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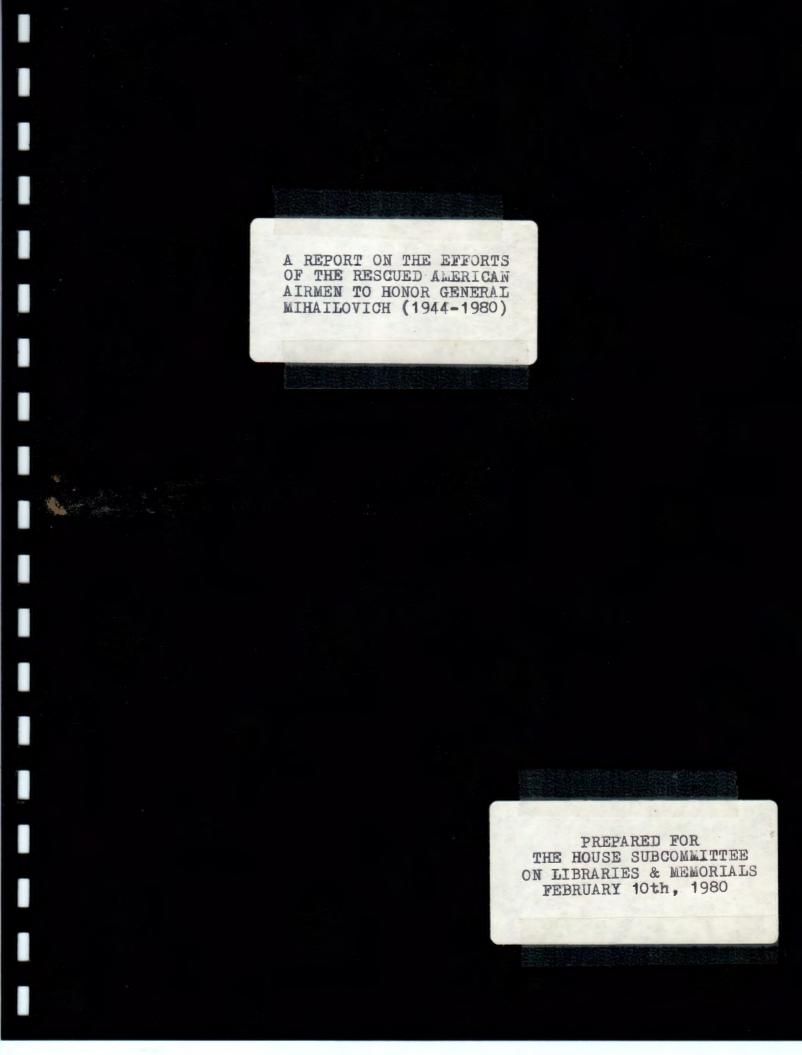
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lonorary Chairman IAJ, GEN, DONALD J, SMITH National Committee of American Airmen Chicago Illinois Rescued by General Mihailovich, Inc. T. COL. CHARLES L. DAVIS" Midamie, on rolf Falls Church Virginia .MAJOR RICHARD L. FELMAN* P.O. Box 661 • Falls Church, Virginia 22046 • (703) 560-2311 Tuscon Arizona ice Presidents T. COL GEORGE MUSULIN. McLean Virginia DAVID La BISSONIERE FEBRUARY 10TH, 1980 WISCONSI MIKE McKOOL Dallas, Texas COL JOHN E. SCROGGS* Kansas City Missouri Secretary •LT. COL. MILTON E. FRIEND* McLean Virginia TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE: THONY J. ORSINI Trabetr New Jersey CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES JAMES E. BECKER HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES GUS T. BROWN COMMITTEE OF HOUSE ADMINISTRATION T. COL. JOSEPH BUCHLER" SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIBRARIES AND MEMORIALS ANTHONY J. BUCKNER WASHINGTON, D.C. LT. COL. WILLIAM K. CALLAM Ormond Beach Florida NINETY-SIXTH CONGRESS New York Tonawanda, New CURTIS DILES, JR. SECOND SESSION ROBERT EAGAN Oak Lawn Illinois ROBERT D FULKS* LUCIEN N. NEDZI, MICHIGAN, CHAIRMAN ILL HAYDEN GRIFFIN JOHN BRADEMUS, INDIANA Dallas Texas STEPHEN J. HANICH WILLIAM RATCHFORD, CONNECTICUT COL. GERHARD A. HEINICKE VIC FAZIO, CALIFORNIA Seward Nebraska T. COL. ARTHUR HOODECHECK, JR.* PETER PEYSER, NEW YORK St Petersburg. F Florida BILL FRENZEL, MINNESOTA Texas Fort Worth Tex RICHARO HOBBY DAVE STOCKMAN, MICHIGAN Storrs Connecticut T. COL. JAMES M. INKS* NEWT GINGRICH, GEORGIA Llano Texas NEAL S. JANOSKY Milwaukee Wisconsin Lawrenceville New Jersey Butler, Pennsylvania MATULIC Jersey City New Jersey LT. COL. T. K OLIVER* Rapid City S Dakota T. COL DAVIS OSBORNE THIS COLLECTION OF DATA HAS BEEN PREPARED ELANO PORTER SPECIFICALLY FOR THE PERSONAL USE OF EACH MEMBER Lexington Kentucky THOMAS E. SAINSBURY OF THE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIBRARIES AND MEMO-RICHARD S SHEENY RIALS TO AID IN EXPEDITING CONSIDERATION OF Island Wisconsin Washington Island Wiscons T. COL. WILLIAM R. SMITH H.R.262 (ATTACHED), A BILL CURRENTLY BEFORE THE Stuart. Florida SUBCOMMITTEE WHICH WOULD GRANT OUR COMMITTEE OF Minnesota RICHARD STILLMAN AMERICAN AIRMEN PERMISSION TO ERECT A MONUMENT AJ. MERRILL L WALKER* TO GENERAL DRAZA MIHAILOVICH AT NO EXPENSE TO THE V/O CARL J. WALPUSK GOVERNMENT. (THIS PERMISSION HAS TWICE BEEN ROBERT I. WILSON GRANTED US BY THE UNITED STATES SENATE). ORMAN L. REID (RCAF); HOMAS R. BRAOSHAW (RCAF) t WE ARE USING THIS MEANS TO PRESS OUR CASE Edmonton Canada BECAUSE OF THE EVER-INCREASING TOLL THE ADVANCING Personnel involved in all YEARS CONTINUE TO TAKE ON OUR MEMBERS AND SUPcrew rescue operation OL ROBERT H. McDOWELL* PORTERS (MOST RECENTLY, AFL-CIO PRESIDENT GEORGE Clearwater arwater, Florida MEANY), AND TIME IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE. ARTHUR JIBILIAN APT. NICK LALICH. T. ELLSWORTH R. KRAMER* APT. JOHN MILODRAGOVICH* Missoula Montana •LT. COL. GEORGE MUSULIN* MCLean Virginia APT. GEORGE VUJNOVICH* Queens New Yorl •Directors *Retired tRescued Canadian Airman Honorary Member

THE SECOND SESSION OF THE 96TH CONGRESS MAY VERY WELL BE THE LAST OPPORTUNITY OUR DWINDLING GROUP OF SENIOR CITIZENS HAS TO LAUNCH THE ADDITIONAL 5 YEAR EFFORT NEEDED TO GATHER FUNDS, SEEK SECRETARY OF INTERIOR APPROVAL FOR OUR PLANS AND CONSTRUCT A FITTING MONU-MENT.

IN THE INTEREST OF BREVITY, I WILL NOT BURDEN YOU WITH A REPETITION OF THE MANY YEARS OF FRUSTRATION WE HAVE MET NOR WITH A RECITAL OF THE STIRRING REMARKS MADE IN OUR SUPPORT BY SO MANY GREAT AMERICANS THROUGH-OUT THE COUNTRY. (I HAVE ASSEMBLED THE ATTACHED MATERIAL FOR THAT PURPOSE, SHOULD IT BE NEEDED.)

SUFFICE IT TO SAY THAT IN SPITE OF THE ABUNDANCE OF EVIDENCE WHICH FOLLOWS, OUR REQUEST IS REMARKABLY SIMPLE AND CAN BE RESOLVED TO JUST ONE SENTENCE:

"WE ARE OVER 500 GRATEFUL AMERICANS WHO HAVE BEEN TRYING SINCE 1944 TO HONOR THE YUGOSLAV GENERAL WHO SAVED OUR LIVES WHILE WE FOUGHT IN THE DEFENSE OF OUR COUNTRY."

ALL ELSE IS COMMENTARY ON THIS ONE SIMPLE ISSUE!.... A REQUEST OF THIS NATURE, TOGETHER WITH THE VERIFICATION ALREADY CONTAINED IN OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT FILES, NEEDS NO FURTHER JUSTIFICATION AND SHOULD STAND ALONE ON ITS OWN UNQUESTIONABLE MERIT; ESPECIALLY SO SINCE WE ASK FOR NO GOVERNMENT FUNDS.

ONLY A FEW DAYS AGO OUR ENTIRE NATION SHOUTED ITS GRATITUDE TO OUR GOOD NEIGHBOR CANADA FOR SAVING THE LIVES OF SIX AMERICANS IN IRAN. MULTIPLY THIS OUTSTANDING ACT OF COURAGE ONE HUNDRED FOLD TO FULLY COMPREHEND THE MAGNITUDE OF GENERAL MIHAILOVICH'S CONTRIBUTION...AND HIS BODY LIES IN AN UNMARKED GRAVE.

35 YEARS IS A VERY LONG TIME. ONLY A JOB-LIKE FAITH IN OUR NATION'S HONOR HAS KEPT ALIVE OUR PASSION FOR JUSTICE. SURELY YOU MUST AGREE WE HAVE WAITED LONG ENOUGH.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

RICHARD L. FELMAN MAJOR, USAF (RETIRED) PRESIDENT

POST OFFICE BOX 17478 TUCSON, ARIZONA 85731 93D CONGRESS 2D SESSION H. R. 17315

A BILL

- To authorize the construction and maintenance of the General Draza Mihailovich Monument in Washington, District of Columbia, in recognition of the role he played in saving the lives of approximately five hundred United States airmen in Yugoslavia during World War II.
- By Mr. DERWINSKI, Mr. FLOOD, Mr. ANNUNZIO, Mr. ASHBROOK, Mr. BLACKBURN, Mr. COL-LJER, Mr. CRANE, Mrs. HOLT, Mr. HUBER, Mr. KEMP, Mr. LANDOREBE, Mr. MITCHELL of New York, Mr. MURPHY of New York, Mr. MURPHY of Illinois, Mr. O'BRIEN, Mr. SIKES, and Mr. TALCOTT

OCTOBER 11, 1974

Referred to the Committee on House Administration

95TH CONGRESS 18T SESSION

H. R. 1009

A BILL

To authorize the construction and maintenance of the General Draza Mihailovich Monument in Washington, District of Columbia, in recognition of the role he played in saving the lives of approximately five hundred United States airmen in Yugoslavia during World War II.

By Mr. MURPHY of New York

JANUARY 4, 1977 Referred to the Committee on House Administration 947H CONGRESS 1st Session

^{ss} **H. R. 7711**

A BILL

- To authorize the construction and maintenance of the General Draza Mihailovich Monument in Washington, District of Columbia, in recognition of the role he played in saving the lives of approximately five hundred United States airmen in Yugoslavia during World War II.
- By Mr. DERWINSKI, Mr. ANNUNZIO, Mr. CRANE, Mr. Hyde, Mr. Madden, Mr. Mitchell of New York, Mr. Murphy of Illinois, Mr. RINALDO, Mr. ROE, and Mr. THEEN

JUNE 9, 1975 Referred to the Committee on House Administration

DOTH CONGRESS 18T SESSION H. J. RES. 374

JOINT RESOLUTION

To authorize the construction and maintenance of a monument to General Draza Mihailovich in the District of Columbia, in recognition of the role he played in saving the lives of approximately 500 United States airmen in Yugoslavia during World War II.

By Mr. DERWINSKI, Mr. ANNUNZIO, Mr. BEARD of Tennessee, Mr. BENJAMIN, Mr. BURKE of Florida, Mr. CRANE, Mr. DAN DANIEL, Mr. DODD, Mr. FARY, Mr. HYDE, Mr. MCCLORY, Mr. MITCHELL of New York, Mr. MURPHY of Illinois, and Mr. UDALL

APRIL 4, 1977 Referred to the Committee on House Administration

ABOVE ARE SOME OF THE BILLS THAT HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SINCE 1974 PERMITTING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MIHAILOVICH MONUMENT BY THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF AMERICAN AIRMENT AT NO GOVERNMENT EXPENSE. (Other similar bills include House Joint Resolutions 55,576,584,601,636,655, etc.).

ALL WERE REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION.

ALL DIED IN COMMITTEE.

(Note: Bills authorizing the Mihailovich Monument have already been passed by the Senate in both the 94th and 95th Congresses...A hearing was held by the House Subcommittee on Libraries and Memorials during the 95th Congress.)

96TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION H.R.262

To authorize the construction and maintenance of the General Draza Mihailovich Monument in Washington, District of Columbia, in recognition of the role he played in saving the lives of approximately five hundred United States airmen in Yugoslavia during World War II.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 15,1979

Mr. DEBWINSKI (for himself, Mr. BENJAMIN, Mr. ANNUNZIO, Mr. CONTE, Mr. PHILIP M. CRANE, Mr. DAN DANIEL, Mr. FARY, Mrs. HOLT, Mr. HYDE, Mr. LAGOMARSINO, Mr. MCCLOBY, Mr. MITCHELL of New York, Mr. MOAKLEY, Mr. MUBPHY of Illinois, Mr. RUDD, Mr. UDALL, Mr. BOB WILSON, and Mr. WINN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

A BILL

- To authorize the construction and maintenance of the General Draza Mihailovich Monument in Washington, District of Columbia, in recognition of the role he played in saving the lives of approximately five hundred United States airmen in Yugoslavia during World War II.
- Whereas during World War II more than five hundred American airmen who were shot down over Yugoslavia were rescued and returned to active duty by the nationalist resistance forces of General Draza Mihailovich; and

I-E

- Whereas, for these services and other services to the Allied cause, General Mihailovich was, in 1948, on the recommendation of General Eisenhower, awarded the Legion of Merit in the Degree of Supreme Commander by President Truman; and
- Whereas the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich has petitioned Congress for permission to erect in the District of Columbia or environs, with publicly subscribed funds, a simple memorial as an enduring expression of their gratitude to the man who saved their lives; and
- Whereas such an expression of gratitude would be in keeping with the American tradition of honor and has been specifically endorsed by major national organizations, including an endorsement by the American Legion Convention of 1977 and the endorsement of President George Meany of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations;

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, 3 That, pursuant to section 2 of this Act, the Secretary of the 4 Interior shall permit the National Committee of American 5 Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich to construct and 6 maintain a monument to General Draza Mihailovich, in rec-7 ognition of the role he played in saving the lives of approxi-8 mately five hundred United States airmen in Yugoslavia 9 during World War II, as described in such committee's peti-10 tion to Congress concerning the authorization of such monument. Such monument shall be of appropriate design and
 shall be located on Federal public land within the District of
 Columbia or environs. The design and location of the monu ment shall be subject to approval by the National Capital
 Planning Commission, the Fine Arts Commission, and the
 Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 2. The National Committee of American Airmen 7 Rescued by General Mihailovich shall accept private funds 8 9 which shall be the sole source for the construction and main-10 tenance of such monument. The Secretary of the Interior 11 shall only permit such committee to begin the construction of 12such monument when he determines that such committee has sufficient funds to complete such construction and to provide 13 for such maintenance; except that such committee must have 14 such funds no later than two years after the date of enact-15 16 ment of this Act.

THE RESCUED AMERICAN AIRMEN'S EFFORTS TO HONOR GENERAL DRAZA MIHAILOVICH AND THE NATIONAL SUPPORT RECEIVED

(A PARTIAL COMPILATION)

A REPORT ON INFORMATION RELATIVE TO H.R.262 PREPARED FOR THE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIBRARIES AND MEMORIALS, CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES BY MAJOR RICHARD L. FELMAN, USAF (RET.), PRESIDENT, NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF AMERICAN AIRMEN RESCUED BY GENERAL MIHAILOVICH, INC., FEBRUARY 10, 1980.

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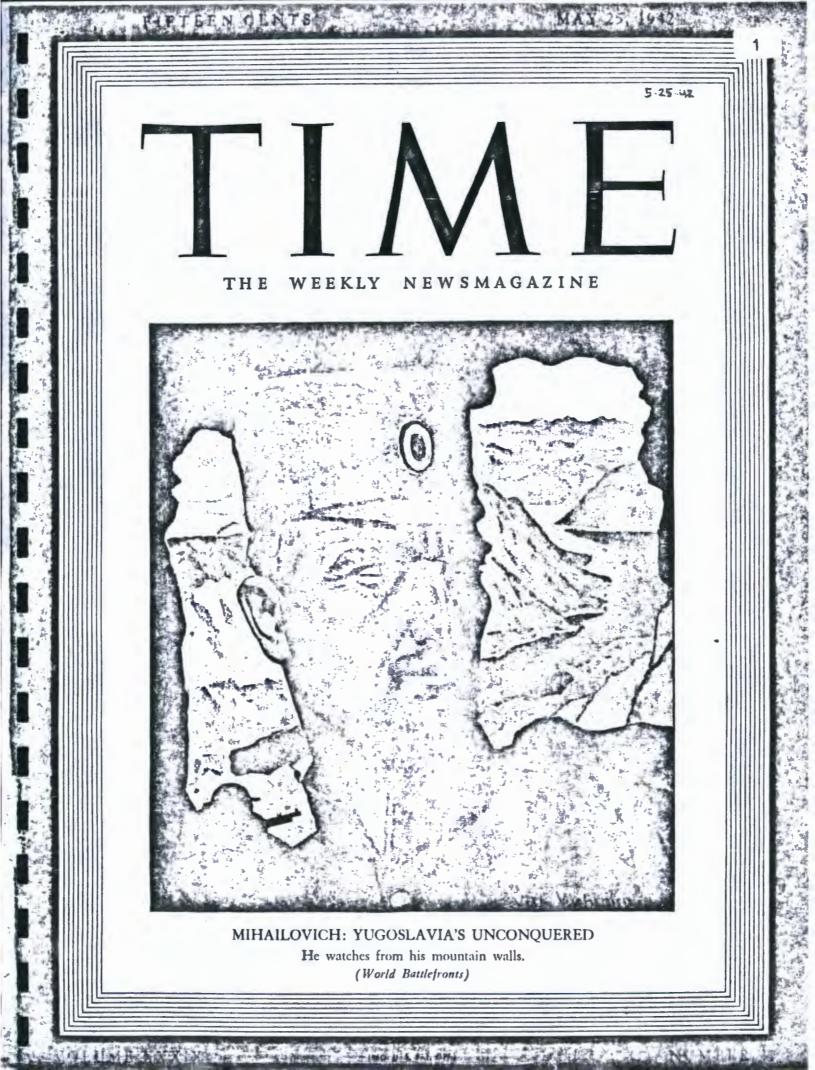
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PART I. WORLD WAR II PERIOD:

Time Cover Story, German reward poster, Photos taken in Yugoslavian mountains, American airman's story of rescue....



MIHAILOVICH: YUGBSLAVIA'S UNCONQUERED (WORLD BATTLE FRONT) Reg.U.S.Pat.Off.)

WORLD BATTLEFRONTS

THE BALKANS The Eagle of Yugoslavia

(See Cover)

He clasps the crag with crooked hands ... he watches from his mountain walls, and like a thunderbolt he falls.

These words, written of an eagle, today are a far better fit for one of the most amazing commanders of World War II. He is Yugoslavia's Draja Mihailovich. Ever since Adolf Hitler vaingloriously announced a year ago that he had conquered Yugoslavia, Draja Mihailovich and his 150,000 guerrillas in the mountains southwest of Belgrade have flung the lie in Hitler's teeth. It has been probably the greatest guerrilla operation in history:

▶ Last fall Mihailovich kept as many as seven Nazi divisions chasing him through his Sumadija mountains.

• Mihailovich's swarming raiders have preserved an "Island of Freedom" (see map, p. 23), which for a time was 20,000 square miles in area, with a population of 4.000.000.

▶ Mihailovich's annihilation of Axis detachments, bombing of roads and bridges, breaking of communications and stealing of ammunition have been so widespread that the Nazis had to declare a new state of war in their "conquered" territory.

Last October the Nazis even asked for peace. When Mihailovich refused, they priced his head at \$1,000.000.

 When the Nazis desperately needed troops in Russia, they tried to leave Mihailovich to the forces of their Axis partners and stooges. But Italian, Bulgarian and Rumanian soldiers could not deal with him, and the Nazis went back. Only last week the Russians announced that a Nazi division had arrived at Kharkov fresh from Yugoslavia—where it had certainly not been stationed for a rest.
 Mihailovich's example has kept all Yu-

Annahovich's example has kept all Yugoslavia in a wild anti-Axis ferment. The Axis has resorted to executing untold thousands, but the revolt continues. Last month the Nazis said they had seized Mihailovich's wife, two sons and daughter. threatened to execute all relatives of Mihailovich's army and 16.000 hostages if the General did not surrender within five days. He did not.

It is a misfortune that conquered Europe cannot learn detail by detail the effective methods used by the gaunt. hard, bronzed fighter on TIME's cover (painted by one of his compatriots, Vuk Vuchinich---called Vuk, to rhyme with juke). But Draja Mihailovich is completely cut off from the democracies' press, hemmed in by the Axis forces in Yugoslavia, Rumania, Bulgaria, Albania and Greece. His only direct contact with the world beyond has been through smugglers and a mobile radio transmitter which he concealed somewhere in his mountain fastnesses.

Even so, he has already become the great symbol of the unknown thousands of supposedly conquered Europeans who still ANDREAS HOFER IN THE TIROL Like Villa and Aguinaldo, he was dwarfed by the Man of Sumadija. resist Adolf Hitler. As he watches from his mountain walls, he stands for every European saboteur who awaits the moment to jam the machine, plant the bomb,

flanks on the Adriatic coast.

As a legend, Draja Mihailovich will

unquestionably live as long as World War

II is remembered. How long Draja Mi-

hailovich himself will live is highly prob-

lematical. Like the heroes of Bataan, the

guerrillas of Sumadija cannot be expected

to fight forever without reinforcements at

least of ammunition and food. Yet the

only way these can be furnished at present

is by parachute. Both the Russians and British are said to have dropped small

amounts. In recent months Mihailovich

has begged over the radio for all he can

get. Last fortnight London reported that

24 Axis divisions (Germans, Hungarians

and Bulgarians) had been sent into the

Sumadija mountains to deliver the coup

Serb. The once-obscure Balkan officer

who has thus far successfully challenged

the modern world's greatest conqueror

was born 47 years ago in Chachak, Serbia,

in the craggy lands which he now clasps.

His parents died when he was a child, and

he was raised by an uncle, a musical Ser-

bian colonel. Draja Mihailovich plays the

mandolin excellently. He entered Bel-

grade's Serbian Military Academy at 15.

