon Klinghoffer. The scandal recalls the Greek release of an accomplice to the recent TWA 847 hijacking, the French release of a Black September leader named Abu Daoud in 1977, and the still incomprehensible American participation in the 1982 boat lift that saved so many terrorists, including Mr. Arafat and his Eastern bloc aides, from the Israeli army in southern Lebanon.

But there is something to be said about the destination Mr. Abbas chose when allowed to leave Italy. Quiet, "nonaligned" Yugoslavia has encouraged, armed and directly assisted PLO terrorists for many years, and has done that as a matter of declared state policy.

Mr. Abbas seems to understand that. So should we.

Mr. Courter, a Republican congressman from New Jersey, is a member of the Armed Services Committee.