He has been a lifelong soldier, an officer

who got his training under fire. He is also

- man in the appearance of the state of

de grâce.

ment to jam the machine, plant the bomb, or pry up the railroad rail. He has directly inspired others, like Rumanian Patriot Ion Minulescu, who harries the Axis from the Carpathians, and Albanian and Montenegrin guerrillas who worry at Italian

In 1389, a date of horror in Serbian minds, the Turks defeated the Serbs on the plain of Kosovo and slaughtered the cream of Serbian manhood. For the next four centuries Turkey bore down on Serbia as hard as Adolf Hitler has done, with such devices as impaling, mutilation and the roasting of living Serbs on spits.

Yet Serbia continued to resist, helped by Austria or Russia, who valued the Balkans as a buffer against the Turk, or betrayed them if it suited their purposes. Early in the 19th Century the great Serbian King Kara George fought Turkey with Russian aid, got a limited autonomy with Turkish garrisons still in Serbia. But Napoleon's advance on Moscow drew away Russian support, and the Turks pressed Serbia hard again. This time Serbia's Milos Obrenovich made a deal with Turkey for recognition. The deal included the assassination of Kara George, and thus started an Obrenovich-Kara George dynastic rivalry that was to continue for decades.

Serbia's rulers were often personally weak and depraved, but the Serbs in general grew hard and defiant in the schools of Turkish tyranny and European *Realpolitik*. They never suffered from the flabbiness that comes with ease. In the First Balkan War (1912), Serbia and her Balkan allies finally ousted Turkey.



WORLD BATTLEFRONTS

The Marries

In World War I a supposedly exhausted Serbia hurled back two Austrian attacks, was ravaged by typhus and gave way before a third, then fought back again from Salonika. Only a year ago a revolution in Yugoslavia, where the dream of Balkan federation was becoming an actual as well as a political fact, deposed the pro-Nazi regent Prince Paul, and Serbian General Dusan Simovich courageously challenged the juggernaut of Adolf Hitler. In Draja Mihailovich's mountains the challenge persists today.

Soldier. In 1912, at 19. Mihailovich left the Serbian Military Academy to fight the Turks. Wounded the next year, he returned to school as a sub-licutenant wearing the Obilich medal for "personal courage." In 1914 the Austrian attack again broke up school and Mihailovich was again wounded, received the Order of the White Eagle. On the eve of the Salonika offensive he rejoined his company and finally returned to Serbia wearing its highest decoration, the Kara George Star with crossed swords.

After these two laboratory periods in the field, he studied military theory, held various Yugoslavian commands, was active in political bodies for the preservation of Balkan unity. He was sent as military attaché to Sofia (1934) and Prague (1936), and is rumored to have been connected with underground movements working against Nazi influence in both Bulgaria and Czecho-Slovakia.

In 1939, as chief of Yugoslavia's fortifications, he revealed himself as a Balkan De Gaulle, holding that a nation of such limited financial means should not try to build Maginot Lines but should concentrate on mobile and offensive possibilities. His superiors opposed him and he was transferred to the military inspection service.

Presently he submitted a memorandum warning that a pro-Nazi Fifth Column threatened Yugoslavian unity and full mobilization in case of attack. War Minister Milan Neditch, now Hitler's Serbian Quisling, asked Mihailovich to withdraw his memorandum. He refused, and was sentenced to 30 days of military arrest for "disloyalty." He was freed at the instigation of Inspector General Bogoljub Illich, who is now in London with the Yugoslavian Government-in-Exile.

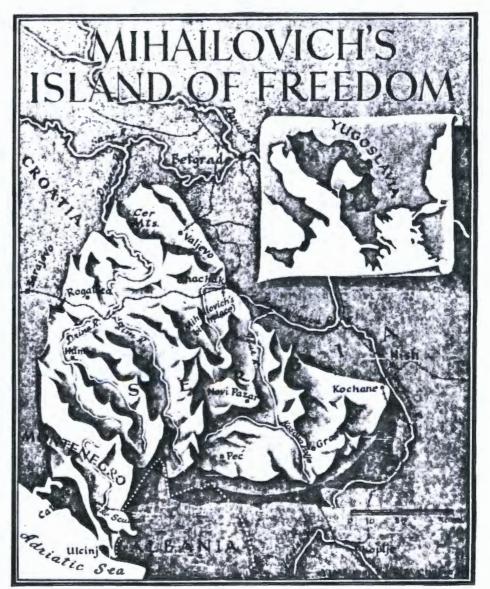
Sumadija. When Hitler's Stukas bombed Belgrade on April 6, 1941, Mihailovich had a coastal command in Herzegovina. As the Nazis overwhelmed General Dusan Simovich's bravely fighting army, Mihailovich retreated eastward into mountainous Sumadija, where Serbia had long fought the Turks. Thousands of disbanded or unmobilized Yugoslavian troops joined him, bringing their arms and equipment. The force was swelled by peasants and mountaineers.

The Nazi press has reviled Mihailovich's army as "rebels, Jews and Communists." Unquestionably they are rebels. Unquestionably some are Jews, some are Marxist Communists of one shade or another. Many more, probably, are Balkan "Communists," which usually means partisans of the country as against the city. the farmer as against the businessman. These people in general have Slavic, pro-Russian (Tsarist or Stalinist) leanings. The United Nations press has often referred to Mihailovich's forces as Chetniks -the name of a Serbian patriotic body which long fought guerrilla wars against Serbia's oppressors. Doubtless many are Chetniks or their descendants. But Mihailovich's army is best described as a patriotic Balkan force, with a majority of Serbs, built around a large nucleus of trained Yugoslavian troops.

In size, in the long military experience of its leader and the great number of its troops, it dwarfs the forces of such historic guerrillas as the Tirolean patriot Andreas Hofer, the Philippines' Emilio Aguinaldo, and Mexico's Francisco "Pancho" ("I'll use the whole ocean to gargle") Villa.

Stories. Tales about Mihailovich, apocryphal or smuggled out of his mountains, abound in Yugoslav circles. It is said that he has done some of his own espionage, eating with German officers in a tavern where the host, devoted to him, was panicky with fright. Nazi officers are said to have driven up to a farmhouse where Mihailovich and friends were staying. When he had convinced the Nazis of his innocence, one of his friends remarked: "That was a close one." Mihailovich replied: "It was close for them, too." He pointed to a bush behind which a guerrilla machine-gun crew had been ready for the Nazis. The General is also rumored to have done a brisk trade exchanging Italian prisoners for Italian gasoline at the rate of one Italian private for one can of gas, one colonel for 50 cans.

Today Draja Mihailovich seems legendary, but he is a legend with a big basis in fact: the fact that he has kept from five to ten Nazi divisions at a time fighting to conquer the country which they destroyed twelve long months ago.



рајхсмарака у злату!

ОО ООО РАЈХСМАРАКА У ЗЛАТУ ДОБИЋЕ ОНАЈ КОЈИ Доведе жива или иртва вођу Банди Дражу мирајловића.

Овај злочинац бацио је земљу у највећу несрећу. Отупавивши од развратног живота, уобразио је он да је позван да "осљбоди" народ. Као енглески плаћеник, овај смешни хвалисавац није ништа друго седио већ утирао пут бољшезизму и тиме помогао да се униште сва национална добра која су народу од вајкада била висока и света. Он је тиме пореметио мир сељака и грађанина, упропатио имање, добо на и живот бољите Буди, а земљу с цир у неописио да се невољу. СТОГА ЈЕ ОВАЈ ОПАСНИ БАН-ДИТ У ЗЕМЉИ УЦЕЊЕН СА 100-000 РАЈХСМАРАКА У ЗЛАТУ.

Онај који докаже да је овог злочинца учинио безопасним или га преда најближој немачкој власти не само што ће добити награду од 100.000 Рајхсмарака у алату, него ће тиме извршити и једно на-

жонално дело, јер не вания отаџбину од бича нечове терора.

> Врховни запо немачких трупа

Translation

REWARD POSTER

REWARD

100,000 REICHMARKS IN GOLD

100,000 REICHMARKS IN GOLD WILL BE AWARDED TO THE PERSON, BRINGING IN, DEAD OR ALIVE, THE LEADER OF THE BANDITS DRAZA MIHAILOVICH

5

This criminal threw the country into its greatest disaster. Emerging from a depraved life, he imagined that he was called to "liberate" the mation. As an English hireling, this ridiculous boaster did not plant anything else than to break the road to Bolshevism, and thus helped to destroy all the mational property that the people regarded as sacred. He thus disrupted the peace of the peasants and citizens, he demolished property, estates, and lives of thousands of people; and the country is, as a result, in undescribable misery and poverty.

THEREFORE THIS MOST DANGEROUS BANDITS OF THE COUNTRY IS VALUED AT 100,000 REICHMARKS IN GOLD.

The person who proves that this criminal was captured and surredned to the nearest authorities, will not only receive the reward of 100,000 Reichmarks in gold, but will also perform a patriotic act since he will release the country of the whip of the inhuman terror.

> Supreme Commander of the German Troops

IN THE YUGOSLAV MOUNTAINS

AMERICAN AIRMEN MITH GENERAL MIHAILOVICH AND HIS CHETNIK GUERILLAS





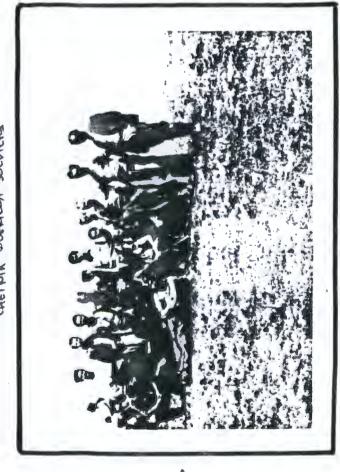


JULY 30 1944





うべ TOP AND BOTTOM PLATOR: RESCUED AMERICAN AIRMEN CHEN PIK GUPPILLA SOLDIENS





GEN. MIMAILOUICH REVIEWING HIS TROOPS AIEMEN AND CHETWIN OFFICENE IN BACKGROUND "Sarong Morrido and for



JULY 30, 1944 - AT PRANJANE COW PAPTURE THAT WAS , USED AS THE RESCUE AI PETRIP



DEBRIEFING BY INTELLIGENCE OFFICER 15TH AIR FORCE: 415TH BOMBARDMENT SOUD(HEAN Q8TH BOMB GROUP (H), LECCE, ITALY.

SCUID AND CANALIRMAN AT AFTH AFT FIRE HOSPITAL IN BARI, ITALY. These U.S. fliers have just be "deloused" after secretly being evacuated from behind enemy lines in verman-occupied Yugoslavia. In all, 243 crewmembers were rescued that day through

fibrteenf (meralatihaidpvinteandais) Chetnik guerilla forces working in secret operations with an American OSS rescue team headed by Lt. George Musulin, McLean, Va. General Nathan Twining, 15th Air Force Commander, met them at the airport on their return.



Lt. Richard L. Felman

Lt. Paul F. Mato

MIHAILOVITCH AND

Moving with the fast-changing camps of the Yugoslav Chetniks in Nazi-occupied Slav hills, this B-24 navigator carried a \$200,000 price on his capture and found himself shaking hands

with the Chetzik general in a war episode of strange imprisonment.

AS TOLD BY LIEUTENANT RICHARD L. FELMAN

W

W HITE silk clouded down about me and pain shivered through my ankle. I had parachuted on my 23rd mission from a flak-downed Liberator into wild Yugoslav mountain country.

My mind raced with the memory of intelligence instructions: "Take cover, hide your 'chute, avoid the Chetniks, wait for nightfall-"

But almost immediately people swarmed about me, shouting "Americanski." They hugged me and kissed me, took careful note of my leg wounds, and carried me off across fields and through woods. They were dressed in the rugged garb of the Yugoslav peasant and laughed as we moved on. Others joined the crowd to see the "representative of the great air armada that flies five miles up daily to destroy our enemies."

A young man spoke delicate English phrases, suggesting I give thanks to God for my miraculous escape from doom. Thus they bore me up a hill to a small wooden structure serving as a church and took me to its simple altar.

A native padre and an officer joined me and their reverent manner prompted me to pray. I felt close to God in the companionship of these people.

A doctor dressed my wounds at a farmhouse headquarters and there I heard the word: Chetniks. These were not Allies.

I became suspicious and alert. They picked up other members of my crew and fed us. A family gave their food and their only bed to me. They left their house to sleep in a barn while a ten-man guard was dispatched to stand watch over my exhausted sleep.

I woke with rain pouring outside and saw the guards huddled beneath trees. The area commander arrived with an interpreter and welcomed me to his country, expressing his people's appreciation to the American Air Force for bombardment of the enemy. More important to me was the small weight he placed on the possibility of my return to Italy.

The peasants brought fruits and vegetables, the treasured foods of these hunted people, and generously offered them with a bottle of light vellow liquid. I was introduced to "Slivovitz." the Slavs' 180-proof plum brandy which they drink in place of water and more often. Their doctor cleansed my wounds with it when changing bandages. It burned my throat as we drank many toasts while they pitied my discomfiture.

This generosity and attention for my safety and comfort forced me to take notice of these Chetniks, for they shrugged aside all my efforts to express gratitude.

They were strong and hard in appearance, bearded, dressed in simple farm clothing. They were an army, uniform only in their lack of uniformity of clothes. Men wore short knickers, heavy drab shirts and a vest, rounds of ammunition on their belts, a few hand grenades strapped to their waists. They bore the arms of many nations: Italian pistols, German Lugers, British rifles and Russian and French pieces taken from the bodies of German soldiers. I gave them my automatic and found our language difference no barrier to expression of their appreciation.

Each Chetnik wore a three-cornered hat bearing the insignia of the Royal double eagle of Yugoslavia, signifying allegiance to King Peter, sewed at the front. Military courtesy was stressed among all men and their training impressed stern discipline upon them. They stood guard for 36-hour periods without sleep, drew their food from farmers who supplied them with shelter along roads in the areas.

Our conversations were carried out in mixed German. French, Spanish, Italian. and the Serbian I had picked up from my Serb-English handbook. They questioned me about the United States, jobs. radio, telephones and movies and showed an interest in Mickey Mouse. Deanna Durbin. "Texas cowboys" and gangsters. Each Chetnick planned to visit America after the war.

One afternoon a young Chetnik from a neighboring town informed me that my #CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

Another in the series of Log's Stories **4**

Jontents

LOG OF NAVIGATION, JULY, 1945

pu	ND TRIP—ALMOST by Capt. E. A. Snyder
H/	AT IS TARGET JAPAN? by Lt. Seymour Jarmul
P *	
f	TIMBER by Virginia Sue Wilson
	OF THE MELTING POT by Capt. Claude Kineff, Jr
MiH.	AILOVITCH AND I by Lt. Richard L. Felman
	UD-POWER by Lt. John Oppitz
P	OLUXO
P	MAY GO TO AIR-SEA RESCUE
THE	CASE OF THE JAPANESE TABLES

Photographs: Front cover, pages 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26 by \$/\$gt. Arthur Daley, LOG staff photographer. All other photographs official AAF photos, except page 6 contributed.

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Mihailovitch and I

No. 7

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

11

parachute was now Yugoslav property as I had come down in his country. It was no longer of use to me and I willingly gave it to him. Within the hour a Chetnik colonel. who had been a leading figure in peacetime Belgrade, rushed over to me and explained, through an interpreter, that I had been deceived. No parachute regulation existed. He said action had been taken to punish the "city slicker" who had worked his little confidence game on me and ". . . would I forgive them?"

I wondered if my family knew of my plight. I remembered Lt. Milton E. Friend, Passaic, New Jersey, who had gone through 18 months of training with me in the States and had flown formation with my ship crossing the South Atlantic to Italy. We had been based ten miles apart and I hoped he had learned of my mishap.

About three weeks later, while I was roving the countryside with the Chetniks on a scouting party, I heard a rustling of leaves in the brush behind. I swerved around and stood face to face with my missing buddy! We clasped each other and he quipped:

"Lt. Livingston, I presume?" He told me he had gone down on his second mission.

One morning the camp was astir with excitement when the top-ranking Chetnik, General and Commander-in-Chief Draja Mihailovitch rode into the area on a white horse, leading a troop of half-uniformed men. He dismounted and took long strides toward us. He shook our hands, signed our "short snorters" and ordered photographs taken with us.

The excitement of the meeting mounted for us as we moved into the shade to talk with the general and Chetnik officers. We heard of the early struggles against the invading German armies, the lack of equipment and the political turmoil in Yugoslavia. We were in informal conversation with Mihailovitch, and I became impressed with his warmth and kindness.

Here was the declared enemy of the Allies, whose clash over principles with Marshal Tito's Partisans had branded him an enemy of Allied peoples fighting Nazi Germany. Here was that man. talking quietly to my American crew members. I offered my class ring in exchange for a colorful Yugoslav ceremonial sword he carried. The General traded with a smile.

A Chetnik soldier troop of more than a hundred drilled for us in mass formation, as we stood in the reviewing party with the general. The entire drill ceremony had taken place in the heart of apparently Nazi-occupied Yugoslavia, a few miles from a German camp. The Chetniks declared the Germans had offered a 250,000 dinara (about \$200.000) reward for our capture but had been laughed at. When the Chetniks refused to relinquish us, the Germans threatened to burn down an entire Slav village. They carried out the threat and followed it later by sending Stuka dive-bombers to prowl over the hills for us.

Mihailovitch was grey bearded, wore glasses and appeared tired and old. He carried a pipe with an 18-inch stem, wore a heavy uniform and carried a dispatch case at his belt. He wore the Chetnik cap, full ski trousers with a huge pocket at the thigh, and thick-soled boots. He spoke fluent French but no English, passing his words to us through an interpreter. He was nothing like the Hollywood movie portrayal I had seen.

He rose, shook hands, mounted his horse and rode off with his troops. Later when I left the Chetniks and returned to Italy I wondered how close to history I had come that day.

PART II. POST WAR PERIOD:

Press clippings from the Nation's newspapers: Personal stories of the rescued airmen, statements from the U.S. Military Mission and OSS officers, the airmen's trip to Washington, U.S. State Department action, The Commission of Inquiry, editorials, cartoons, columnists, etc... A PARTIAL COLLECTION OF PRESS CLIPPINGS COMPILED BY THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF AMERICAN AIRMEN TO AID GENERAL DRAZA MIHAILOVICH. (PUBLISHED IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, APRIL 27, 1946)

CONTENTS: EFFORTS BY RESCUED AIRNEN, STATEMENTS OF U.S. MILITARY MISSION AND OSS OFFICERS, NATIONAL EDITORIALS AND COLUMNISTS.



"I'M ALIVE TODAY BECAUSE OF MIHAILOVIC-HE'S NO TRAITOR," SAYS CHICAGOAN Former flier, David J. O'Connell Jr. (1) defends Jugoslav leader (2). (Photo of Yanks and Chetniks taken during war rescue.)

OUR MOTTO:

HE SAVED OUR LIVES, WE'LL SAVE HIS!

TEMPORARY HDQTS: ROOM 907, 5 N. WABASH AVE. CHICAGO, 2, ILL.

COUCH SHEET FOR BOOK I (44 PAGES)

Flier Tells Rescue by Gen. Mihailovic

"Gen. Mihailovic is not traitor in my book—not after saving my life and the lives of at least 190 other Americans I know about. I think he's getting a raw deal and I'd like to help him. I'm willing to go back to Yugoslavia if it would do him any service." The speaker was David J. FORCED TO BALL OUT

O'Connell Jr., 24, who, seated in FORCED TO BAIL OUT.

O'Connell, former staff sergeant with the Army Air Forces. was forced to parachute from his plane with other crewmen over Yugoslavia, June 6, 1944.

He told how, when briefed, they had been aupplied with money and told to expect Marshal Thto's men to help if they landed in their territory.

Instead, O'Connell went on, it was Gen. Mihallovic's men who saved them, kept them under cover, moved them from villagto village, and finally assembled the aroup of some 190.

GUARDED RESCUE PLANES.

Gen. Mihailovic's men had carved an air strip, out of a meadow. On the night of Aug 10, 1944, with. Chetniks standing grand. American planes swooped in, took the Yankaboard and returned them to bases in Italy.

O'Connell was lavish in his praise of the Chetniks and Gen. Mihailovic, whom he remembered as a "robust, active, getermined mun."

The Chetniks, O'Connell said fought the Germans, 'indicating they certainly weren't traitors." The former sergeant said Gen.

The former sergeant said Gen. Mihatlovic was asked why he was fighting Tito as well as the Germans. The general replied simply. O'Connell said, "because Tito is fighting me."

NOTE: THIS IS BOOK I OF 3 BOOKS OF PRESS ELIPPINGS .. (TOTAL OF 212 PAGES

the home of his parents at 7553

S. Union av., early today, de-

fended the leader of the Chetniks

who is under arrest as a "traitor"

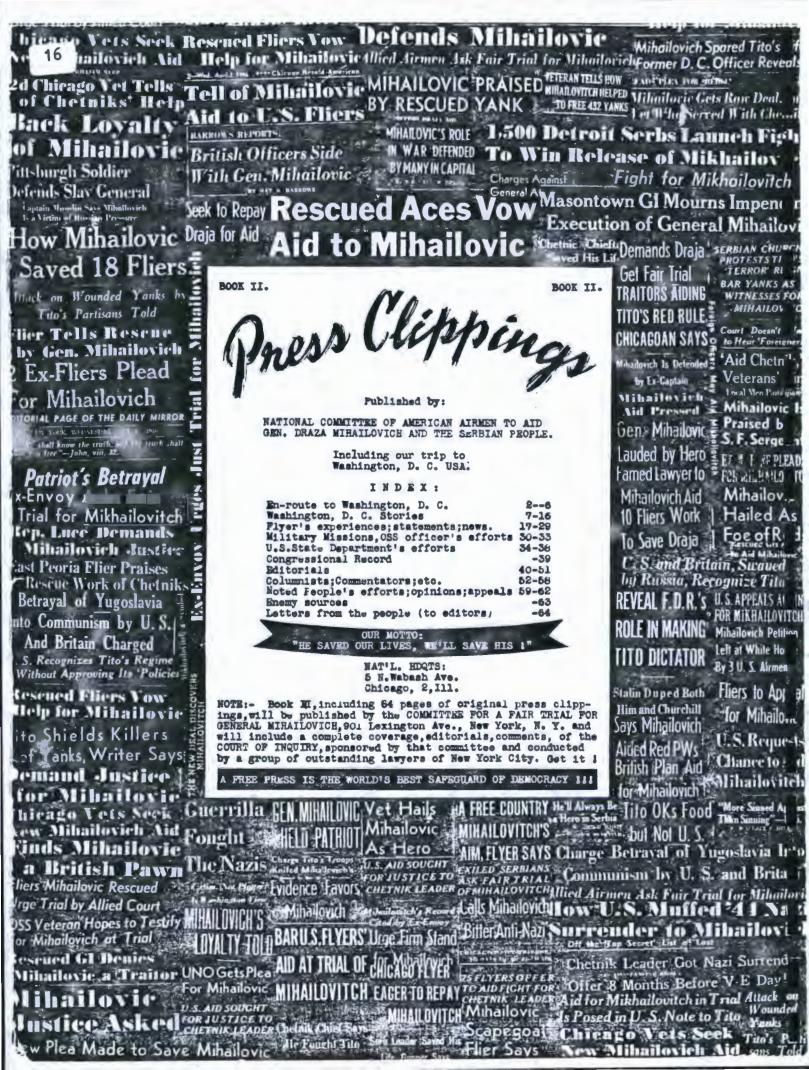
and is being held by the forces of

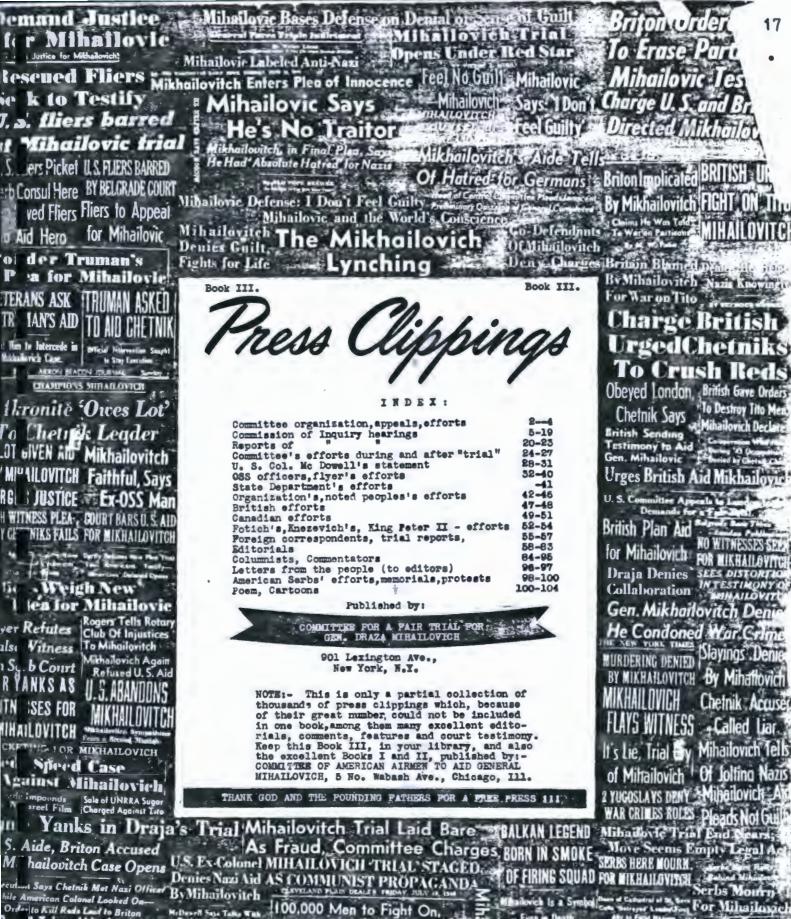
Gen. Mihailovic is facing death

some reports say he already is

his rival, Marshal Tito.

dead.





Time Take With Takes Mihailovic Side AMERICAN Des Different States in the second states

P ARMS

By Mikhailovitch

U.S. Officer Rejected

TESTIFIES VANE WAS AT PARLEY Told Nazis To Ouit.

Mihailovich Latter Assarts. CLAIM CHETNIKS

Mihailovich CARRY ON FIGHT Savs WUGOSLAVS ACCUSE =IN YUGOSLAVIA

Serbs Mour For Mihailan Even in Death SERBS, CROATS REVEAL F. D. R. Rides Held Heri HIT APPROVAL ROLE IN MAKING For Mihailov OF TITO RULE TITO A DICTATOR Sel Recognition is a President and Churchell,

'Saved Us, We'll Save Him, Is Veterans' Slogan

(See Picture Section.) BY WILLIAM KERR.

"He saved our lives. We'll save his!"

With that purpose, a group of American fliers today had banded together to help Gen. Draja Mihailovic, leader of Yugoslavia's Chetnik army.

Ten men met in the Stevens Hotel last night at the invitation of Mitchell Ducich of Gary, Ind., president of the Serbian National Defense Council of America, praised Mihailovic and the Chetniks and took three steps:

-Adopted the slogan: "He saved our lives. We'll save his" as the railying cry for 432 Yank airmen who owe Mihailovic their lives.

in the name of all.

hailovic, reportedly under ar-

rest by Yugoslavia's communist-

YANKS SHOW GRATITUDE . . . American airmen who were snatched from Nazi clutches in Yugoslavia during war pledge effort to save their rescuer, Gen. Mihailovic, from Red trial farce. Displaying slogan at Stevens Hotel rally are (from left) John Scroggs, Kansas City; Robert Eckman, David O'Connell, Don Parkerson, John Fox, Peoria; Capt. Nick Lalich, Cleveland; Fred Zuecher, Milwaukee; William Rogers, Manteno; Thomas Pettigrew, David Labissoniers, Milwaukee; Del Salmon, Charles Gracz, Neal Janosky, Milwaukee,

9-Agreed to contact all by telecontrolled puppet leader, Marshal phone, telegram or special Tito, tried before an allied tridelivery letter and seek their perbunal. The general has been mission for the local group to act accused by Tito of treason. ACCUSES TITO, REDS. -Took initial steps to have Mi-

Capt. Nich Lalich of Cleveland. O., former Office of Strategic Services leader in Yugoslavia, who personally evacuated 432 Americais, charged that Tito had demanded of the M. S. State Department that no help be given Yank airmen "because it would mean delivery of rifles and ammunition to the Chetniks." He also charged:

"Somewhere along the line, perhaps even in our own State

Continued on Page 2, Column 7.



Oakland Post-Enquirer 'Not Collaborationists' Oaklander Owes His Life **To Yugoslavian Chetniks**



EX-LIEUT. ALLEN CARRICO Helped Wreck German Supply Train Post-Enquirer photo.

"Shooting Germans isn't what I call 'collaborating' with them!"

That was the way Allen Carrico, of Oakland, 25-year-old former air force bombardier, today greeted! the news that Gen. Draja Mihailovic Yugoslav Chetnik leader, had been arrested by Partisan forces as a "traitor and Axis collaborator.

Carrico owes his life to Mihailovic's Chetniks and knows from experience that the Chetniks did not collaborate with Germans.

"At least they weren't 'collaborating' the time a party of Chetniks and myself wrecked a German supply train, or at the times they raided German columns with salvaged American machineguns-or the times they stormed German-heid villages to Carrescue American flyers," rico declared.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL. CHRONICLE, MAR. 29, 1946.

Mihailovic Is Praised by S. F. Sergeant "Mihailovic saved my life. Now

he's getting a bad deal and I want to do what I can to help him."

So speaks Staff Sergeant Norman Werner, 350 Fourth avenue, who bailed out of his B-24 over Yugoslavia May 31, 1944. He was rescued by the 15th Air Force after Serbian asants and the Chetnik guerrilla forces led by Draja Mihailovic saved him from capture by the Germans. Now Mihailovic is accused of treason, accused of collaborating with the German conquerors.

Carrico, a garage mechanic in civilian life and who was dis-charged last July, lives at 3624 San Leandro street.

On July 9, 1944, as a first lieutenant and bombardier on a bomber raiding the Pioesti oii fields in Romania, Carrico and fellow members of his crew were forced to bail out over Yugoslav territory, en route back to their Italian base, when their plane succumbed to anti-aircraft fire.

"A Chetnik officer found me with a sprained ankle," Carrico said today. "He got off his horse and made me ride, even though he was suffering from a bayonet wound in the leg. He hid me while some Bulgarian troops searched for my crew and I, then took me to a nearby village."

The Chetniks, Carrico declared. found the rest of his crew and brought them to the village.

"They paid the local mayor for all our food, quarters, clothingeverything we desired or needed. The officer in charge of us said had to take good care of us

or Mihailovic would have him shot."

While Carrico was housed in the village, Chetnik forces stormed German-held villages and rescued a total of 250 American flyers, the ex-lieutenant said.

".ind once I went out on a 'party' with them and helped them wreck a German supply train." he deciared. "They were fighting a civil war with the Partisans, all right-but they certainly weren't 'collaborating' with the Germans."

Carrico and the other 250 American flyers were taken to a small airfield a month after the Oakland man was shot down.

"American C-47's made a rendezvous on the field and took us all back to Italy," Carrico said.

A WAY TO KNOW

The British and the United States had intelligence. officers in Yugoslavia when I was there. They

know that Mihailovic was never a collaborator," Werner said. "If the Chetaiks were collaborating, they had every opportunity to

torn as over to the Germans. The Nazis were on our tails all the time." Werner, ball gunner on a Ploesti-

bound plane, spent 72 days in Yugoslavia before his rescue. DINED WITH HIM

Werner had two meals with Mihailovic, he said.' On both occasions, Mihailovic was confident of an Allied victory in Europe and in the Pacific, Werner recalled.

It was through Mihailovic's underground radio which reached the 15th Air Force that Werner's rescue was arranged. He was flown out from a field constructed by pessants.

EXAMINER Los Angeles, Cal.

Saved Flyer]. Asks Aid for **Chetnik Chief**

"Our Government should see to it that General Mikhailovitch's life is spared, or at least that he gets a fair trial."

From one who has gained a first hand impression of the Chetnik leader, that was the plea yesterday of Mel L. Walker, of 502 West Laurel street, Compton.

Dispatches from Belgrade last week reported that Marshal Tito's Communist forces had captured the famed guerrilla chieftain, and threatened to execute him. without a trial.

Walker, 29, now a Los Angeles police officer, was rescued by forces of the Yugoslav patriot; after his Liberator bomber had been riddled in a raid on the Ploest! oil fields in June. 1944.!

Taken to the Chetniks' mountain redoubt, Walker and other crewmen of the B-24 were given "the best they had," the former Air Forces officer related.

"Nothing was too good for us," he emphasized. "They gave us their beds, their best food and the most considerate treatment."

PITTSBURGH, PENNA. SUN-TELEGRAPH

Yank Defends Mihailovic

COLUMBUS, O., March 29.---(AP.)-Lt. Col. Albert B. Seitz of Columbus, one of six American officers sought by the Yugoslav government to testify in the treason trial of Gen. Draja Mihailovic, believes the Chetnik leader innocent of a collaboration charge.

Mrs. Mildred Seitz made the statement today after learning that her husband, stationed at Stuttgart, Germany, had been requested to testify because he had served with Mihailovic for about six months as head of an American mission dropped be-·hird German lines in 1943.

Mrs. Seitz said:

"Col. Seitz definitely thinks Gen. Mihailovic isn't a collaborationist."

20 EADS PLEA FOR 'REBEL' Mihalovic Getting 'Raw Deal,' Asserts Vet Who Served OSS With Chetniks

BY RANDALL BROWN

A strapping, sharp-eyed Cleveland athlete-teacher today led a campaign to save Yugoslavia's General Draja Mihailovic from a Tito firing squad.

He is Nick Lalich, 29, of 1366 E. 32d St., recently a behind-the-lines operative of the U.S. Army with Mihailovic in Yugoslavia.

. "Mihailovic is getting a raw deal, there's no doubt about it." Lalich "He is not-end never wasmid. Nazi collaborator."

Lalich was a star basketball center at Ohio University in 1936, 1937 and 1938, after starring in the same sport at East Technical High Schoel. He now is industrial arts instructor at Kennard Junior High School, 2510 E. 46th St.

... PROOF OF THIS, Lalich asserted, is documented in frontline intelligence reports never made public by the Army.

Lalich served 47 months in the Army, five of them in the mountain hideouts of the Chetniks as a captain in the hush-hush Office of Strategic Services.

With Chetnik aid, the Clevelander evecuated 432 downed American airmen from Yugoslavia from August 9 to December 27, 1944.

. .

TODAY HE WAS BUSY urging these same airmen-who owe their lives to the Chetniks --- to pepper Secretary of State James H. Byrnes with pleas for American pressure on Marshal Josef Broz (Tito) to save Mihailovic from death.

. . . LALICH CITED cases-witnessed and officially reported by American Grol, was unable to place his name Marine and Army observers—where on the ballot. Mibailovic's forces, while fighting Germans, were themselves fired an accomplished scholar who spoke upon by Tito's Partisans.

In one Army-documented inci-ian, Ekovenien, Croation and his dent, Lalich said, the Chetniks, after own native Serbian, but despised taking Visegrad in the winter of both the German language and Ger-1943-14. prepared to capture Ger- mans.

War Department.

Nick Lalich (left) and General Mihailovic

man-occupied Sarajevo, where the first World War began in 1914. .

AS THE CHETNIKS moved against the Germans, Tito's Parti-sans opened fire on the Chetniks' rear, Lalich said. The Chetniks found themselves in the middle of German-Partisan crossfire.

Mihailovic is a regular guy," Lalich said. "He's for democratic processes, I know. He told me 'If the people don't want King Peter, all right. If they want Tito, that's OK, too. But let's have a vota.'"

. LALICH SAID the election of Tito in November, 1945, was strictly a one-sided election in which the Democratic candidate, Dr. Milan

French, Czech, Bulgarian, Romen-

versity; Lalich was assigned to the Office of Strategic Services because of his knowledge of the Yugoslav language. He was at Gen. Mihailovich's headquarters from Aug. 9 to Dec. 27, 1944.

"Besides helping Americans," La-lich said, "he helped Russians, British, French and Italians to reach their lines. He and his men

helped us gather the fliers who had been shot down, helped us build air strips for rescue planes and helped us in our communications." Other officers named by Fotitch

FOR MIHAILOVICH Captain Who Served With Him Willing to Testify

per cent and L would leave my job if necessary to give my testimony." Capt. Nicola Lalich, 1366 E. 62d Street, said last night when he heard he had been named as one of six army officers who could testify on behalf of the Chetnik leader.

According to an Associated Press dispatch from Washington, Constan-tin A. Fotitch, former Yugoslav ambassador, yesterday asked Secre-Marshal Tito to permit the officers to testify at the treason trial of the general. Fotitch said the officers were attached to Mihailovich at intervals in 1943 and 1944. "I have no knowledge of any contacts with the Germans by Gen.

Mihailovich, but I do know he helped the Allies evacuate their fliers who had been shot down and men who had been prisoners of the Germans," Lalich said.

Cage Star at East Tech

An industrial arts instructor at Kennard Junior High School and a former basketball star at East Technical High School and Ohio Uni-

CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER

CLEVELAND, THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 1946

PITTSBURGH, PENNA. SUN-TELEGRAPH. APRIL 2, 1946.

19

12:

Vet Hails Mihailovic As Hero

Gen. Draja Mihailovic has been a victim of power politics and a "fall guy" for Marshal Tito, a former American captain who spent five months with him charged in an interview here.

Nick Lalich, 29-year-old former member of the Office of Strategic Services, asserted that Mihailovic has been treated unfairly, is not a traitor or collaborator, and has never been proven such.

HERE FOR ADDRESS

An industrial arts teacher in Cleveland, he was here for an address at the Serb National Federation Hall.



Lalich lived with Mihailovic while serving as liaison off. cer from August to December in 1944.

He said that he speaks for 432 American airmen who were evacuated by the Chetnik forces in Yugoslavia. He charged that the only

Mr. Lalich

statements calling Mihailovic a collaborator have come from the Belgrade and Moscow Communistic radios.

UNO ACTION URGED

Lalich added that Mihailovic should be given a trial and that the case should be carried to the UNO if necessary.

He said:

"We (American liaison men and airmen) have learned the truth and want the State Department to let us present it to the public, which has been flooded with Partisan propa-

He displayed a complete list of the names of American airmen evacuated by the Chetniks.

are Capt. George Musulin of Pittsburgh, Col. Robert McDowell of Buffaio, Capt. Walter T. Carpenter of New York and Col. Albert Seitz and Capt. Walter Mansfield, whose addresses are not known by the EAST SIDER 100%

"I am for Gen. Mihailovich 100

CLEVELANU

THE WY 3

POST-GAZELTE Pittsburgh, Pa.

Tom

Pittsburgh Soldier Defends Slav General

Captain Musulin Says Mihailovich Is a Victim of Russian Pressure

A Pittsburgh soldier who knew im well is worrying these days ver whether General Draja Miailovich is going to get "a square ueal" and he is eager to go back to Europe to see that the leader the Yugoslav Chetniks gets it. But Captain George Musulin is invinced that the cards will be acked against the general if he is tried at the hands of Marshal Tito, whose forces captured him wo weeks ago after a two-year unt in the hills of Yugoslavia.

NO Will Give Fair Trial

There will be fair trial. however, General Mihailovich is brought efore the UNO or a similar interational tribunal, thinks Captain Musulin, who is awaiting dis-charge at his home, 2820 West Liberty avenue, Dormont, after ve years of army service.

The 31-year-old officer, who rerned home two months ago by way of the China-Burma-India theater, was enthused yesterday hen advised of Associated Press ports that Mihailovich supports are seeking to have the general defended by Captain Musulin and other members of the Anglomerican mission who spent nine

d headquarters.

Victim of Red Pressure

Marshal Tito's regime has slated eneral Mihailovich for early trial a war criminal charged with collaboration.



the Sun-Telegrap

EVELAND, March 29 .--k Lelich, 29, a behind-the-lines operative for the U.S. Army juring the war, today led a cam-

gn to save Gen. Draja Mihailofrom a Yugoslav firing squad. "Mihailovic never was a Nazi collaborator."

So Lalich declared as he urged ndreds of U. S. airmen beended by Mihailovic to send lelegrams to Secretary of State Byrnes to initiate American preson Marshal Joseph Broz to) to spare the former Serbleader.



CAPT. GEORGE MUSULIN

That charge, Captain Musulin onths at Mihailovich's embat- said, "is based on nothing but personal prejudice, and it's a reflection on every member of the mission."

"The general is in Tito's way,' Captain Musulin said, "and he is a victim of Bussian pressure, be cause he is the only real demo cratic leader in the Balkans. had plenty of time to be con vinced of that."

Bus aside from that, the cap tain emphasized, he is eager to aid General Mihailovich "by way of showing some grain of grati tude" for the rescue of 600 Amer ican airmen by Chetnik force.

during the war. Captain Musulin said he i: working with the War Depart ment to gather testimony for the gather testimony for the general's aid from the rescuer to the trial—and, he added, " certainly hope I am."

PITTSBURGH SUN-TELEGRAPH MARCH 28, '46. DormontOfficerAske 21 To Testify for Chetnik

A fair trial before UNO is the least Gen. Draja Mihailovich, wartime leader of the Yugoslav Chetniks, deserves for his service to Americans, Capt, George Musulin declared today.

The 31-year-old OSS officer of 2820 W. Liberty Ave., Dormont, is being asked to testify in Mihailovich's treason trial, according to the Associated Press.

Mihailovich was captured two weeks ago in the hills of Yugoslavia, where he had hidden for nearly two years. He is listed as a war criminal by Marshal Tito's regime and is slated for swift trial on a charge of collaborating with the Nazis.

WITH CHETNIKS

Musulin, who spent more than nine months at Mihailovich's headquarters, said:

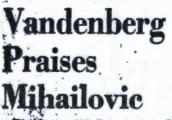
"I would certainly like to testify for Gen. Mihallovich. His position today is a direct result of Russian pressure and Partisan propaganda. I feel he is the only figure in the Balkans who represents democracy. He is the only block to Tito's ambitions.

SAVED U. S. FLIERS

"The fact that Mihallovich risked the lives of his own soldiers to save American airmen is a shining example of his pro-Allied sympathies."

Constantin A. Fotitch, former Yugoslav ambassador, has asked was Lt. John Devlin of Library, Secretary of State Byrnes to R. D. 1, he added.

IOT, JACKSON, MICHIGAN



Wathington-(1.7)-Sen. Arthur H. Indenburg (R., Mich.) has prais-the wartime record of Gen. a. Mihalovic, former Yugoslav the mader, and expressed hope the department would succed attempts to assure him a fair ai he into present Yugoslav gov-inset.

Ho said in a brief Senate spech He said in a provi Senate speci-at he fait there was "a very deep marican intrest" in Milhailovic's is beingies of the "numerous hereigns filters whose lives he sav-



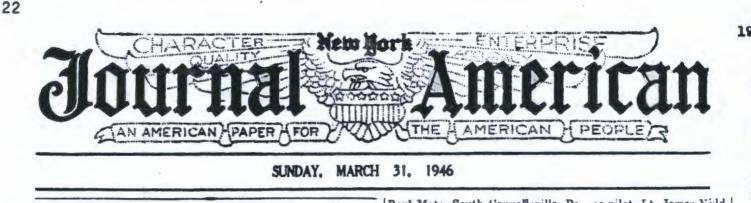
CAPT. GEORGE MUSULIN . upholds Gen. Mihailovich . . .

persuade Tito to admit testimony from the five American officers who were with Mihailovich, Musulin said.

Musulin and his four associates are already collecting testimony from the American airmen who were saved, one of whom

dous conrtibution" he made to the Allied cause early in the war. He said he realized Mikhailovic had become "a highly controversial had become "a highly controversial figure" in the war's closing years, but that he "copid not close my eyes to the tremendously heroic contribution he made during the earsy years." The State department has re-quested Marshal Josef Tito's gov-ernment to permit American offi-cers formerly attached to Mik-hailov's staff to testify in his be-half.

half



Mihailovich Rescue Of U.S. Airmen Told

Debunking the recent propaganda put out by the Communist puppet leader Tito that Gen. Mihailovich of Yugoslavia was a traitor to his country, Richard L. Felman, 25, ex-Army Air Corps officer, describes his association with the guerilla leader and his band of Chetniks, after he had been shot down over Yugoslavia

> By RICHARD L. FELMAN Former-Lieutenant, L'SAA as told to JAMES D. HORAN

There are about 250 American veterans in the United States today who will never be convinced by the recent flood of Communistic propaganda put out by Marshal Tito, that Gen. Draja Mihailovich is a traitor to his country.

They are former pilots, gunners, radio operators and navigators, who were shot down over Yugoslavia in raids on Ploesti and other oil fields in Romania+

and Bulgaria.

They are alive today, free from any memories of Nazi concentration camps, only because of that stocky little man with the thick grayish beard and his Chetnik guerillas.

I know. I was one of them."

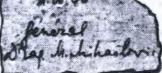
PAYING A DEBT.

It was only after I read that Tito's Communists had captured Mihailovich and were to give him a so-called "trial" that I decided that I would try to pay a debt. I would try to tell something about this man, now classed as "traitor," and what he and his men did for a few hundred ragged Americans one hot July day almost two vears ago.

For seven weeks I lived with Mihailovich and his Chetnik fighters in the mountains of Yugoslavia together with other American airmen, shot down after oil-field strikes.

My B-24-"Never A Dull Moment"-on which I was navigator, was shot down by a swarm of Nazi fighters over Yugoslavia, after bombing the Pioesti oil fields. With my pilot and crew, I jumped at 15,000 feet over Yugoslavia. With me was the nilot. Lt. Forces Lt. Richard Felman. pilot and crew, I jumped at With me was the pilot. Lt.





THE PATRIOT . The bearded man on the photograph is Gen. Draja Mihailovich, who Paul Mato, South Connellsville, Pa.; co-pilot, Lt. James Kidd, Boston; Lt. Kenneth Munn, Winston, Mo., our hombardier; nose gunner S/Sgt. Carl Astifan of Watertown, N. Y.; engineer T/Sgt. Leonard Pritchett of Spur, Tex.; radio operator Israel Meyer of the Bronx and our waist gunners: S/Sgt. Preston

Continued on Page 6. Column 1,

YANK PHA IHAILIN

Tella How Doomed Leader of! Chetniks Saved U. S. Fliers

Continued .from First Page

Angleberger of Fredericksburg, Va. and S/Sgt. Carl Walpusk of Pa.

When we landed all of us had the same fear. We had been warhed to stay away from Mihail-ovich's Chetniks. This came from our Intelligence. It was unfortunate their information came from Tito's Communists. It was small wonder we were afraid.

Weeks later we knew the truth. Gen. Mihailovich was no traitor but a patriot-the only people who didn't think so were the Communiste.

Today - perhaps at this very minute under the sentence of death-he is wearing a small, star sapphire ring I gave him. Like the other fellows who were rescued, we were so happy at being rescued, we would have given him everything we owned.

PRESENTED WITH SWOED.

He took the ring only after I kept insisting and then gave me his small ceremonial sword and an autographed picture.

"Just go home to your people safe," he said, with a puff of that long pipe he slways car-ried. "You come from a great country and a great land. We are honored to help you."

It was a thrilling scene that hot afternoon. We were gathered under a low, overhanging plum tree -250 ragged, bearded American fliers who had bailed out over Yugoslavia. They had been hauled out of rivers, swamps, cornfields by the Chetniks-doing it at the risk of their lives and their families. Others, like myself, were at times passed along German-held roads under the very eyes of armed Nazi soldiers.

All of us sat around in a huge circle. Then General Mihailovich appeared. He was short and stocky. with a thick, grayish beard flowing over his field jacket. As he spoke he puffed on the biggest pipe I've ever seen-later he told me the stem was all of 18 inches long

He wore a heavy Winter uniform. carried a dusty dispatch case

at his belt and wore the tricorner Chetnik wool cap with the double-eagle of his country.

He looked old and tired. His manner was dignified, his voice pitched low. Instead of a guerilla leader he looked more like an overworked history professor, whose only knowledge of war came from books.

It was when he spoke you knew he was a leader. His men, armed to the teeth with grenades, cutlasses and rifles-mostly captured from the Nazis-stood about him looking at him with reverence. It was the same all over Yugoslavia. No matter where I went-village, hamlet, towns-they looked upon this man like we look upon the memory of Washington or Lincoln.

He was of the people. If they would fight, he would lead them; if they would die, he would die, It was a strange scene, that day,

Standing in our circle, under the July sun. he first greeted us. speaking through an interpreter. He told us how happy he was that we were safe and that he and his men would see to it that we were delivered back home, free.

"If any Germans are near we

will know about it." he said, and then looking at his grinning rabble in arms, he added with a sly grin:

"They will not get far."

He described the work of his Chetniks. He told how on the day of the German invasion, he and his people went back into the hills "never to surrender."

Then he talked about the United States, what a wonderful country it was, and how his people were so glad to help us. He told us how his army was now without supplies because Tito was in power.

20 'Now we not only fight the Germans, but also Tito's Partisans," he said bitterly.

He spoke to us for over a half hour, then he said:

"I know that your families are very worried about you so I will take each of your serial numbers and dispatch them at once to our station in Cairo. Egypt, and instruct them to broadcast them at once so that your people will pick them up and notify your families and save them much sorrow."

Later. I discovered that this was done as he promised, but because Gen. Mihailovich was classed as "an outlaw" by Tito his messages were ignored.

REDS TAINT INFORMATION.

The only information our Intelligence could get as to what was going on in Yugoslavia, it seemed, came from one source— Tito's Communist propaganda machine.

After the meeting I talked to Mihallovich with some of my buddles. Unfortunately, our smattering of Spanish. French and a few Serbian words we had picked up didn't help the conversation.

I know one thing though, every man that afternoon was thankful, more than words could express, to Gen. Mihailovich and his Chetniks.

The meeting broke up and each of us was assigned a small group of Chetniks whose job it was to get us across Yugoslavia through German lines to a small meadow where American planes would rescue Us.

For the next several weeks, I lived with Mihallovich's men. I sat at council meetings in little villages and hamlets, and heard again and again the elders say:

"We do not want the hammer and the sickles. We do not want to be told how to live, what to plant, what to eat and what to say."

Then, at the end of the informal meeting, they would leap up and shout:

"Zhiveia Mihailovich (Long Live Mihailovich)."

These were not political leaders mouthing the current phrase, but the real people of Yugoslavia, the farmers, the townsmen and the peasants. They were emphatic in one thing: They did not want Communism. They wanted Mihailovich.

My Chetnik guards and guides were faithful to their orders. They were never to leave me until I left. Before I was captured they must first die.

MARCHED TO EXHAUSTION.

Day after day and even through the nights, we marched across Yugoslavia's mountains, rivers and valleys. I thought it would never end. I was now ragged and almost unrecognizable. My uniform was in rags, and sometimes I thought I couldn't take another step.

But I was no worse than my buddles.

All over Yugoslavia, weary American airmen were moving through the German lines, guarded by small bands of Mihailovich's guerillas, towards the rendezvous where American rescue planes were to meet us.

The people of the countryside couldn't do enough for us. They had two kinds of bread-rough brown bread and another substitute made from corn. None of us was allowed to eat the corn bread --always the brown bread. If they had one egg-we got it.

At night sitting around the small farmhouses, the people would talk of America. They told me how they whispered prayers for American airmen when the bombers from Italy roared over their villages for strikes at Ploesti or other airfields.

When they talked of Tito. they would shake their heads. stowi deep in their throats and draw a finger across their neck.

"We don't want the hammer and sickle," they would say.

The men with me revered Mihailovich. They spoke of him with a deep feeling and told me many times he was the real wartime leader of Yugoslavia. Their faithfulness to his orders was touching.

One night after walking all day we came to a small farmhouse where we were to sleep that night

An old lady came out and upon hearing it was Chetniks with an "Americanski" pushed one of her own family out to sleep in the barn and furned the bed over to me. I protested but was told they would be insulted if I didn't accept. That night it rained. The water just poured out of the heavens.

In the morning I looked out. The ten Chetniks posted about the house had never moved during the night. Through the wall of train I could barely make them out standing in the mud like motionless stumps.

When I protested, their leader, a grinning young guerilla, always armed to the teeth, tolc me he was simply obeying Mihallovich's orders:

"They were never to leave the Americanski unguarded."

When I asked why they didn't awaken me so we all could be comfortable in the house, they looked surprised.

"But we would then disturb your sleep," they said.

The recent charges of Tito that Mihailovich had been working with the Germans, made me feel outraged.

In the Chetniks with whom I had become acquainted, were several Russian soldiers who had escaped from the Nazis. These Russian soldiers had joined the Chetniks and fought side by side with them against the Germans.

After weeks of walking, we arrived near our goal only after one narrow escape.

A truck loaded with armed German soldiers suddenly came upon us on the road. There was no time to jump for cover so all we could do was shout: "dobra dan" (Goodday). The Nazis looked down their noses at us and went on.

Later, when I got a look in a mirror, I didn't blame them. With the black beard and rags I was wearing I looked like a penniless tramp.

Finally we arrived at the air



THEN... Here are Lt. Richard Felman (arrow) and his pilot, Lt. Paul Mato, following rescue by American planes after they lived seven weeks with Mihailovich and his guerillas in the mountains of Yugoslavia. They were bearded and ragged and looked like tramps even to suspicious German soldiers who came upon them on the road.



NOW... Former Army Air Corps officer Felman tells staff writer James D. Horan the story of his stay with Mihailovich. He traces the escape route he followed on his pilot's map with the small ceremonial sword presented him by the guerilla leader. Today, back in New York, Felman has regained his normal weight of 200 pounds.

strip. It didn't deserve that title. In fact, it was simply a flat stretch of land—the only level spot in that whole mountainous area.

Then came the day of the delivery.

Zooming out of a clear blue sky they came. I turned and shock hands with the small band of Chetniks who had guarded me so faithfully. They were as happy as we were. They pounded us on the

backs and nearly shook our nands oil.

The man responsible for my rescue and 249 of my buddles was Gen. Draja Mihailovich—the same man accused by Tito's Communists as a traifor.

Nem Pork Journal-American Sun., Mar. 31, 1946-L-6 23 Q

TIMES Detroit. Mich. SPRIL 4, 1946.

Rescued Fliers Paint Draja as U. S. Friend

PITTSBURGH, April 4-Two Pennsylvania state troopers, former American airmen shot down over Yugoelavia, today declared that Gen. Draja Mikhailovich, Chetnik leader, is getting a "raw deal" from the allied nations.

Paul F. Mato of South Connellsville, a veteran of nine years with the state police, and recruit Carl J. Walpusk of Jenners denounced the forthcoming treason trial of Mikhailovich as a "travesty on justice.

Mato and Walpusk were pilot and waist gunner on a B-24 shot down by German fighters in 1944. They bailed out into the mountainous regions held by Gen. Mik-hailovich's Chetnik forces.

FRIEND OF AMERICA

There, they said, they found that Mikhailovich was the staunch friend of America and the foe of Germany and communism.

Mato and Walpusk were sep-arated for 10 days and later re-

arated for 10 days and later re-united with about 300 other airmen shot down. They were fed, clothed, and sheltered by the Chetniks who even gave up their beds for them. They were concealed in territory they down and the territory overlooking a town held by the Germans.

The troopers said that the Chetniks admired Americans and thought there was no one else in the world like them. They said they met Gen. Mikhailovich twice. The Chetnik leader told them that he swas making plans to evacuate them back to Italy.

TEUE TO TEUST

Mato and Walpusk said the Germans in the town were offer-ng 10 Chetnik prisoners in ex-

er . .

change for one American but the Chetniks refused.

CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

They said that all the time they were there, the Chetniks were making forays against the Germans. They said the peasants ac-cused Marshal Tito's Partisans of slaughtering many American filers shot down in Yugoslavia. Mato and Walpusk said the peasants feared Tito's forces far

more than the Germans, because the Partisans were Communists who killed Americans and at-tacked the Chetniks every time they were battling the Germans.

SUN-TELEGRAPH Pittsburgh, Pa.

Chicago Herald-American Tues., May 7, 1940-3

vening Star-News

Saturday, March 30, 1946

AIRMAN A

Mihailovich **Aid Pressed**

"He saved our lives. We'll save his!"

Rallying behind that slogan. the National Committee of American Airmen-former Yank fliers rescued in Yugoslavia by Gen. Draza Mihailovich's Chetnikstoday was making a new effort to come to the aid of their benefac-

tor now held for treason. Robert Eckman, 910 Lawrence av., vice chairman of the com-mittee, said affidavits are being sought from fliers rescued by the Chetniks for presentation at his for breasing trial forthcoming trial.

Mihailovich is a prisoner of the Red-dominated Yugoslav govern-ment of Marshal Tito. Serbian leaders here have expressed fear that Mihailovich already has been prejudged and condemned to death.

APRIL 1, 1946. Dr. 800% VET, LAWYER HERE, BACKS MIHAILOV A former local U. S. Intelli- British investigation had cleared

gence officer-whose forces sup- Gen. Mihailovic of any collaboraplied the partisan army of Marshal Tito-today declared that it would be a "shameful betrayal" for the United States to desert Gen. Draga Mihailovic in his "hour of peril."

Attorney Anthony R. Mc-Grath, national judge advocate of the American Veterans of World War II, declared that Gen. Mihailovic's fidelity to the Allied cause was never questioned.

He said that he briefed his airmen to trust the Chetnik leader's they were forced down over Yugoslavia was invaded. Yugoslavia. He said these orders came from "higher headquarters."

tion. He added: "Mihailovic was playing on the first team while Marshal

Tito was playing the outfield in another country. Mihailovic is no more a collaborationist than any Allied leader who once fought alongside us and was then deposed-like Churchill-and the United States certainly should be the first to recognize this."

Attorney McGrath said it should be remembered that it was the Chetniks who first forces to lead them to safety if struck back at Germany when He said the Communist forces of Tito were instrumental in circulating the collaborationist propa-Attorney McGrath said that a ganda against Mihailovic.

CHETNIK **Culver** Man Supports khailovitch

Q A' LOCX

27

A Culver City voice was raised today, along with others, in support of Draja Mikhailovitch, former head of the Chetniks, Yugoslav underground army, who has been captured by Marshal Tito, leader of a rival Yugoslav resistance force.

Ligutenant Colonel Arthur J. Lund, former chief of staff of the 49th Boinbardment Wing, now retired from the Air Forces and residing at 10928 Culver boulevard, has high praise for Mikhailovitch and his untiring efforts in saving more than 500 American uirmen. Saved Airmen's Lives

Lund admired an autographed picture of the famous general, and said: "General Mikhailovitch was greatly responsible for the return cf our B-24 Liberator crews who were shot down over Yugoslavia while participating in bomber raids on oil fields in his country, Romania, and Greece.

"There must be many former airmen living in this section of the country who would come to his rescue, as he did theirs, in time of need."

Urges Inquiry

A Yugoslav national committee has sent a telegram to Secretary General Trygve Lie of the United Nations, urging the earliest possible formation of an international commission of inquiry to "guar-antee a fair trial" of the captured Chetnick leader and former Yu

goslav war minister.' The telegram said there wa an "absence of law courts" in ir Yugoslavia and that Mikhailovitch had "been sacrificed for reasons of high political expediency" af-ter giving valuable aid to the Allies during the war.

(NUTE: FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE: #) Mr. Vandenberg: Mr. Fresident, I wish to commend the note which the State Department has sent to the Yugoslav Government, regarding

the ap-3070

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD-SENATE

proaching trial of Gen. Draja Mihailovich, and for the reasons indicated in the note. I think there is a very deep American interest in this matter because of the numerous American flyers whose lives were saved by General Mihallo-yich in the course of the war just end-ed. I think there is a further deep interest in America in the fate of General Mihailovich because of the tremendous contribution which he made to the Allied cause in the earlier years of the war, with a brilliant courage and patriotism which have feen universally acknowledged throughout the world. I decline to forget this debt.

I am expressing the hope that we may persist in our expression of interest in a fair trial for General Mihailovich on the basis of whatever subsequent charges have been made against him. I do not assume to pass upon these charges. I realize that in the latter years of the war he became a highly controversial figure, but I cannot close my eyes to the tremendously heroic contribution which he made to the Allied cause in the early years of the war.

years of the war. Mihailovich rallied his Serbs and fought our enemies desperately, with unimaginable hardships, entirely with-out our help for 4 years. Over 1,000,000 out of 8,000,000 Serbs lost their lives in this sacrificial service. Mihailovich was publicly thanked, congratulated, and decorated by all the Allied generals, in-cluding our own General Eisenhower. Now he stands challenged as a traitor by the Tito government in Yugoslavia. At an utter minimum, Mr. President, I submit that Mihailovich is entitled to every effort the Government of the United States can make to assure him a fair trial.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the State Department note may be printed at this point in the RECORD, and I repeat my hearty endorsement of the appeal that has been made on behalf of the Government of the United States to the Yugoslav Government in this connection. I think the appeal might, with justice, have been even stronger.

There being no objection, the note was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

Note has been taken by the Government of the United States of the March 24 official announcement broadcast by Radio Beigrade regarding a statement to the Yugosiav As-sembly by Minister of Interior (Alexander) Rankovitch reporting the capture of Gen. Draja Mihailovich on March 13.

When, in 1941, the Germans overtan Yugo-alavia, it will be recalled that General (then colone) Mihailovich organized and led im-portant resistance forces against the occupertaint remainder informe against the occu-piers. Following his promotion, in 1941, to the rank of general, Draja Mihailbvich was appointed Minister of War in the Royal Tugo-slaw Government in Exile, but remained in his native land and without adequate supplies and fighting under the greatest hard-ships contributed with his forces materially to the Allied cause so heroically participated in by Tugoslavia.

The of Tugestavia. Minetian Minetiavich continued as comf mander of the Tugeslav Army and as Minister of War until May 1944. Since that time he has been on the political plane a controverstal figure.

As the Yugoslav authorities are no doubt aware, United States Army personnel in an Allied lisison capacity were attached to Gen-

Mihailovich's headquarters during eral most of the period of his military activity. They must also be aware of the fact that many United States airmen were rescued and returned to Allied lines through the un-daunted efforts of General Miballovich's forme

A number of these individuals and others in the United States who were closely asso-ciated with General Mihailovich possess ciated with General Mihailovich possess first-hand evidence which cannot but have a bearing upon the charges of enemy collabora-tion which the Tugoslav authorities have indicated they will bring against General Mihailovich.

The United States Government, in these circumstances, is confident that in the interests of justice the Yugosiav Government will wish to make suitable arrangements whereby the evidence of any such persons who may so desire may be presented in connec-tion-with the trial, said to be contemplated, of General Mihailovich.

An urgent expression of the views of the Tugoslay authorities in this connection will be appreciated by the United States Gov-ernment together with an indication of the place and time of trial and the steps the Tugoslav Government is prepared to take to facilitate the presentation of evidence of this nature.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—APPENDIX

·Draja Mihailovich

EXTENSION OF REMARKS OP

HON, ALBERT THOMAS OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Monday, April 1, 1946

Mr. THOMAS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks in the RECORD, I include the following letter:

HOUSTON, TEX., March 27, 1946. Constersman Algert Thomas.

Congress of the United States, House of Representatives,

Washington, D. C.

DEAS MR. CONGRESSMAN: I am writing this letter in connection with the recently an-nounced artest of Draja Mihallovich, Chetnik leader in Yugoslavia. The arrest was an-nounced by Tito, the Earl Browder of Yugosiavia.

On July 15, 1944. I was returning to Italy from a bombing mission at the Ploesti oil fields, and was forced to parachute into the hills of Yugoslavia due to the damage our ship (B-17) had suffered from antiaircraft fire and fighter attack at the target. Eight men out of our crew of 10 were rescued from Germans by the Chetniks For about 7 months we were concealed in small villages, fed and clothed by these people in the hills who worshiped the leadership of Draja Mihailovich. During this time we traveld to the Chetnik headquarters and had the pleas-ure of meeting Mihailovich. Until we were finally liberated, we lived in and around the Chetnik headquarters, eating food that was very precious and scarce.

The request of these people was that we upon our return to America would champion their cause, by telling something of their resistance against the Nazis as well as the forces of communism that were seeking to dominate their country under Moscow's Tito.

It is very probable that I do not under-stand all of the circumstances involved, but in view of the fact that no less than 500 American airmen received similar aid from this man something should be said in his behalf.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM B. HARRELL, Jr., Captain, Air Corps Reserve.

APRIL 3 **K**epresentatives

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ouse

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 1946 CAPTURE OF MIHAILOVICH SHOULD LEAD TO FAIR TRIAL

Mr. MUNDT. Mr. Speaker, this week's news dispatches from abroad bring us gratifying news that Mihailovich has been captured alive in Yugoslavia. I take this occasion to recommend respectfully to our State Department that it request the Tito government of Yugoslavia to deliver Mihailovich over to the International Military Tribunal of War Crimes for a fair and fact-revealing trial.

If he is guilty of working with the Nazis, as charged, he is an enemy of all of the United Nations and should be by them convicted. If he is not guilty, the world is entitled to the facts. The Tito government can gain stature for itself by delivering Mihailovich to the International Tribunal, and the world can learn the facts about Mihailovich.

When our committee visited in Yugoslavia last fall we found considerable controversy as to whether Mihailovich was a traitor or a hero. History should not be discolored by prejudice or shadowed by suspicion. The facts should be made available through the International Tribunal. Mihailovich should be fully punished if he is guilty. If he is innocent, he should be so certified by an impartial trial to which Tito's government and others should present their full agenda of evidence. The situation presents a unique opportunity for Tito's government to demonstrate its respect for impartial justice.

Mihailovich

EXTENSION OF REMARKS OF

HON. FRANCES P. BOLTON OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Friday, March 29, 1946

DIX Mrs. BOLTON. Mr. Speaker, when our committee visited Yugoslavia last fall I had occasion to ask the Prime Minister PPENI and the Minister of Foreign Affairs 'Wo questions relative to General Mihanovich: First, did the present government know where the general was; and second. A what proof had they of his Nazi colla5oration? To the first they replied dramatically that they did know and would CORD pick him up and destroy him when the proper moment came. In reply to the second they brought in quantities of photographs and proceeded to show them to me. German troops? Yes. Mihailovich and Chetniks? Yes; but not ũ 2 both on the same photograph! When I AL pointed this out to them they grew quite angry when I suggested such evidence ESSION would not hold in American courts; they gathered up the photographs and changed the subject.

I want to urge upon our Government the suggestion that everything possible be done to insure this man who has been the victim of power politics a fair and just trial, and in this connection I ir-clude the following letter published in the Washington Post: SEE D.32.

SOCIETY AND GENERAL NEWS WASHINGTON. D. C.

Mihailovich Spared Tito's Life, Former D. C. Officer Reveals



D. C. OFFICER WITH SERB LEADER-Gen. Draja Mihailovich, with beard, shown with former Lt. Michael Rajacich (left) of 55 M street N.W. when the Chetnik leader was helping rescue Allied airmen in Yugoslavia two years ago. The others in the photo are not named.

He has this to say of the im-How Gen. Draja Mihailovich

spared the life of Josip Bros (now prisoned Serb leader: told today, shortly after the capture disagreed after a few months be-of the Chetnik leader was announced cause Tito wanted to subject the in Beigrade, by a former American Yugoslavs; to Sovietization and Army officer who fought the Nazis communism.

Michael Rajacich of 55 M street N.W., now employed at the War Department, parachuted into Mi-Mir. Rajacich said Tito's charges. Mailovich's territory in Serbia in August, 1944, to aid in the evacua-tion of Allied airmen shot down by the Nazis, Bulgars and Ustashi

Until his Office of Strategic Services unit arrived, the rescue of these airmen was part of the day's work to Gen. Milfailovich, from the beginning of the war in the Balkans. In the following three months.

ex-Lt. Rajacich said, he worked with and Ljig.

Marshal Tito) and permitted the hailovich accepted Tito and the Partisan leader to leave an area of Communists in the resistance move-Yugoslavia where Mihailovich's ment against the enemy. He per-Chetniks were in power in 1941, was sonally met Tito three times. They

"Mihailovich loves the Russian people. He despised the Nazis and their satellites.

"Our government should prote to the Yugoslav government and de mand that Gen. Mihailovich be given a fair trial with authentic evidence and witnesses-not with false propaganda emanating from Com-Mihailovich and the Chetniks, wit- propaganda emanating from Com-nessing vicious raids against German munist bulletins or stooges brought garrisons at Kadina Luka, Lazarevac in to mar the character of a Christian individual."

Tito's Rule Worse Than Hitler's, Veteran Says

A "reign of terror" and anti-American propaganda in Yugo-slavia under Marshal Tito has caused more suffering to the Yugoslavians under the Commu-nists than the Nazis inflicted, Jo-Veselinovich of 3505 Magseph nolia ave. former American offi-cer who went on three secret mis-sions to the partisans in Yugo-slavia, told the Globe-Democrat yesterday.

Discharged four months ago after four years in the Army, Vesellnovich first parachuted into Veselinovich first parachuted into Yugoslavia in May, 1944, to es-tablish contact with the partisan troops and organize supply lines for the resistance movement. With the sid of 200 pagisan women, the St. Louisan succeeded in building an alrport in the mountains near the Hungarian border, only six miles from German lines, for United States planes to fly sup-plies to Tito's men and carry out the wounded. the wounded.

"In the eight months I spent in Yugoslavia with the partisans. I never once saw them fight the Germans," Veselinovich said. "I heard a continual stream of anticapitalist propaganda and saw incessant fighting by the partisans against the Yugoslav peasants to

against the Yugoslav peasants to force them to accept Communism." A native of Yugoslavia who came to St. Louis in 1929, Vese-linovich said that Tito's forces destroyed whole villages of loyal Yugoslavians because they had refused to join the Communist mayement. He stated that more than 103000 Yugoslav men, women than 106,000 Yugoslav men, women and children fled to Italy imme-diately after the German surren-der to escape the Communists and

"While I was in the hills with the partisans," he said, "I heard the commissars report regularly of strikes in this country, race denied aid.



JOSEPH VESELINOVICEL

riots. and predict the fail of American capitalism. They never once mentioned lend-lease aid to Russia and Yugoslavia."

"More propaganda was distrib-uted against the Chetniks than against the Nazis," he reported. "Rumors of Chetnik collaboration with the Germans were spread, but not a single one was proved." Tito refused to allow UNRRA to

distribute food and supplies to the liberated people as it did in other countries because he wanted to handle the relief material himself to use it as a political weapon, the St. Louisans declared. As a result, many hungry persons were



Friday, April 12, 1946

Mihailovich Vs. Partisans, To the Editor: Marshal Josip Broz-Tito is playing with dyna-mite in Yugoslavia. The recent capture of Gen. Draza Mihailo-vich may lead to more trouble than the Partisans can handle. The Chetnik leader symbolized a fighting spirit which will not be eradicated by his death. Winnetka. VICTOR J. DANILOV.

Spare Mihailovic-

Hero Pleads for Chetnik Rescaer

DEFENDS MHAILOVIC Orville Needin, form army air

Draja Mihailevic's Chetniks with saving him and his fellow airmen shot down over Yugoslavia, has protested to high U. S. efficial his with jonn. Nonoha is shown with his with joan, at home of his parents in Abardeen, where they are visiting. -(Photo by Red Made ir. Aband

ABERDEEN. March 31 .- One hot June afternoon in 1944 a giant Liberator bomber, crippled by Nazi fire, came in low over a rugged hilltop in Yugoslavia and made a crash lating in the valley below.

German soldiers headed for the plane. But even as the first Namis pay a debt of gratitude to the Chetneared the craft a detachment of niks who saved his life and to their Chetnicks, Yugoslav guerilla fight has been arrested by the Tito govrs, popped up out of nowhere. Guns cracked, the Nazis fled, and tion. the Chetniks spirited the Libera-

or's American crew to a hideout in the hills.

Orville Nouska, of Aberdeen Corner air force sergeant, was a diplomacy take all possible steps member of that erew. He firmly be to free Miliaflowic in the hains of Heres the Chetniks saved him from the hundreds of Americans he and death

DEBT OF GRATITUDE So today Nouska was trying to

ernment and faces possible erecu-Nouska has sent letters protest-

ing Mihaflovic's arrest to President Truman, Secretary of Sinte Byrnes, and Gov. Mon C. Wallgren. The letters ask urgently that American

Nouska says be was among 150

Brattle Jast-Jutelligencer Mon., April 1, 1946. 5

American airmen feurned at one time to 15th Air Force headquarters by the Chetniks.

"Mihailovic said that if he was captured he'd be given a "fair tria!" and then shot," Neuska says. "He risked his life to send me and my crew back and I am sure there was no reward, per-sonal glory of recognition for him returning Americans to the Allies."

The Nazis offered to free 500 Serbians for each American Mihailvic would surrender to them, Nouska, said.

"Butto Minallovic said one A "Buto Withallovic said one American was worth more to him" than 900 Serbians, because the United states was the only hope for Serbit," the former sergeant continued. "And now they have charged him with Nazi collaboration. It, is impossible for me to believe."

Nouska and the rest of the crew were injured when their plane was shot down June 6, 1944. They had to be helped from the plane by the Chetniks.

LIVED WITH CHETNIKS

"We lived with the Chetniks 36 days," Nouska said. "The Germans pursued us and we moved constantly. The "Chetniks had constantly. their own informers so we were able to keep one jump shead of the enemy, They rescued British and Russian airmon as well as Americans and sent us all back at tremandous risk, to themselven

The Chetnik leader looked much older than he was because of his ong white beard and white hair. the Aberdeen man recalled. The Chetniks had sworn not to shave The pr cut their hair until they had retaken Belgrade from the Germans, he explained.

"Mihailovic is short, slight, active and strong," Nouska said. "He thought nothing of walking 35 miles at a stretch."

Mihailovic is a former captain of the king's guard in Servici Research explained. His Chetniks Last Kar-shel Tithes guerillas clashed in hot-bloded, Haltan feuding, although hells fought the Germans. The feud essited in Mihailovic's arrest.

Nouskn was awarded the Dis tinguished Flying Cross and was ionorably discharged from the serv last October. He and his wife, Jean, are visiting at the home of his par-ents, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Nouska in Abardeen.

> Richardson's gratitude to the Slav guerrilla chief who is awaiting trist by the Belgrade govern-ment for allegate treason, has not lessened because of the Tugoslav government's note to Secretary of Stafe Byrnes ap cusing Minailovic of grimes "too horrible" to mention:

TITO BRANDED **RUSSIAN TOOL** Mihailovich's Fate Yugoslav

Tragedy, Says U. S. Fiyer. To the Editor of The Spokesman-Review:

The announcement by the Yugo-alavian Tito this week that his forces had captured Drais Mihallo-vich and was going to try him as a war criminal would be the biggest laugh of the year were it not so serious.

It is serious because I think I am

It is serious because I think I am one of the hundreds of allied flyers who bailed out of damaged planes. over occupied Yugoslavia to be res-cued and cared for by the Chetniks —and their people, the Serbians. Now, this Chetnik army under Gen. Mihailovich enjoyed the fuil aupport of the people. It was this unity of the Serbs and their Chet-nik army that was so striking. The people sheltered and fed us while the army protected us until our contact with allied military control some three months later.

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people sneitered and fed us while the army protected us until our contact with allied military control some three months later. I had the opportunity to learn first hand just what these folks thought of Tito. And, briefly next to the Germans, they hated this Russian puppet most. Practically every family we knew had suffered casualities from the war. Yet what little they had they shared with us. Remember, these are the people who supported Draja Mihailovich, the "war criminal!" True, Tito is now head of Yugoslavis, by election —an election just as free and un-biased as that which is electing Juan Peron in Argentina. Tito realizes that as long as there be secure. So, the grandiose pub-licity and the trial of a war crim-inal! Had Mihailovich been working with the Germans, do you suppose he would have rescued us, cared for us, and promoted our safe evacuation, when the Germans were offering 100 American dollars for every American captured? I think not! The American people should be told the true facts. *ALEX F. LA COM*. Isth W. A. F.

HERALD-AMERICAN APRIL 12, 1946. Colonel Pleads For Mihailovic

DETROIT, April 13 .- A former Army lieutenant colonel who directed evacuation of 231 Allied airmen from behind German lines in Yugoelavia in August. 1944, today reiterated his plea for permission to testify in behalf of Gen. Draja Mihailovic.

The would be witness is John W. Richardson of Detroit. He explained that the rescue of the airmon, mostly 'Americans, would have been impossible without the assistance of Mihallovic."

27



MIHAILOVIC SAVED THEM Paul E. Mato, pilot of a B-24 which crashed in Yugoslavia,

and his waist gunner, Carl J. Walpusk, both Pennsylvania state 'toopers, are among the Americans rescued by the Chetniks during the war who are angry at the treason charges being brought against Gen. Draja Mihallovic. Mato is still looking after Waipusk as he loans him raincoat during shower yesterday.

DM BOOK EXAMINER Los Angeles, Cal. APRIL 14, 1946. 34 **Rescued Yank Airmen Rally** to Help Save Mikhailovitch

CHICAGO, April 13. (Special to the Los Angeles Examiner). "If General Draja Mikhailovitch was a traitor, I'd be the first to want him executed, but he isn't, and that is why we are trying to help him.

"He saved our lives. We'll save his!"

Robert W. Eckman, one of the hundreds of American 3:r forces men saved by the General's gallant Chetniks in Yugoslavia, today added his voice to the swelling protests against the arrest by Marshal Tito, and pending trial of the hero.

Eckman recounted some of the happenings of the 42 days he was with General Mikhallovitch and his men. He told how they refused offers of money. Instead of cash, Eckman recalled, they asked:

"Tell us the truth about the American people and your demecracy. We hope to drive out the Communists and the Nazis and fashion a democracy here.

Eckman told how the rescued Yanks were given the Chetnicks' beds while the family slept on the floor; how the people deprived themselves of food, meager as it was, to give it to the airmen. The former flyer added:

"General Mikhailovitch traitor? Never.'

Corporal David E. Labissoniere of Milwaukee, attending a meeting here last Monday at the Stevens Hotel called by the Serbian National Defense Council, which is planning an uppeal to Washington to intercede with the Moscow-dominated Tito for the general's-life, said:

"General Mikhailovitch was a father to us. Many times he traveled through Nazi territory, at great personal risk, to get to us and talk with us about America."

State Troopers Hail Mahailovic As'Friend'

Pr BOOK 34

Two Pennsylvania state troopers-former American airmen shot down over Yugeslavia-today declared that Gen. Darja Mihailovic, Chetnik leader, is getting a "raw deal" from the Allied nations.

Paul F. Mato of South Connellsville, a veteran of nine years with the state police, and Recruit Carl J. Walpusk of Jenners, denounced the forthcoming treason trial of Gen. Mihailovic as a "travesty on justice."

Mato and Walpusk were pilot and waist gunner on a B-24 shot down by German fighters in 1944. They bailed out into the mountainous regions held by Gen. Mihailovic's Chetnik forces.

FOE OF COMMUNISM

There, they said, they found that Gen, Mihailovic was the staunch friend of America and the foe of Germany and Communism.

They were fed, clothed and sheltered by the Chetniks. They were concealed in territory overlooking a town held by the Germaris.

The troopers said that The Chetniks thought there was not one else in the world like Americans. They said they met Gen. Mihailovic twice during their stav.

EVACUATION PLANS

The revered Chetnik leader told them that he was making plans to evacuate them back to Italy. He sat down with them and told them that the Chetniks were prepared to paralyze all Nazi communication and trans-portation systems in Yugoslavia as soon as the Allies invaded from the Adriatic Sea.

He said his men were hampered by lack of ammunition and guns, knives and mortars. Mato and Walpusk said the Chetniks were using revolver shells, wrapped in paper, for their rifles. Most of them were barefooted.

Mato and Walpusk said the Germans in the town were of-

fering 10 Chetnik prisoners in exchange for one American, but the Chetniks refused.

BAIDS ON NAZIS

They said that all the time they were there, the Chetniks. were making forays against the Germans.

Mato and Walpusk said the peasants feared Tito's forces far more than the Germans because the Partisans were Communists who killed Americans and attacked the Chetniks every time they were battling the Germans.

Mato and Walpusk said they and 300 other fliers were transported to the Adriatic Sea where they were evacuated on ships to Italy.

Both Mato and Walpusk hold the Purple Heart for wounds received when they were shot down.

FEORIA ILL., STAR. East Peorian May Assist **Defense** Of Mikhailovich

is being tried for treason in Yugoala via.

He is John T. Fox of 1805 Springfield road, who served with General Mikhailovich's Serbian Chetnik forces in Yugoslavia from April, 1944, until August, 1944.

niks a lot of American fliers would have been killed," according to Fox, who was shot denoted by the stern Electric. Fox, who was shot down over the country while serving as a gunner on a B-17 based in Italy.

Fox is among American airmen who have been asked to meet next Tuesday at Chicago to name a committee to take action in de fense of General Mikhailovich. All

An East Peorian may help de- these airmen were saved by Serb-fend Gen. Draja Mikhailovich, who ian Chetniks.

Peorian said he The East planned to call Chicago to find out more about the meeting of the rescued fliers, adding that if there were anything he could do to help the general he'd like to do it.

Son of Mrs. W. R. Allen, Fox was in service three years. He was

And Allightovieli Aid ons Takit



Rescued Chicago Flier Urges: Save Mihailovic

Charges Betrayal by U. S., Britain

"A Communist government betrays the common man. I will fight communism to my last breath!"

Gen. Draja Mihailovic, gallant eader of Yugoslav's Chetniks in heir fight against the Nazis and the Reds, once made that, ringng declaration to former 2d Lt. Charles Kenneth Gracz, 27, now of 1411 N. Bosworth av.

Gracz, who today added his roice to the rising chorus of apseals to Congress to intervene in schalf of Gen. Mihailovic, who is held by Marshal Tito as a "traitor" to Yugoslavia, was one of about 1,000 American airmen rescued and returned to their pases by the Chetniks.

ADMIRED DEMOCRACY.

Revealing that the Serbian National Defense Council of America has called a meeting of rica has called a sime rescued by forces for Gen. Mihailovic's forces for next Tuesday at 7:30 p. m. in room 207, 5 N. Wabash av., to name a committee to defend the Chet-

nik leader, Gracz said: "Gen, Mihailovic once told me that it was his fondest dream to build a government patterned after ours.

"He asked many questions about our system of govern-ment and said he had studied democracy for years and was convinced it was the only kind of government that gave the common man a decent break. "Gen. Mihailovic got a dirty deal from the American and British governments as far as we rescued airmen are concerned. Our government should have supported him because he rescued us at the risk of his own life.

"He played a desperate and a losing hand because all of the dropped into allied supplies Yugoslavia went to Tito. I learned Serbian as a kid and I could talk to the general. He told me once:

" 'Tite is a Communist. I canernment refuses to see the truth about who is fighting the Germans in Yugoslavia and who is fighting the Russians."



J Speciel

(Heraid-American photos.) **RESCUED FLIER RALLIES TO SAVE MIHAILOVIC** Charles Gracz and wife read bid to aid Red-held patriot.

DENIES 'TRAITOR' CHARGE.

Gracz, who lived to return to his wife, Jane, 25, and son, Kenneth Jr., 2^{1/2} months old, because of Gen. Mihailovic's Chetniks, said of the "traitor" charge made by Tito:

"Take either the general or anyone of his Chetniks and you never can prove to us that he or they were or are traitors. "Traitors are disloyal. If ever

anyone was loyal to the highest American traditions. it is Gen. Mihailovic and his Chetniks. "We could use a leader like Gen. Mihailovic in America."

Musulin, who spent more than nine months at Mihailovic's headquarters, said:

"I would certainly like to tesify for Gen. Mihailovic. His position today is a direct result of Russian pressure and parti-san propagand." SUN-TELEGRAPH PITTSBURGH. PA ailovic 2en As scapegoat

Another district airman who fought with the Chetniks today declared that Gen. Draja Mihailovic is being made the scapegoat for Marshal Tito.



Joseph T. Harmuth Jr., of Bridgeville -shot down over Yugoslavia in April, 1945 - said Tito, not Gen. M i h a i lovic, was a traitor to his people. H a rmuth said he and other Ameri-can fliers stood on a hill-

Mr. Harmuth side and watched Tito's partisans wipe out a whole Yugoslav village, killing peasants and burning their homes.

He said that he participated on nightly Chetnik raids on German forces while the Chetniks themselves were being attacked by the Partisans.

He said he made out papers for surrender of 12,000 Chetniks to the British in May, 1945, after the former held a bridge against the Partisans while the British were crossing.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 12, yesterday sent a resolu-tion to Secretary of State Byrnes asking that the United States use Its influence "not only to insure a fair trial for Mihailovic but to see that he is given his full freedom."

Herald-American Asks Fair Trial for Mihailovic

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PITTSBURGH. Pa., March 30. A fair trial before UNO is the least Gen. Draja Mihailovic, war-time leader of the Yugoslav Chetniks. deserves for his service to Americans, Capt. George Musulin to declared today.

The 31-year-old OSS officer is being asked to testify in Mihailo-vic's treason trial, according to press dispatches.

Mihailovic was captured two weeks ago in the hills of Yugo-slavia, where he had hidden for nearly two years. He is listed as a war criminal by Marshal Tites regime and is slated for swift trial on a charge of collaborating with the Nazis.

³² CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

I. 1948,

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1946-TWENTY-TWO PAGES.

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View Tito O.K. with Reserve

WASHINGTON-(P)-The Senate foreign relations committee today indicated reserved approx il of the State Department's decision to recognize the government of Marshal Tito in Yugoslavia.

This decision took on fresh significance for reports were that it foreshadowed abandonment of the U.S. policy of registering displeasure with foreign regimes by withholding diplomatic representatives.

CHAIRMAN Connally (Dem., Tex.) avoided touching on the possibility of such a development when he outlined the approach his group was taking on the Yugoslav question.

"The committee is agreeable to the fact that there is no other government to recognize in Yugoslavia," he said, "and with the understanding that the action does not pass on the merits or demerits of the Tito regime."

. . .

HOWEVER, other members of the committee said Secretary of State Byrnes indicated to them yesterday in a two-hour closed session that henceforth the policy will be to recognize de facto governments and deal with them on a practical basis.

They reported Byrnes maintained that such recognition constituted neither endorsement or disapproval of the government in question, and he defended the Tito recognition on those grounds.

Byrnes held his meeting before disclosing that President Truman was sending Edwin W. Pauley, his reparations expert, on a second trip to the Far East for information on how much property the Russians have removed from Manchuria and Korea.

. . .

PAULEY WENT to the Orient for that purpose several months ago but the Russians denied him entry into Manchuria, Byrnes said. The current withdrawal of Soviet forces from Manchuria was expected to facilitate Pauley's mission there this time, but officials were not optimistic about Northern Kores, where the Russians still are firmly established. NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 1946.

Aid for Mikhailovitch in Trial Is Posed in U.S. Note to Tito

By BERTHAM D. HULLEN Special to THE NEW YORK TIME.

WASHINGTON, April 2--The Yugoslav Government has been requested in a note delivered by the United States Legation in Belgrade to permit American Army personnel who were connected with Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch during the war to testify

at his trial for treason, the State Department said today.

The note was delivered Saturday, following the Tito Government's announcement of its capture of the former Chetnik leader and War Minister of the Royalist Yugoslav regime in exile. A reply was requested, but none has yet been received.

The note gave credit to General Mithailovitch for leading "important resistance forces" when Germany overran Yugoslavia in 1941 and for the rescue by his forces of many American airman and their return to the Allied lines.

Some of the American Army personnel concerned and other individuals in the United States who were closely associated with General Mikhailovitch, the note added, have first-hand evidence that "cannot but have a bearing" upon the impending charges against him of collaboration with the Nazis.

TEXT OF THE NOTE

The text of the note follows:

Note has been taken by the Government of the United States of the March 24 official announcement broadcast by radio Belgrade regarding a statement to the Tugoslav Assembly by Minister of Interior [Alexander] Rankovitch reporting the cap-

Continued on Page 2, Column 3 Continued From Page 1

ture of Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch

When, in 1941, the Germans overran Yugoslavia, it will be recalled that General (then Colonel) Mikhailovitch organized and led important resistance forces against the occupiers. Following his promotion, in 1941, to the rank of general, Draja Mikhailovitch was appointed Minister of War in the Royal Yugoslav Government in Exile, but remained in his native land and without adequate supplies and fighting under the greatest hardships contributed with his forces materially to the Allied cause so heroically participated in by Tugoslavia.

General Mikhailovitch continued as commander of the Yugoslav Army and as Minister of War until May, 1944. Since that time he has been on the political plane a controversial figure. As the Yugoslav authorities are

As the Yugoslav authorities are no doubt aware, United States Army personnel in an Ailled lisison capacity were attached to General Mikhailovitch's headquarters during most of the period of his military activity. They must also be aware of the fact that many United States airmen were rescued and returned to Allied lines through the undaunted efforts of General Mikhailovitch's forces.

A number of these individuals and others in the United States who were closely associated with General Mikhailovitch possess first-hand evidence which cannot but have a bearing upon the charges of enemy collaboration which the Yugoslav authorities have indicated they will bring against General Mikhailovitch.

The United States Government, in these circumstances, is confident that in the interests of justice the Tugoslav Government will wish to make suitable arrangements whereby the evidence

of any such persons whe may so desire may be presented in connection with the trial, said to be contemplated, of General Mikhailowitch.

An urgent expression, of the views of the Yugoslav authorities in this connection will be appreciated by the United States Gowernment together with an indication of the place and time of trial and the steps the Yugoslav Government is prepared to take to facilitate the presentation of evidence of this nature.

Last week Constantin Fotitch, former Yugoslav Ambassador here, appealed to Secretary of State James F. Byrnes for permission to be obtained for Americans to teetify in behalf of General Mikhailovitch. APRIL 12,

U.S. Aid Denied To Mikhailovitch

Chicage Sun Washington Bureet

WASHINGTON, April 12.—The Yugoslav government today rejected a request by the United States for American Army officers to testify in behalf of Gen Draja Mikhailovitch at his forthcoming trial for treason.

"The crimes of the traitor Draja Mikhailqvitch," a Yugoslav note said, "are far too big and horriLle to be discussed whether he is guilty or not."

Yank Airmon Ware Rescued,

The American request, made on April 2, said that many U.S. airmen shot down over Yugoslaw territory during the war were maccued and returned to the Allied lines "through the undaunted efforts of Gen. Mikhailovitch's forces.".

It asked for permission for U.S. officers attached to Mikhailevitch's headquarters in a liaison capacity to be allowed to testify for the general, who was captured recently and is awaiting trial.

The Yugoslav note took exception to the American statement that Mikhailovitch, leader of the Chetniks, started the national resistance against the Germans in the Balkan country. Documents in possession of the Yugoslav government confirm his treason and collaboration with Nazi Germany, the Yugoslav note said.

Action by Exiles Assailed.

It also charged that the appointment of Mikhailovitch as general and war minister by the Yugoslav government in exile in London during the war was an effort to destroy the national liberation movement led by Gen. Josip Broz-Tito.

The State Department released the note without comment.

UIII 12. HALISTA AN AMERICAN PAPER FOR THE AMERICAN MOPLE ? FLASH BALT FRIDAY-APRIL 5-1946 TOL XLVI. Aliborer 1236 4 **Tito Rejects U.S. Fliers' Aid** for Mihailovic CHICAGO SUN

anks Barred as Witnesses d

BELGRADE, April 5. -AP) - Yugoslavia refused today a United States reuest to allow American oficers to testify at the forthcoming treason trial of Gen. Draja Mihailovic, Chetnik hisitain who was among the first resistance leaders in Europe, and recently captured by Marshal Tito's TOODS.

Beigrade nowspapers devoted al-most their entire first pages to publication of the United States note and the Yugoslavis refusal. The lengthy Yugoslav answer

with the assertion that "full jus-tion will be done at the trial." Most of the U.S. army men Mihailevic assisted in escaping the Nasis were air force officers whot down over Yugoslevia, Sov-oral Chicago ex-fliers have vel-unteered to aid the Chetnik der.

Other details on Page 2.

CHRONICLE San Francisco, Cal. AFR.13, Yugoslavia Rejects U.S. **On Mihailovic** Washington Bu

CHICAGO Dette

WASHINGTON, April 12-The Yugoalav government today rejected a request by the United States for American Army officers to testify in behalf of General Mihailovic at his forthcoming trial for treason.

"The crimes of the Traitor Draja Mihailovic," a Yugoslav note said, "are far too big and horrible that it could or should be allowed to be discussed whether he is guilty or not."

The American request, made on April 2, said many U. S. airmen shot down over Yugoslav territory during the war were rescued and returned to the Allied lines "through the undaunted efforts of General Mihailovic's forces." It asked that U. S. officers attached to Mihailovic's headquarters in a liaison capacity be allowed to testify for the General, who was captured recently and is awaiting trial.

The Yugoslav note took exception to the American statement that Mi-hailovie, leader of the Chetalia, started the national resistance against the Germans in the Balkan country. Documents in personale of the Yagoslav government confirm his treason and collaboration with, Nasi Germany, the Yugeslav note said.

It also charged the appointment of Mihailovic as General and War Minister by the Yugoslav govern-ment in exile in London during the war was an effort to destroy the national liberation movement had by General Tite.

The State Department released the note without comment.

APRIL 5, 1946 **U.S. Plea Denied On Mikhailovitch** BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, April

5-P-Yugoslavia refused today a U.S. request to allow American officers to testify at the forthcoming trial of Gen. Draja Mikhailovich, recently captured Chetnik chieftain who was hailed among the first resistance leaders in Eu-FODE.

Belgrade newspapers devoted almost their entire first pages to publication of the U.S. note and the Yugoslav refusal. The lengthy Yugoslav answer began with a re-fusal and ended with the assertion that "full justice will be done at the trial."

The answer asserted, among other things:

1. That the U.S. note ignored and co-operation with the Ger-mans and criminal acts to his people."

2. A denial that Mikhaile-vitch, who was King Peter's minister of war, led a true resistance movement.

3. A claim that "today it is definitely proven that Mikhallovitch met representatives of the German high command in August, 1941, in an armored train in the town of Ljig and discussed mutual co-operation against the National Liberation (Tito) forces."

That the exiled Yugeslav A That the exiled Yugoslav T. government in London in-creased Mikhallovitch's rank to help in this fight.

5. That Mikhailevijch aided 5. Allied airmen to improve his chance of obtaining Allied Armas.

FINAL

Mikhailovitch's capture was announced March 24. A dispatch at that time said his wife had died in a concentration camp. This in-formation has proved incorrect, as she still is living in Belgrade.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

FRIDAY, MAY 24, 1946.

YUGOSLAVS TO IGNORE **US ON MIKHAILOVITCH**

By Wireas to The New Yor Test. LONDON, May 23 Stanof Simitch, Yugoslav Foreign Min-ister, told the Yugoslav Assambly 23-Stanofi today that the requests of the United States for American wit-nesses to be heard at the trial of Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch, accu

Gen. Drajs Mikhailovitch, accused of collaborating with German cocu-pation forces, were "an intrusion." and-he declared that the second note from Washington-on the sub-ject would be ignored. In his declaration, broadcast by the Belgrade radio, Mr. Simitch said "the setting up of various de-fense committees and attempts to send witnesses are an intrusion into the internal affairs of Tugo-elavia, which has fought so bravely slavis, which has fought so brave and certainly has not deserve such treatment."

and certainly has not deserved such treatment." "The 'United States Govern-ment's second note was sent to Yugoslavia in the middle of this month," he said. "Like the first note, it was made public in Amer-ica before any reference to it had been made by the Yugoslav Gov-ernment."

Washington announced the sec-ond note May 14, adding that a reply to it had been awaited in vain since May 7.

³⁴ JHICAGO FLYER EAGER TO REPAY MIHAILOVITCH

Serb Leader Saved His Life, Gunner Says

BY ARTHUR VEYSEY

A Chicago aerial gunner who was shot down in Yugoslavia and rescued by the Chetniks yesterday volunteered to return to Yugoslavia to help the Chetnik leader, Gen. Draja Mihailovitch, who has been captured by Marshal Tito's Partisan forces and faces death as a traitor. "He saved my life," said the flyer, David O'Connell. 24, 7353 S. Union av., who now is a student at De Paul university.

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While making his 11th B-17 raid from Italy on June 6, 1944, O'Connell and the 10 other members of the crew bailed out near Beigrade when their plane was hit by antiaircraft fire. The pilot was captured by the Germans but the Chetniks reached the 10 others, put them on horses, and took them on a three day ride into the mountains.

Taken to Other Flyers

. For two months the men were taken from village to village. Early in August they were taken to an air strip the Chetniks had cut from a meadow where 130 other American flyers had been congregated. On the night of Aug. 10, 1944, a flight of American transport planes landed, took out the wounded, brought in a few guns and some food, and returned the next might for the remainder of the airmen.

On the day before the planes lended. Mihailovitch massed about five thousand armed but barefoot men on the air field for a parade.

Chetniks Not Traitors

"From what I saw I know that Mihailovitch and his men were fighting Germans and were not traitors to Yugoslavia," O'Connell said. "One day we ran into a regiment —about two thousand men—which had just had a battle. Frequently we passed thru villages that had been wrecked in fights with Germans. One of the fiyers we met at the air strip had been hospitalized for burns and he said the Chetnik hospital was filled with war casualties.

"We asked Mihailovitch why he was fighting Tito as well as the Germans and he said he was fighting because Tito was fighting him. Tito is a Croat and Mihailovitch is a Serb and feelings run high between the two races.

"We all had money given us especially to help us escape but the Chetniks would take none of it. Mihailovitch said he wanted nothing from us or our country. It was all a surprise to us. We had been briefed to expect help from Thio's men but here was Mihailovitch and his men doing all they could for us.

Volunteers to Aid Chetnik Chief (Story in adjoining column)

Gen. Draja David O'Connell (left), pictured with other American flyers and been cap. Gen. Draja Mihailovitch (right), Yugoslav chetnik leader during the s Partisan flyers' two months evasion of the Germans after being shot down. a traitor. O'Connell has offered to return to Yugoslavia to fight treason said the charges against Mihailovitch.

Page 28 * F Chicago Sunday Tribune: April 14, 1946

PILOT AIDED BY MIHAILOVITCH URGES JUSTICE

Justice for Gen. Draja Mihailovitch, leader of the Chetnik resistance forces of

ance forces of Yugoslavia, and for all the Yugoslavs, now oppressed by the communist government of Marshai Tits was urged yesterday by Mai, Kenneth C. Fuller, a former army flyer

who was sheltered for five months in 1944 Maj. Ka

by the Chetniks. Tito's government has announced that Mihailovitch is being held for a treason trial.

sik C. Ful

Maj. Fuller, who lives at 181 Linden av., Oak Park, is now a commercial pilot. He was forced-down April 15, 1944, in southwestern Yugoslavia and evaded capture by the Germans until September, when the Chetniks helped him to escape in a small boat to Bari, Italy.

"Hundreds of American flyers balled out over Yugoslavis or were forced to land there," he said. "Their lives were saved by the Chetniks. I wish they would all speak up to answer the false charge that Mihailovitch and his army cooperated with the Germans.

"I believe I am alive today only because of him and his Chetniks. He is no traitor in my book. And I'm willing to go to Yugoslavis and tell Tito so." NEWS-POST Baltimore, Md.

Ex-Fliers Plead For Mihailovich

Special to The News-Post.

PTTTSBURGH, Pa., April 4-Two Pennsylvania State troopers -former American airmen shot down over Yugoslavia-today declared that Gen. Draja Mihailovic, Chetnik leader, is gettiag a Taw deal" from the Allied nations.

Paul F. Moto, a veteran of nine years with the State police, and Recruit Carl J. Walpusk denounced the forthcoming treason trial of General Mihailovic as a "travesty on justice."

Mato and Walpusk were pilot and waist gunner on a B-24 shot down by German fighters in 1944. They bailed out into the mountainous regions held by General Mihailovic's forces.

There, they said, they found that General Mihailovic was the staunch friend of America and the foe of Germany and Communism.

They were fed, clothed and sheltered by the Chetniks, who even gave up their beds for them.

The troopers said that the Chetniks "loved" Americans and thought there was no one else in the world like them. They said they met General Mihailovic twice during their stay.

GEN.MIHAILOVIC Held Patriot

The fifth Chicagoan since Marshal Tito seized Gen. Mihailovic has come to the front and tells of the great work done by the general and his Chetniks in aiding American fliers downed in Yugoslavia. Marshal Tito has threatoned the general with death as a "traitor."

BY JOHN MADIGAN. "Gen. Draja Mihailovic was suilty only of great patriotiam." These words were spoken yes-

terday in defense of Yugoslavia's former war minister by veteran Bob Eck -

Iman of 910 Lawren ce av., membyr of a Liberator crew rescued by Chetnik forces in November, 1944. Eckman,



Bob Bekm

....

who spent 41 days with the Chetniks many C-47

came in and flew him and 17 other Americans back to Italy mid:

"I knew at least 50 men of the 15th, 12th and British air forces who were rescued by the Cheinfiks. All of them feel the same way that I do. "I never met the general, although most downed fliers in

"I never met the general, although most downed fliers in Yugoslavia did, but, in my 41 days with his men, I saw ne evidence of collaboration with the Germans.

"Men, women and children were definitely anti-Nazi, and often spoke hopefully of taking part in the 'big push' against Berlin. They were the most 'sold' people on democracy that I have ever met."

Eckman was on his 18th misaion as bombardier-navigator of a Liberator when the B-24 took direct hits from heavy anti-aircraft fire while over the Vienna oil fields, Nov. 18, 1944. The former lieutenant, discharged last October after almost four years in service, said: "I was picked up immediately

by peasants and taken to a farm.

"Soon after, a group of Mihailovic's soldiers, led by a major, came to the farm house. With them were nine other American airmen-remnants of ether crews which had been shot down. They had just come from Mihailovic's headquarters some 200 miles over the mountains."

PR. EXAMINER 28 Los Angeles, Cal. 20 Rescued Flyers Act to Save Mikhailovitch

WASHINGTON, April 27 .- The gratitude and outraged sense of justice of American and Canadian aviators will not permit Draja Mikhailovitch to die without their protest to

the highest governmental places > the rescued flyers that they be in the land. Twenty veterans of the Balkan allowed to testify at the trial. bombing raids, all rescued for the sake of the Allied cause after forced landings in Mikhailovitch's has volunteered as a defense at-Yugoslavian territory, will land torney. Ernst left today for in the national capital in a Europe to serve as Mikhailochartered plane from Chicago vitch's counsel if the State Decomorrow to present to the White partment can obtain consent. House and the State Department an appeal that this country move rested by the Russian puppet to save the Serbian patriot from ruler of Yugoslavia, Tito, whose the political assassination await. government has pronounced the ing him at the end of his coming prisoner guilty in its public statements and has given the world tramed trial at Belgrade.

Their plane, named the Mission assurance that the former Allied for Mikhailovitch, will make partner will most certainly be landings in Detroit, Cleveland executed. and Pittsburgh to pick up passengers living in those cities.

ASK TO TESTIFY-

ally by the United States and They are due to appear at the Britain, fought the Germans and White House and the State De. blocked the road for reinforcepartment Monday, but at those ments to Rommel's army in. places it was reported no ar. Africa. Churchill, with Roosevelt asrangements have been made to

senting, abandoned Mikhailovitch. receive them. On Tuesday the committee will in favor of the Communist Croat present a comprehensive "aide traitor, Tito, at the behest of, memoirc" to the State Depart- Premier Stalin. ment, renewing the demand of When Germany fell, Tito, who

WORLD TELEGRAM New York, N. Y. APRIL 27. 146.

had spent the war years slaught. ering Serbs and not fighting the Germans, at once received his appointment at Moscow as head of the Yugoslav state and Mik-

Mikhailovitch was recently ar-

Mikhailovitch, recognized as an

ALLY OF U.S.-

hailovitch became a fugitive. 20 Rescued Fliers Join Fight for Mikhailovitch

hailovitch when they parachuted in saving over 600 American airinto Yugoslavia during the war into Yugosiavia during the war will fly to Washington tomorrow to add their appeals for a fair trial for the former Cheinik leader, now a prisoner of Marshal Tito. He will be tried on a tharge of treason next month.

The flight of the veterans in a chartered plane from Chicago is being sponsored by the newly formed Fair Trial for Mikhailovitch Committee, with headquarters at 901 Lexington Ave. The blane has been christened "Mis-The sion to Draja."

Twenty American fliers who leader of an effective anti-Nazi were among 600 saved by the underground movement in Europe Chetniks under Gen. Draja Mik- and because he was instrumental men.

Prejudged, They Assert.

The spokesman also charged that Gen Mikhailovitch has already been prejudged by the Yugoslav government. Marshal Tito has turned down a United States proposal that American Army officers be permitted to testify at the trial.

Dorothy Thompson is chairman of the Fair Trial for Mikhailovitch Committee. Sumner Weiter Its members are lles, John Dewey. Welles, Capt. Waiter Te See Truman. On Monday the fliers will visit Villiam Green, Capt. Waiter Mansfield, Roger Baldwin, Oswald Villiard Garrison. Bishop William the White House to make their T. Manning, the Very Rev. Robert appeal to President Truman. I. Gannon, president of Fordham They also plan to appeal to Sec. University; Dr. John Haynes retary of State James F. Byrnes and the State Department. A committee stoke una said the State Department. A committee stoke una said the State Department. A committee spokesman said it has joined the firbe for a fair Miriam Hopkins, Dr. William C. trial for the fron c guerrilla Bohn, Christopher Emmet and fighter breaks he was the first Ray Brock. Dowling. and

IOURNAL-AMERICAN New York, N. Y. APR. 28, 46. Yank Vets Aid Mihailovich



RICHARD L. FELMAN To Appeal for Mihailovich Journal-American 72

18 Fly to Truman In Anti-Red Plea

(Eighteen U. S. airmen shot down in the Balkans and saved from the Germans by Gen. Mihailovich will fly from Chicago to Washington today to plead before President Trumap and the State Department for a fair trial for the Chetnik hero. Former Ll. Richard L. Felman. of the Bronz. will join them there. His story follows:

By RICHARD L. FELMAN Former Lieutenant, USAAF.

I am traveling to Washington today, well-fed, wellclothed: comfortable in body but not very comfortable in mind.

I am going to meet some of my buddies, well-fed, well-clothed. When I last saw them we were dirty, bearded, ragged and death was always behind the next boulder or tree.

It should be a pleasant journey today, you think? Well, yes, except

PUPPET TITO'S CAPTIVE.

We shall be thinking, the other guys and me, of the soft-spoken; scholarly man who saved us from the shadow behind the boulder or tree.

The same shadow now hovers over him, and we shall be thinking of that, too. His name is Gen. Draia Mihailo-

vich, patriot leader of the Chet-niks, now a captive of the Communist puppet, Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia, now awaiting trial as a traitor. In this case "trial" is

Continued from First Page

a pretty word for an ugly fact. That is why I am going to Washington. That is why 20 of my buddles are flying to Washington in a chartered plane from Chicago.

That is why, in the name of 250 American airmen shot down by the Nazis over Yugoslavia and befriended and saved by Mihailowich and his Chetniks, we are going tomorrow to the White House and State Department.

PLEAD FOR U. S. ACTION.

We are going to appeal to our Government to use its influence to assure a fair trial for the man who is still a hero to us, although a traitor to Tito and the man in the Kremlin who yanks the strings.

We hope to take our appeal direct to President Truman and Assistant Secretary of State Acheson. And if you think Mihailovich can get a fair trial without pressure from our Government you will c:: cuse a bitter smile.

I. hope to meet in Washington a lot of guys I used to know. Dave O'Connell, for example. Dave is a Chicago man, a former sergeant and waist gunner in the B-24 in which I was a navigator. Dave fan't the type you'd pick for sentiment. Neither am L But we'll both be there.

Our plane was shot down by Nazi fighters in July, 1944, as we were on a bombing mission to the Ploesti oil fields. A couple of hunks of shrapnel tore up my right leg a bit. We parachuted down and landed in the rugged wilderness of Yugoslavia. For the next six weeks the Chet -

niks hid us from the Germans and led us to the secret airfield from which we subsequently es-caped. They fashioned crutches for me out of branches of trees. or sometimes they lugged me in an oxcart.

They gave us the best of their food, meagre though it was-cottage cheese, mostly. They fed us fiery slivovitz (plumb brandy). If there happened to be beds in a farmhouse where we stopped, they gave us the beds and slept themselves on the floor.

SAVED 600 ALLIED MEN.

And then Mihailovich himself came to see us one day I'll never forget. He was about as much of a Nazi collaborationist as I am. His great, unforgivable crime was that he didn't like Communists either:

And that is why I and my bucdies are going to Washington today, to do what we can for the soft-spoken fearless old guy wh: saved our lives, and the lives of some 600 Allied airmen in all.

And maybe we can get hold of some slivovitz tonight or tomorrow. If we do we will raise a glass. to Mihailovich.

Do I have to tell you what the toast will be?

STAR Washington, D. C. APRIL 28. APRIL 28, 1946. Flyers Pay Own Way To Capital to Ask Aid For Gen. Mihailovich

Fifteen American airmen, with limited funds, but paying their own way, are scheduled to reach Washington from Chicago by plane at 4 p.m. to plead for Gen. Draja Minail-ovich, imprisoned by Marshall Tito at Belgrade, Yugoslavia, as a traitor and war criminal.

This group of former Army flyers, shot down in the Balkans and res-cued by Mihailovich and his men. plans to visit the White House and State Department tomorrow. Spokesmen declare they will present a memorandum, setting forth facts which they know at first hand about Yugoslavia and demanding that the United States Government obtain for them the right to testify for Mihailovich on behalf of more than 600 American veterans of the "Balkan bailout."

Three more airmen, Lt. Charles, Davis, 113 C street N.E.; Lt. Don Rice of Brooklyn, N. Y., and Radio Technician Arthur Jibilian, Mannahee street, Kensington, Md., are now. here and will join the protest. Mr. Jibilian served with both the Tito and Mihailovich forces. He denounces Tito as a Communist and terrorist and indorses Mihailovich as a genuine Yugoslav patriot and" Allied leader.

Earlier Appeal Rejected.

The Tito government already has rejected a State Department request that American officers be allowed to testify at the trial of the Chetnik chieftain. In replying to the American note, the Yugoslav government denied that Mihallovich led a true resistance movement and asserted it was "definitely proven" that he met with German representatives to dis-cuss co-operation against the Tito forces.

Furthermore, the Tito government charged, Mihailovich only aided Al-lied airmen to improve his chances of receiving Allied arms. The airmen say they will testify

for Mihailovich, at any trial, any where, at any time. They have formed an organization called the National Committee to Aid Gen. Mihailovich and the Serbian People.

Ernst Offers Services.

An organization with similar purpose-the Committee for a Fair Trial for Draja Mihailovich-has set up temporary headquarters at the Hotel Raleigh. Its executive chairman is Ray Brock, former New chairman is hey brock, former new York Times correspondent in the Balkans. Morris L. Ernst, New York lawyer, scheduled to leave by air-tanight for Europe, has affered to defend Eihailovich, Mr. Brock an-nounced here yesterday.

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N.Y.WORLD-TELEGRAM APRIL 28, '46. **U. S. FLYERS WOULD AID MIKHAILOVICH**

Washington, April 27 (A. P.),-The Committee for a Fair Trial for Draja Mihailovich announced today that eighteen United States airmen shot down in the Balkans would ask President Truman to support their demand that such Allied flyers be heard at the Chetnik leader's forthcoming treason trial in Belgrade.

The Yugoslavian regime of Marshal Tito accuses Mihailovich of collaborating with the Germans.

A committee statement said that the eighteen were among some 600 Allied airmen who parachuted into Yugoslavia while on bombing missions and were res-cued by the Mihailovich forces. The statement said they would ily from Chicago in a chartered plane tomorrow and seek audi-ences with the President and Dean Acheson, acting Secretary of State. In the party, it added, would be two Canadian Air Force

men also saved by the Chetniks. The committee listed S/Sgt. John F. O'Grady Jr. of 15 Nettie Place, Clifton, N. J., and Sgt. Oscar Menaker of 6828 Ingram street, Forest Hills, L. L., as. among the flyers.

Mr. Brock yesterday cabled Lt. Gen. Alexander Rankolch, interior minister in the Tito government, asking him to relay Mr. Ernst; offer to Mihailovich. The former newspaper man announced he sent a letter requesting that the Tugo-slav Embassy here, through the charge d'affaires, Dr. Sergel Makiedo, undertake to guarantee that Gen. Rankovich will insure delivery of the cable and expedite Mihailo-

vich's reply. Dorothy Thompson is honorary chairman of the Committee for a Pair Trial for Draja Mihailovich; David Martin is secretary and Radio Commentator Christopher T. Em-met of New York is treasurer. The Bishop William T. Manning, Wil-liam Green, John Dewsy, Roger Baldwin, the Very Rev. Robert I. Gannon, Edgar Ansel Mowrer, Eddle Dowiing, Miriam Hopkins, Norman Thomas and Oswald Garrison Villard

APR . 28 TIMES 146.

FLIERS TO DEMAND VOICE

Will Seek Support of Truman in Aiding Mikhailovitch

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time missions will take off from Municipal Airport at 9 a. m. to-day on their most important peacetime mission — to save the life of the man who saved theirs. Gen. Draza Mihailovich. They will fly to Washington, to protest the imprisonment of the Chattel have Their shortered

Chetnik hero. Their chartered C-47 plane will halt at Detroit, Cleveland and Pittsburgh to pick up other representatives of the 600 former airmen sheitered and returned to duty with the aid of Gen. Mihailovich.

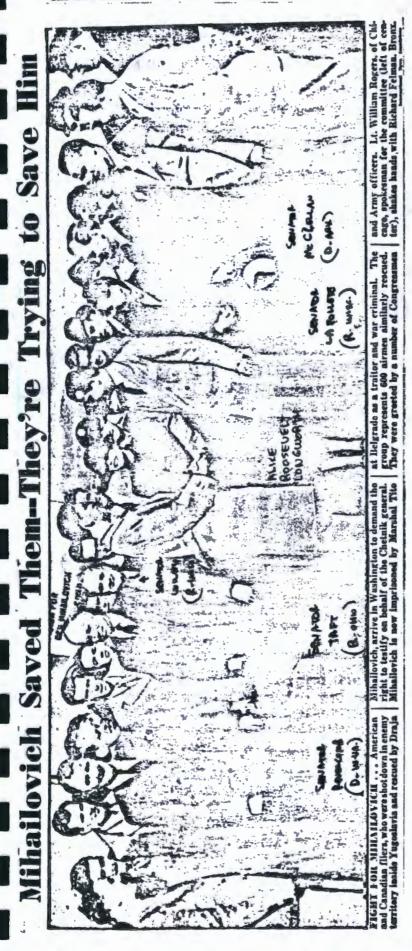
22 IN PARTY-

In all, 20 Americans and two Canadians are due to appear at the White House and the State

Morris L. Ernst, noted lawyer, has volunteered as defense attor-

has volunteered as defense attor-ney and left for Europe yesterday. The two Canadian veterans left Chicago for Washington yester-day. They are Norman L. Reid, 22, and Thomas R. Bradshaw, 22, both of Edmonton, Alberta. One Chicagoan already is in Washington. He is former Lt. Charles Gracs, 1411 N. Bosworth av. In the group leaving this morning are former Lt. Will Rogers of Manteno, national chairman of the drive to aid the general; former Lt. David J. orannali of the erive to an the general; former Lt. David J. O'Connell, 7553 S. Union av.; former Lt. Dan Parkerson, 6233 S. Sseley av.; former Lt. Bob Eckman, 910 Lawrence av. and for-mer Sgt. Delbert Salmon, 1429 W. Ven Buren st.

Former Cpl. David E. Labis-sionere and former S/Sst. Neal S. Janosky will represent Milwaukee in the delegation.



N.Y. JOURNAL AMERICAN APTIL 29, iers in Capita 37 Seek Truman Aid **For Mihailovich**

(Photo in today's Picture Section.)

(Twenty American and two Canadian fliers who were shot down over the Balkans during the war and saved from the Germans by Gen. Mihailovich, are in Washington today to plead for a fair trial for the Chetnik hero. Former Lt. Richard L. Felman, of The Bronz, one of the American fliers, has written the following story.)

By RICHARD L. FELMAN Former Lieutenant, USAAF.

WASHINGTON, April 29 .- My comrades and I are here to see President Truman and Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson and tell them the real story of Gen. Draja Mihailovich.

The Yugoslav hero who saved f our lives seems doomed to die before a Communist firing squad in Tito's terrorist Yugoslavia, unless our Government intervenes 'for him.

Our group, representing 600 fliers who were rescued by the forces of the guerrilla leader, flew We were greeted here yesterday. by a number of Senators and Army officers.

GREETED BY SENATORS.

Included in the reception committee were Sens. Taft, LaFollette, Wiley, Revercomb and McClellan, Mrs. Alice Roosevelt Longworth and Maj. Gen. E. L. Oliver. Among the 20 fliers were men

I had last seen in occupied Yugoslavia. Then they were ragged, bearded and suffering from malnutrition.

One hot day in August, 1944, 250 of us were assembled at a secret airfield by Gen. Mihailovich and his Chetniks.

We heard the drone of hundreds of planes, and from the direction of Italy appeared 250 P-38s and P-51. They provided a protective cover while 15 American transport planes landed and picked us up.

Today, almost two years later, these men have not forgotten the "traitor" who made their homecoming possible, who saved them r from Nazi prison camps.

They are here now to repay Mihailovich for his brave work

Among them are David O'Connell of Chicago, Mike McKool of Dallas, Hal Souter of Detroit, Neal Janosky of Milwaukee and many others. Men who have voluntarily gathered together to prevent the most disgraceful act of our time. 2,000 AT AIRPORT.

In view of the adverse propa-ganda which Gen. Mihailovich has been receiving in the American press, the tremendous reception we received in Washington was overwhleming. Besides the Senators, 2,000 other persons turned out at the airport to greet us. After leaving the field we were provided with a motorcycle ascort that heralded the procession of our cabs, painted with the committee's slogan, "Mission for Mihallovich, He saved our lives, let's sove his

We expect to see the President today. Tomorrow we are scheduled to plead our cause to our individual Senators on Capitol Hill. Wednesday we will present our plea to Acting Secretary of State

1740

Acheson in memorandum form. The enthusiasm of our small group is a great tribute to a great Gerald Wiegner of Roanman. Gerald Wie oke, Va., told me:

"I'd give my right arm to be at the trial and give them the truth."

William Rogers of Mantino, Ill., said:

"Give the public the facts and I'm sure every decent, freedomloving person would rally to his defense."



THE EVENING STAR, Washington, D. C. MONDAY, APRIL 29, 1946.

17 Flyers Arrive to Urge Action for Mihailovich

By the Associated Press Pifteen American and two Canadian flyers came here yesterday to urge official American intervention in behif of Gen. Draja Mihailovich, Yugoslavian guerilla leader charged with treason in Belgrade.

The fiyers were among the Allied airmen reacued by Mihailovich's forces after being forced to parachute into Yugoslavia during wartime bombing missions.

Senators La Follette, Progressive, of Wisconsin; Wiley, Republican, of Wisconsin; Taft, Republican, of Ohio, and Revercomb, Republican, of West Virginia were among those who greeted the flyers as their chartered plane arrived from Chicago and intermediate cities.

Their trip was made under the auspices of a "Committee for a Fair Trial for Draja Mihailovich." A committee statement said the flyers bore a memorandum for President Truman "demanding a fair trial and the right to testify before the Belgrade tribunal which will try Mihailovich" next month.

Fliers to Capital for Mihailovich

Twenty American airmen—five from Chicago—today carried their fight to save the life of Gen. Draza Mihailovich to the nation's capital.

The fliers, shot down over the Balkans during the war and sheltered by the Yugoslav Chetnik leader, sought to testify in Mihailovich's behalf.

Chairman Ray Brock of t committee for a fair trial for M hailovich, said the fliers would attempt to see President Truman and present their appeal to the State Department.

Mihailovich recently was arreed by Marshal Tito. Russian pupet ruler of Yugoslavia, who has pronounced him guilty in public statements and assured he would be executed.

The 20 United States fliers we accompanied by two Canadian veterans. They represent 600 airmen rescued by Mihailoviche forces.

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** THE EVENING STAR, Washington, D. C. MONDAY, APRIL 27, 1944 Mary, 1946

Mihailovich Petition Left at White House By 3 U. S. Airmen

Three American airmen presented a petition at the White House today urging that this Government arrange for American flyers who were rescued by the Chetnik forces of Gen. Draja Mihailovich to testify in his defense on treason and war! criminal charges in Belgrade.

Gen. Mihailovich, who organized the first resistance in Yugoslavia against German occupation, was arrested recently by the Yugoslav gov-ernment of Marshal Tito and faces trial by military court on charges of collaborating with the Germans.

The group carrying the petition to the White House today repre-sented the "National Committee of American Airmen to Aid Gen. Draja Mihailovich and the Serbian Peo-ple," which has sent a delegation of 23 here to press its cause with Government officials and members of Congress.

Chetniks Fought Off Nazis. First Lt. William L. Rogers, a pilot, of Manteno, Ill., chairman of: the committee, was accompanied by First Li. George Salapa, jr., of Cieveland, a navigator, and Hal Souter of Detroit, a bombardier. Li. Rogers said his plane crashed

near Belgrade on September 8. 1944, and that he, suffering a broken leg, was rescued by Chetnik fighters who battled Germans around his blazing plane. He said the committee is pressing for a trial by an inter-Allied tribunal rather than a Yugoslav court for Gen. Mihailovich.

Lts. Salapa and Souter were shot down over Yugoslavia on the same day-June 6, 1944-and reported similar experiences of friendly treatment by the Chetniks and no signs collaboration with the Germans.

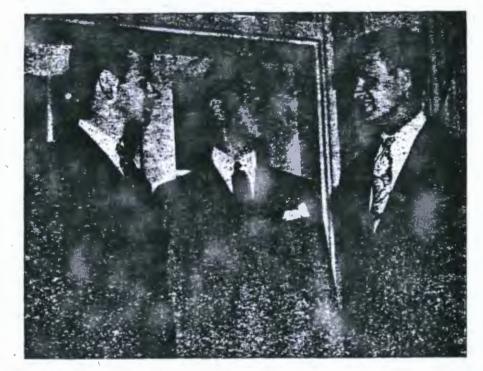
Ond U. S. Plan Keines

Lt. Souter, like Lt. Rogers, said the Chetniks had to fight the Germans to get him away from his crashed plane.

Lt. Rogers said the group hopes to see Acting Secretary of State Atchison tomorrow and in the meantime is interviewing various Senators.

The Tito government already has turned down one formal State De-partment request for arrangements to permit testimony by American airmen and other officers who served with the Mihailovich forces, declarare far too big and horrible that it could be or should be sllowed to be discussed whether he is guilty or

THE AMERICAN SERE



Three former U.S. airmen who were forced down in Yugoslavia during the war and were aided by Gen. Draza Mihailovich's Chemiks leave the White House April 29 after presenting a petition urging a trial before a United Nations Tribunal for Mihailovich. Left to right: Hal D. Souter, Detroit; William L. Rogers, Manteno, Ili., and George Salapa Jr., Cleveland. -Acme

APR . 30 TIMES

FLIERS ASK TRUMAN **TO AID MIKHAILOVITCH**

Special to THE NEW YORK THESE. WASHINGTON, April 29-In-tercession of the United States Government to obtain a trial of Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch, Serbian Chetnik leader, before an inter-Allied tribunal was recommend to President Truman today by a delegation representing the National Committee of American Airmen to aid General Mikhailovitch and the Serbian People. The committee is composed of former United States air crew personnel brought

down over Serbia and evacuated. to Italy by the Chetniks. Lieut. William Rogers of Man

tino, Ill., committee chairman, was accompanied to the White House by Lieut. George Salapa of Cleve-land and Lieut. Hal, Souter of Detroit. The members of the committee have expressed their willingness to appear as witnesses in behalf of the general. Ganeral Mikhailovitch faces

trial for treason by the Yugoslav the Serbian people. The committee Government.

20 Airmen Urge Truman -To Assist Mikhailovitch Fly to Capital to Represent 600 Rescued by Yugoslav 2 WASHINGTON, April 29 (UP). ۵. -Twenty Allied flyers who were rescued by General Draja Mikhailovitch's Partisan forces today asked President Truman to de-mand that the Yugoslav leader, --P accused of collaborating with the 5 Germans, be given a fair trial by 6 an inter-Allied tribunal. The sirmen, representing the Committee for a Fair Trial for Mikhailovitch, whose members include more than 500 Allied aviators saved by his forces, flew here 65 in a chartered plane and pre-Z sented their petition at the White 5 House. They did not see the -President. Meanwhile. Senator Chapman 2 Revercomb, Republican, of West H Virginia, pleaded for support of the flyers, who are seeking government permission to testify at Mikhallovitch's trial for life. -J The petition was taken to the White House by William L. Rogers, of Manteno, Ill.; George Salapa. of Cleveland, and Hal Souter, of -2 5-1 -Detroit. It stated that in view of the 'decision of Tito's government to: M try General Mikhailovitch, his pc-2 litical rival, before the so-callen. 0 People's Court at Beigrade, we be-2lieve that a grave injustice will be done to General Mikhailovitch and the Serbian people . . . unless; our government takes immediate 5 steps" for his defense. Z

lission to Washi



Tells of Deb To Mihailovich a and was rescued by f imprisoned by Marshall uere (Photo in today's Picture Section Brooklyn (Former Lt. Richard L. Felma: of the Bronz, American flier i Washington to plead for a fai trial for Gen. Mihailovich, wro! parachu the following for the N.Y. Jour l Tito (left) By RICHARD L. FELMAN 2 and WASHINGTON, April 30 .-Dra. Belg into Ever since my rescue by Gen Draja Mihailovich from the Ger-Oscar Ja mans, I have felt a debt of lasthostile de Mihailovi de, They a . The recent announcement of Menake the Chetnik leader's forthcoming trial for "collaborating with the enemy" provided me and my comugo panions with the opportunity to

nal-American.)

ing gratitude to him,

laborationist.

tribunal

guidance.

partment

done.

GO TO CAPITOL

Former Licutemant, USAAF.

pay off at least part of that debt. We know that the Communist-

inspired charges against him are

not true. We know he wouldn't

have saved hundreds of American

fliers and sent them back to their

friends if he had been a col-

And we are here today, repre-

senting 600 of our comrades, to

demand that President Truman

and the State Department see that he is given a fair trial be-

fore an impartial inter-allied

Appearing at the White House

and on Capitol Hill today our

group presented a far cry from

the ragged bunch we were when!

we were assembled at a secret air-

port in Yugoslavia, awaiting

evacuation under Mihailovich's

We conferred with several senators yesterday. Most of them were

hopeful that something could be

Today we plan to call on the President and on the State De-

right mand elman 5 2 testify the report In 2 He behali House Ξ 2 and the lon the appears wartime State day Departm Chetn In

At State Department **Today for Mihailovich**

A group of 22 American airmen shot down in Yugoslavia during the AP war, today planned to continue their fight before official Washington to get a fair trial for Gen. Draja Mihailovich, who directed their rescue.

The State Department, they charged, has made a "weak attempt to get permission for them to testify at the general's trial, the plea being rejected by Marshal Tito, now in charge of the Yugoslav government. Gen. Mihailovich is accused by Marshal Tito of being a war criminal and traitor.

· A call at the State Department was on the airmen's program today. The group visited the White House in an unsuccessful effort to see President Truman yesterday. Lt. William Lane Rogers of Manteno, Ill., chairman of the National Committee of American Airmen to Aid Gen. Mihailovich and the Serbian People. said the flyers were still hopeful of getting an audience with the President.

0

The flyers, ranging in age from 22 to 28, arrived from Chicago Sunday afternoon.

Vouch for Noncollaboration.

At a press conference yesterday at the Raleigh Hotel the aviators insisted Gen. Mihailovich and his Chetniks did not collaborate with the Germans, but, on the contrary, fought them. The Mihailovich forces gave the American airmen warm welcomes, treated their injuries, turned out of their own beds for the flyers and gave them arms, from their small supply, they said... Richard Felman of New York

read what he said was a proclamation by the supreme commander of German troops in July, 1944. in Yugoslavia offering 100,000 reichmarks in gold for Mihailovich.

This proclamation dubbed Mihail-ovich "a disrupter of the peace of the peasants and citizens" and "the most dangerous bandit in the country" and claimed that whoever sur-rendered him would be doing a patriotic duty, Mr. Feldman said.

The airman said they are not asking for immediate acquittal of Mihailovich, but for a fair trial before an Inter-Allied tribunal, and for the records of the Office of Strategic Service here to be made public to give the truth to the American Deople



AIRMEN SEEK TO AID MIHAILOVICH-Twenty-three American fivers who were rescued by Gen. Draja Mihallovich's forces after they had been shot down in the Balkans map plans at their Raleigh Hotel suite to aide the Chetnik leader, who soon goes on trial as a traitor to Yugoslavia. The Tito government already has denied a plea that American officers be permitted to testify in behalf of Mihailovich. -Star Staff Photo.

Sees Political Maneuver.

The aviators declared that from Marshal Tito and his Partisans they got "cold friendliness." Lt. John Devlin of Pittsburgh said he was three weeks with the Tito forces, but did not hear a shot fired, adding they did not seem too serious about fighting Germans.

George S. Musulin of Pittsburgh. who was with the OSS and a captain in the United States Army, told the press Gen. Mihallovich is "the victim of a big political maneuver." He said that Tito's rise to power came after the Teheran Conferences of the Big Three. Mr. Musulin said that he was with Gen. Mihailovich for eight and a half months and that one of his duties was to find out if there was any collaboration with the Germans, but he found none.

"Mihailovich represents the ide-ology of Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln, while Tito's represents Karl Marx," said Mr. Musulin.

THE WASHINGTON POST Friday, May 3, 1946

Truman Reveals Cabinet Held

Secret Meeting Wednesday "Why did they meet?" a report President Truman disclosed at sterday afternoon's White House ess-radio conference that he had

held an unheraided meeting of his binet Wednesday, the details of tich he refused to reveal. In t, Mr. Truman seemed rather irritated when reporters pressed him for information about the ses-

sked. "We didn't know about it." There are a lot of things you don't know, was the President's re-

American filers who are coming here?

The President said the fliers had discussed the matter with his military aids and that was as far as it. would go.

TIMES-HERALD

WASHINGTON, D. C.

TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 1946

Fliers Mihailovic Rescued Urge Trial by Allied Court

Twenty Allied airmen who were rescued by Gen. Draja Mihailo-vic's forces asked President Tru-man yesterday to demand that the Yugoslav leader be given a fair trial by an inter-Allied tribunal.

Their request was made in a p tition presented at the White House after they had flown here in a chartered plane.

Flyers Form Committee

They represented the committee for a fair trial for Mihailovic. The committeee comprises more than 600 Ailied aviators who were rescued by the Yugoslav's Parti-san forces. The rescues occurred after their planes were shot down on combat missions over the Baltans.

"Considering the present decision of Tito's government to try Gen. Draja Mihailovic, his political rival, before the so-called Peo-ple's Court at Belgrade," the pe-tition stated, "We believe that a grave injustice will be done to Gen. Mihailovic and the Serbian people ... unless our Government takes immediate steps" for his defense.

Ask Government Data

The petition also asked that American airmen and intelligence officers assigned to Mihailovic's

headquarters be permitted to testify as defense witnesses. The airmen urged that War

and State department files pertaining to Mihailovich be published immediately.

Senator Revercomb (R.), of West Virginia, pleaded on the Senate floor for support for the airmen in the cause. He said that, "In the name of

fairness," this country could do little less than "permit these young men to go and stand beside the man who saved them.

Mihailovic is accused by Tito of collaborating with the Germans.

The petition was taken to the White House by William L. Rogers, Manteno, Ill.; George Salapa, Cleveland, and Hai Souter, Detroit. They did not see President Truman, and gave the petition to a receptionist. Rogers is chairman of the committee.

THE WASHINGTON POST Tunning, April 30, 1946

Allied Airmen Ask Fair Trial for Mihailovich

A "fair trial" for Tugoslav Gon partment acting chief of southern | Luling, Tex., said his father had Draja Mihailovich was sought here European affairs. yesterday by 23 veterans who knew

42

....

him and his Chetniks personally. The group included 21 American represented 900 Allied airmen res- ing Mihailovich scenes and procued and protected by Mihailovich claiming "Mission for Mihailovich." in wartime Yugoslavia,

As air of indignation marked the meeting between this group and newspapermen in the Raleigh Hotel yesterday afternoon. The former fiers indersed Mihallevich and his Chetniks against the Partisans of Marshal Tito.

They emphasized, however, that they were not "asking for immediate acquittal or release of Mihailovich but just a fair trial."

They artificare to demand that they be introduced as material witnesses in his trial and that secret records of the Office of Strategic Services be admitted as evidence.

Ail 23 of the men had been in personal-enalact with the Chetniks. Three of them had been in custody of both the Chetniks and the Partisans. Four others were OSS agents who had been sent into Yugoslavia for "informational" service.

The group, representing 11 States, arrived here Sunday afternoon and immediately sought out their Congressmen. Yesterday three of them presented a petition to President Truman asking that the United States demand a fair trial for Mihailovich, that American airmen and intelligence officers be allowed to testify as witnesses and that War and State Department documents pertaining to Minailovich be "immediately pub-Hahad

"We are confident that if given a chance to defend himself at a fair interallied trial, and if our testimony is admitted in such a trial, General Mihailovich will be judged a worthy ally, and not a war criminal as Tito's government alleges," the petition concluded. "

This morning the fliers meet with Walworth Barbour, State De-

A WIDELY PUBLISHED

AP. STORY.

Draia Defense Balked WASHINGTON, May 1 (AP)-A group of American veterans try-ing to aid Gen. Mikhailovich e pressed "deep regret" today that they had been unable to see Pres-ident Truman and Acting Secre-tary of State Acheson.

11

One after another, the veterans described their Yugoslav experi-The group included 21 American ences yesterday, in a room decked airmen and two Canadian filers who with banners and pictures show-Former Sergeant Charles F. S. Gract of Chicago, told how his mother returned from church June 17, 1945, where she had prayed for his safety, to find a telegram from the "Serbian National Committee" saying he was safe. Mihailovich had sent the telegram. Three months later she had her first official word from the War Department, saying he had returned to duty.

Former Lieut, David J. O'Com nell of Chicago, told how his parents received a "safe landing" telegram from Mihailovich seven days before the War Department "missing in action" telegram arrived.

He said he was asked to speak at the Serbian National Hall in Chicago after he came back but a Fort Sheridan intelligence officer refused to approve the speech as prepared and "cut the guts out of

it for policy reasons." Former Lieut. Gus Brown, jr., of

WASHINGTON, D.C. POST, APRIL 30,

Ex-OS5 Agent Uses Citation In Effort to Aid Mihailovich

A former Office of Strategic and the Chetniks north several Services agent in Yugoslavia has days, fighting skirmishes all the introduced his own Legion of Merit way. citation into the fight for a "fair

Mihailovich.

Nick A. Lalich, 29, a husky athlete-teacher from Cleveland, athlete-teacher from Cleveland. When he protested this at Ohio, is one of four former OSS Caserte, he was told to "forget it agents who came here Sunday with a delegation of American and Canadian air veterans seeking 'justice" for Mihailovich.

Yesterday he gave The Post a photocopy of the citation given him in Caserte, Italy, last year exceptionally meritorious "for conduct" in the mountains of Yugoslavia. Lalich, then an Army first lieutenant, parachuted into the country for "informational" purposes and to help evacuate Allied airmen hiding there.

Operated With Chetalcks

During his five months in the hills, Lalich says, he lived and operated with Mihailovich's Chetniks, evacuating 432 downed airmen, setting up communications and buffding airstrips.

"I never once saw Tito or any of his Partisans," declared Jalich. them was when they chased me a vote."

promised to pay his expenses to

Europe to testify for Mihailovich

at the trials if the State Depart-

Former Capt. George S. Musulin,

Pittsburgh, an OSS agent of Yugo-

slav descent, led a group of four

former OSS men supporting the

"It was my assigned duty to in-

vestigate collaboration and I never

saw any on Mihailovich's part. If

ment could get clearance.

airmen's cause. He said:

he's guilty, then I'm guilty."

The official Army citation said trial" for Yugoslav General Draja Lalich was with the Partisans at this time and that all his work was done with their cooperation.

or he'd get in trouble."

Not Forgetting It

"I'm not going to forget it," said Lalich yesterday, "and I'll do all I can to get Mihailovich a decent break, He's getting a raw deal. He is not and never was a Nazi collaborator. The proof is in frontline intelligence reports, if the Army will make them public." "We (OSS men and airmen) know

the truth and want the State Department to let us present it to the public, which has been flooded with partisan propaganda," he added.

Lalich described Mihailovich as a "good-humored, regular guy and an accomplished scholar who is for democratic processes." He quoted Mihailovich as saying:

"If the people don't want King Peter, all right. If they want Tito, "The nearest contact I had with that's all right, too. But let's have

THE EVENING STAR, Washington, D. C. TUESDAY, APRIL 30. 1946.

Flyers to Press Plea At State Department **Today for Mihailovich**

Roomand Gly Train

11

A group of 22 American airmen, shot down in Yugoslavia during the war, today planned to continue their fight before official Washington to get a fair trial for Gen. Draja Mihailovich, who directed . their rescue.

The State Department, they charged, has made a "weak attempt" to get permission for them to testify, at the general's trial, the plea being rejected by Marshal Tito, now incharge of the Yugoslav government. Gen. Mihailovich is accused by Marshal Tito of being a war criminal and traitor.

A call at the State Department was on the airmen's program today, The group visited the White House in an unsuccessful effort to see President Trumon yesterday. Lt. Wil-liam Lane Rogers of Manteno, Iil., chairman of the National Committee of American Airmen to Aid Gen Mihailovich and the Serbian People. said the flyers were still hopeful of getting an audience with the Presdent.

The flyers, ranging in age from 22 to 28, arrived from Chicago Sunday afternoon.

At a press conference yesterday at the Raleigh Hotel the aviators insisted Gen. Mihailovich and his Chetniks did not collaborate with the Germans, but, on the contrary, fought them. The Mihailovich forces, gave the American airmen WEITH welcomes, treated their injuices turned out of their own beds for the flyers and gave them arms from their small supply, they said.

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Chicago Sunday Tribune: April 28, 1946 Part 1-Page 2 * F

A FREE COUNTRY MIHAILOVITCH'S AIM, FLYER SAYS

BY ROY GIBBONS British troops evacuated from

T.

ugoslavia during the war displayed such little gratitude for the hospitality of Gen. Draja Mihailovitch, that they refused to leave behind so much as a single cartridge or rifle to help the re-nowned Chetnik leader's followers to carry on their guerrilla fight

against the Germans, a former American air forces sergeant asserted vesterday.

"But United States flyers who had been rescued by Mihailovitch threw even their shoes from the plane to show their appreciation when they were flown out of the country the same day," said Gus T. Brown, 23, the former airman, now a rancher of Luling, Tex.

Brown arrived in Chicago to participate with 17 other former flyers in a plea to the United States state department to intervene in Mihailovitch's trial, set for next month by the Tito government in Yugoslavia, on charges of treason.

First Airman Rescued

He and his comrades who have constituted themselves a committee of intercession were all forced down and later rescued by the Chetniks while flying war missions over Yugoslavia. They plan to leave at 9 a. m. today by special plane for Washing-ton, D. C., to demand that Mihailowitch be tried by an international tribunal "instead of by Tito's communists, who siready have prejudged him and said he would be given a fair trial and then shot." Brown was the first American air-

man Mihallovitch ever had seen. He met the Chetnik leader after his plane, the "Madam Lilly" of the 367th air squadron, had been shot down by the Germans over western Serbia Jan. 24, 1944. "If Mihailovitch is a collaborator."

said Brown, "then I'm one, too. I owe him my life and I'm going to do everything I can to see that he gets a square deal. I'll go to Yugo slavia if necessary to testify in his behalf."

Sought No Honor, Fooliion In three interviews he said he had with Mihailevitch, Brown recalled that the Chetnik leader made it very clear what he was fighting for.

"He told me he wanted no honor or political position for his efforts. All he asked was recognition of his country under the Atlantic Chatter as a democracy and independent nation like America," Brown said.

The episode demonstrating the "utter lack" of any generosity by the British toward Mihailovitch, Brown related, occurred May 29, 1944, when Mihallovitch ordered his only airdrome made ready to evacuate British and America forces. "This airdrome," said Brown,

"was Mihailovitch's ace in the

hole. It had been scooped out of the top of a mountain by hand and had taken two years to complete.

British Take Everything

"When we got ready to leave Maj. Gen. Armstrong, in charge of the British mission to Gen. Mihailovitch, ordered his men to leave nothing behind. They took their radios, which were badly needed by the Chetniks, and even carried away, their side arms. They refused to leave even a single cartridge behind to help fight the Germans."

In contrast, Brown said, American flyers divested themselves of most of their clothing and gave it to the ill clad Chetniks.

Brown and other members of the flying group, who say they represent 600 American pilots rescued by Mihailovitch, were guests of honor at a dinner last night in the Serbian church hall, 1905 Schiller st.

Six former flyers of the Chicago area are members of the delegation going to Washington. They include Lt. William Rogers, Manteno, Kankakee county, chairman; Lt. Robert. Eckman, 910 Lawrence av., vice chairman; Sgt. David J. O'Connell, 7553 Union av.; Lt. Dan Parkerson, 6233 S. Seeley av.; Sgt. Delbert Salmon, 1429 Van Buren st., and Lt. Charles F. S. Gracz, 1411 Bosworth av.



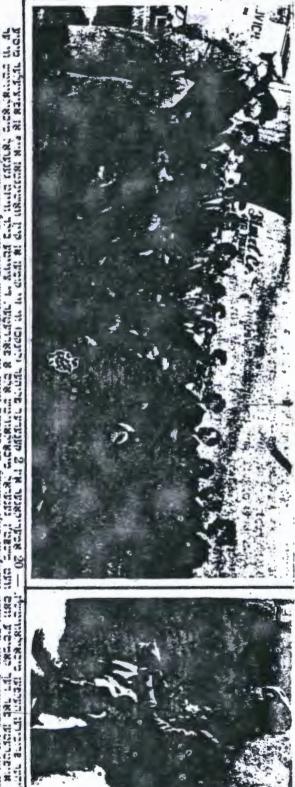
Washington, D. C., April 28 .-The Mission for Mikhalovitch, a commercial transport plane carry: ing 17 discharged fliers, landed here today, spearheading a drive to get an international court trial for Gen. Draje Mikhailovitch, Chetnik leader beld as a war criminal in Belgrade by Tito's partisan government. The fliers, who were rescued by

Chetniks after they crashed during the war, were greeted at the Na-tional Airport by senators and Army officers. They flew from Chicago, and were joined by six more East Coast ex-service men here. They will ask President Truman to intervene in the case, and let U. S. personnel rescued by Chetniks go to Europe and testify for Mikhailovitch.

Airport, of 11.131 IRMEN on an Selecting -5 g Ē 1141 킕 3 IVE? mission dnauf AID 25 MIHAILOVICH former IAA Army Qen filera ģ D America "Fast planned Miha llovich alrmen 8 Viala (shown and ź CWO \$ E. 0 8 right: 11 2 shown Dep't d by 5 demand Marshall 9 their F 110. arrival right 2 5 2 Beigrade. Washingt testify Nei 10 fugoelavia. behalf of Nationa

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Jewish Daily Forward ME 5 New York, N. Y. 146.



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Boro Flier He Saved Aims to Aid Mihailovich

Draja Mihailovich's Chetniks saved his life when he was shot down over Yugoslavia while flying with the Army Air Porce, and so Donald F. Rice, 25, of 8053 Harbor View Terrace, is in Washington today trying to save Mihailovich's life.

One of 600 airmen similarly rescued by the Chetniks, according to the figures of the Committee for a Fair Trial for Draja Mihailovich, former Lieutenant Rice and 10 companions tried vainly to see President Truman yesterday.

Today they will go to the State Department to ask that the Chetnik leader, now imprisoned by Marsnal Tito as a Nazi collaborator and ewaiting trial as a traitor, be put under the jurisdiction of an Allied court. 'They also will ase' that Americans testify in his behalf.

Young Rice, son of Edward Rice of the Harbor View Terrace address, is a graduate of Poly Prep and Colgete University. He is employed at the Central Hanover Bank in Manhattan. He went overseas in 1944, was wounded over Ploesti and finally shot down in April of 1944 on his twenty-fourth mission. The Chetniks hid him and his crewmates for nearly a month until they could be evacuated to Italy.

While with the Chetniks, whom Marshal Tito's Partisans accused of: working with the Germans against their own pro-Soviet forces that former flier met a Chetnik lieutenant who said he had lived in Brook-lyn at one time. The lleutenant called Partisan charges "ridiculous." | Drajs Mihallovitch.



Donald F. Rice

The fliers' delegation was met by several Senators when it arrived in Washington two days ago. among them Senators Taft, La Follette and Wiley.

Dorothy Thompson is chairman of the Committee for a Fair Trial for

EAGLE

Brooklyn, N. Y. MAY 6, 1946.

Yugoslav Royalists vich is now a prisoner of Marshall Honor Boro Friends Of Mihailovic

went to Washington last week to Central Hanover Bank. plead for Draja Mihailovich, has been amarilial the Order of Ratura Gors, the highest decoration of the ard Felman of Forest Hills and Roval Yugoslav Government.

The decoration was presented to Rice and two other American Air Forces veterans by Milan Obradowhi of 243 Schator St., chairman of the Serbian National Defense Leaque, at a special ceremony yes-Terday at the Serbian Orthodox Church, 20 W. 26th St., Manhattan. "The other two recipients were Rich-

of treason for alleged collaboration, with the Nazis. The flyers spoke to officials of the State Department, members of Congress and influen-tial persons in Washington, urging that the trial of Mihailovich be Donald F. Rice of \$053 Harvor placed under the jurisdiction of an View Terrace, former second lieu- Allied court and that they be pertenant in the Army Air Forces who mitted to testify for the defendant. Mr. Rice is an examiner for the

> Oscar Menaker of the Bronx. Along with 20 other New York flyers who had been aided by Mi-hailovioh's Chetniks when they were shot down over Yugoslavia during the war, the three journeyed to Washington in an effort to save the life of the Chetnik leader. Mihailo-

TIMES APRIL 7, 1946. Detroit, Mich. Yan! vilot's Tale of Rescue:

UM 8054 20

Tito Stole Credit For Chetnik Acts

An American fighter pilot told his story Saturday of being rescued by Draja Mikhailovich's Chetniks at a time when anti-Mikhailovich propagalida had seeped even into the briefing rooms of U. S. fliers.

He is Rudolph M. Janci, 25, of 1426 Brooklyn, Ann Arber, 1.10 flow a P-38 escort in raids on Ploesti, and was shot down in Yugoslavia June 15, 1944. An carlier entry read:

He said:

"They told us in briefing, 'If Tito's men find you, they will get you out. If the Chetniks get you, we don't know what will happen.'"

At that time, Communist propa-ganda said the Chetniks were col-laborating with the Nazis, and the laborating with the Nazis, and the He did, however, find an expla-briefing apparently was based on paties for the bewildering situa-that, Janci said. HIDDEN 77 DAYS

same day, was fed and hidden for 77 days, and taken by Mikhailovich's men to an airfield where an American C-47 landed and

resourd 25 American pilots. "If the Chetniks had been collaborating," Janei said, "they could have turned me over in the Germans any time and got

"They didn't. The Germans held the big cities and sent patrols to smaller towns. The Serbs would ring church bells or send warnings when the Germans were coming, and we would move on or hide in the hills."

TITO GOT CREDIT

At that time, he said, Tito's Partisans were being given all-credit tor guerilla warfare by a Russian radio station in Tiflis, while Tito was receiving muni-tions, dropped by American planes and using them against fellow Serbians as well as Nazis. "It was funny, hearing our planes come over to drea sup-

planes come over to drop sup-plies to Tito, and knowing that they would be used against the Chetniks who were protecting

me," Janci said, "I saw with my own eyes towns that had been looted by the Partisans, and heard the gunfire while they fought Chet-

He kept a diary on a notepad and showed one entry:

NOTE FROM DLARY

"Aug. 12-Stopped at Debre Del at noon. The night before the Partisans were here. They had stolen clothes, shoes, pigs, and burned several wheat m chines, I myself saw the de-molished machines, They beat up five civilians and painted the red star over most of the buildings, it is a good indication of how the people here like the Partisans."

Janci was found by Chetniks the first, was made to appear a villain

"The people of Yugoslavia

want unity and will not support

an army with the red star of

communism. In 32 days, I have

seen no indication of collabora-

"You can change that now to

tion with the Germans,"

Janci remarked:

77 days."

in Communist propaganda. "When the Geruans invaded Yugoslavia," Janci said, "the Yugoslav Communists refused to defend the country. They even fired at Yugoslav troops.

"The Chetniks began organizing at once, to keep on fighting in the hills. When Germany attacked Russis, then the Com-munists in Yugoslavis finally began to fight the Germans, and then Tito came.

CREDIT TO RUSSIANS

"If some little thing happened to a bridge, the Tiflis radie would call it a great victory for the Partisans. They even claimed our planes. Our P-38s would fly ever and the peasants would point and say, 'Russky! Russky!'

"I walked 300 miles through Serbia with the Chetalka, and everywhere we went, we didn't need money. The peasants gave the Chetniks snything they mended, but I never saw an indicontion that they were for Tito. In fact, one of them had a goat n a m e d 'Tito.' The Chetnika knew that Germany would capitulate eventually, and the re menace was the Communista"

Rescued Charges Mihailovich, Rescued Yank Flier



SEEK AID FOR MIHAILOVICH-These three former flying officers in the RCAF are in Ottawa oday to urge the Canadian government's inter-rention for a fair trial for Gen. Draja Mihailovich, erbian guerilla war leader. They are shown in

WINNEFEG FREE FRESS MAY 4. **Canadian** Fliers **Back Mihailovich** OTTAWA May 4 (CP)-Two

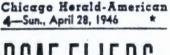
serious youths wearing operational wings as R.C.A.F. aircrew veterans lled on government officials and wspapermen Friday to urge a ir trial for Gen. Draja Mihailovitch. Yugoslavakian Chetnik leader, facing collaborationist charges Belgrade.

They said Mihailovitch, now a soner of Marshal Tito, saved their lives and lives of many more Allied airmen.

hey are FO Thomas R. Bradshaw FO Norman L. Reid. both of nonton and they are pilot and havigator of a bomber shot down in Chetnik territory. They spent ays with the Chetniks and "expenced only the utmost kind-n." They want the Canadian government to inform Marshal Tito that the Canadian airmen want to ar as witnesses for the defence st the forthcoming war crime at Mihailovitch. tri

The two young fliers said they saw no evidence of German collaion in the Mihailovitch camp added that nearly 600 Allied m who were cared for by the theinik leader have formed an orunization which has as its motto, aved us, we'll save him."

"Mihauovich Was . great hter and a pleasant and sine man. But he was also very rildered. One day without ianation, the allied missions lef: his headquarters and never communicated with him again."



RCAF FLIERS TO AID CHETN

Two Canadians, rescued by Draza Mihailovich when their bomber orashed in Nazi territory two years ago, left Chicago today for Europe to fight for the Yugoslavian general'a life,

Norman L. Reid, 22, and Thomas R. Bradshaw, 22 both of Edmonton, Alberta, and former members of the Royal Canadian Air Force, will fly first to Wash-ington to join 20 Americans whose lives were also saved by Mihailovich's guerrilla forces. The group hopes to charter a plane to Belgrade where the

Chetnik leader is held in prison for "treason" by Yugoslav Mar-shal Tito. Bradshaw said:

"We want Mihailovich to be tried by all the alies instead of by the Yagesiav government, which is now dominated by the Russians.

"I personally Hw Mihallevich fight the Germans and save the lives of 250 allini soldiers, most of whom were Americans. "That's not our idea of true-

Bradshaw and Reid created hear Petrovac, Yugoslavia, May 7, Peasant soldiers in Mi-1944. hailovich's army took surviving crew members to a mountain hideout, where they received care until American airmen rescued them four months later. Reid, who was wounded. stated:

The Canadian Social

(Photo by Normandin.)

Crediter, May 30th, 1946

17 U.S., Canadian Fliers Seek to Help **General Mihailovic**

WASHINGTON, April 29-Fifteen American and two Canadian fliers came here yesterday to urge official American intervention in behalf of Gen. Draja Mihailovic, Yugoslavian guerrilla leader, charged with treason in Belgrade.

The fliers were among the Allied airmen rescued by General Mihailovic's forces after being forced to parachute into Yugoslavia during wartime bombing missions.

Their trip was made under the auspices of a Committee for a fair Trial for Drais Mihailovic. A committee statement said the fliers bore a memorandum for President Truman "demanding a fair trial and the right to testify before the Belgrade tribunal which will try Mihailovic next month."



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Help for

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NORMAN L. REID

Edmonton Airmen Will Make Plea

Two Edmonton men who served as airmen will join 20 of their former American flying comrades in petitioning President Harry Truman for aid in presenting their evidence at the forthcoming trial of Gen. Draja Mihailovich, fermer Chetnik leader in Yugoslavis.

THEY ARE Norman L. Reid, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Reid, 11239 101 street, and Thomas R. Bradshaw, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. Bradshaw, 9346 105 avenue, both former flying officers in the RCAF. Both were key operators in organizing, with the aid of Mihailovich, the mass escape of 242 American airmen from Yugoslavis on Aug. 22, 1944

The party of war fliers has gathered in Chicago and will Thy to Washington Sunday to see the President, after which the two Edmonton men will go to Ottawa to make a similar ples to the department of external affairs.

Again -U.S. Intu

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THE TWO EDMONTON airmen. both members of the same crew of a Wellington bomber operating in the Mediterranean area, were shot down over enemy territory in the spring of 1964 and spent three months in a story-book journey through enemy territory back to the safety of their own lines.

When they returned to Canada on leavy late in 1944, the two men termed their escape period as the toughest three months is our lives, "Food was a terrible problem and we were crawling with ushalls when we got back to the squadres, Reid stated.

Reid was navigator and Bradahaw pilot of the Wellington night bomber when the machine was forced down.





Texas' Leading Newspaper

Flier Honored After Plea for Chetnik Chief

Mike McKool, youthful Dallas lawyer, was honored Sunday night, with a dinner, given by Dallas Serbian leaders who are grateful for his trip to Washington seeking a fair trial for their General Draja Mihailovich. Chetnik guerrilla chief.

A 15th Air Force tail gunner who was rescued in Yugoslavia by Mihailovich's followers, McKool had returned from Washington where he talked with Congressmen, Senators, and State Department officials asking that Marshal Tito not be allowed to try Mihailovich in a court-martial for conspiring with the Germans.

The Chetnik leader is now in prison in Beigrade awaiting trial. McKool and twenty-two other airmen, part of 600 Americans rescued, went to Washington at their own expense to ask that if Mihailovich was tried that it be before an impartial Allied tribunal. Recails First War.

The dinner was arraigned by Mrs. N. P. Naumovich, 2413 Live Oak, who remembers, with tears, the struggles of her fellow Serbians against the Germans in the first war.

war. "I know General Mihailovich or any Serbian could never work with the Germans, I know it," she said.

Mrs. Naumovich presented Mc-Kool with a medal, called the Ravna Gora, sent from Chicago by Gen. Miodrag Damjanovich, whom she said, is leader of Yugoslavs outside their homeland.

At the dinner Sunday, McKool described hi: thirty-seven-minute conference with Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson, during which the airnhen were assured of aid from the State Department. Get Cold Shoulder.

McKool reported they got the cold shoulder from the State Department until Representative Frances P. Bolton (Rep.) of Ohio took the floor of the House of Representatives to deplore the manner in which the airmen had been received.

Promptly, they got a five-minute appointment with Acheson and stayed for almost forty minutes, he said.

McKool and Ray Brock, formerly of Dailas, chairman of a committee for a fair trial for Mihailovich, were on the committee of four which called on Acheson. Brock was a New York Times correspondent during the war. Acheson promised an announce-

Inent soon.

THE DALLAS TIMES-HERALD MAY 6, 1946 FRAID

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DALLAS, TEX

Mike McKool, former air corps tail gunner, rescued by the Chetniks in Yugoslavia after his plane had been shot down, was back in Dalias Saturday after attending

The Dallas

Mornina A

MONDAY, MAY 6, 1946

a Washington conference to solicit United States aid for Gen. Draja Mihailovic.

Gen. Mihailovic is slated to go on trial soon for treason after he was caught hiding in the hills of Yugoslavia by Marshai Tito's forces.

More than 637 airmen rescued by Mihailovic's Chetnik's authorized 23 American airmen and two Canadians to represent them in Washington. The former filers went at their own expense.

Mr. McKool, an SMU law graduate. and Will Rogers, Chicago, president of the group of airmen, talked for 37 minutes with Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson on U. S. aid for Mihailovic. Thus far, Marshal Tito has refused to let:American airmen testify at the coming trial. Mr. Acheson assured the two ex-airmen that a strong appeal would be made by this country to the Yugoslav government.

The former airmen were taken to visit the Senate where Sen. W. Lee O'Daniel interrupted a debate on the proposed British Ioan to make a 15-minute speech on the trial of Mihailivoc. A copy of a letter that McKool had written to President Truman on behalf of the imprisoned Chetnik leader was read 1-y Sen. O'Dahiel and introduced into the Congressional Record.

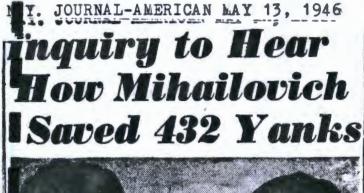
Dailas Serbians will hodor Mr. McKool with a banquet in the Meirose Hotel at 6:30 p.m. Sunday. At the time Mr. McKool will receive a citation to 70 with a medal presented him by Amercan-Serbs in Washington for his work in behalf of Mihaulovic.

TWO VETERANS in an organisation to aid Gen. Mihailovich of Yugoslavia visit Sen. W. Lee O'Daniel of Texas in Washington May 2. Left to right: Gus T. Brown, Jr., Luling, Tex.; Sen. O'Daniel, and Mike McKool of Dallas, Tex.

TOLEDO BLADE: APRIL 5, 1946 Mihailovich Case Closed to Yanks BELGRADE, April 5 (P)-Yugo-

BELGRADE, April 5 (47-Yugoslavia refused today a United States request to allow American officers to testify at the forthcoming trial of Gen. Draja Mihailovich, recently captured Chelnik chieftain who was among the first resistance leaders in Europe.

Belgrade newspapers devoted almost their entire first pages to publication of the United States note and the Yugoslav refusal. The lengthy Yugoslav answer began with a refusal and ended with the amertion that "full justice will be done at the trial." 25





FOR MIHAILOVICH . . . George S. Musulin, for-mer captain with the OSS (left) and Walter R. Mansfield, former Marine Corps captain, who testified at a special commission of inquiry here concerning Gen. Mihailovich, now held as a prisoner by Marshal Tito in Yugoslavia on charges of collaborating with the Nazis. Both officers, who worked with Mihailovich's forces, declared they never had seen any evidence of collaboration between the general and the Germans. Journal-American Photo-

The inside story of how Gen. Draja Mihailovich escued 432 American airmen shot down over Yugoslavia, will e revealed at tomorrow's session of a special commission of inquiry, meeting at 14 Vesey st.

The commission, holding meet-ngs at the New York County awyers Association, is taking estimony which, it is hoped, will help clear Mihailovich of charges that he collaborated with the Nazis, brought by the Communistiominated Yugoslavian Government.

BARES NAZI TRICK.

Musulin said he is ready to estify that the Nazis had set up ands of "fake Chetnicks," composed of Quislings and loyal Germans, who were used to cast suspicion on the real patriots of Yugoslavia.

A former football star at the University of Pittsburgh, Musulin parachuted into Yugoslavia and erved with Mihailovich's forces as a special interpreter from Oct.

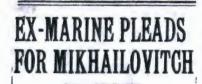
George S. Musulin, former U.S. Army captain who served with the Office of Strategic Services, will testify tomorrow before the commission, a sub-group of the Committee for a Fair Trial for Draia Mihailovich.

Yesterday Walter R. Mans-field, a lawyer, of 2 Wall st., a former Marine Corps captain, said he never found any evidence of collaboration between the Chetnick leader and the Germans.

Mansfield parachuted from a British bomber on to a mountain in Yugoslavia in August, 1943, and worked with Mihailovich's forces for three months.

SAW TOWNS BURNED.

"I naw absolutely no evidence of collaboration between Mihailovich and his staff and the Comana" Mansfield said. "On ATE MET AVAILANT ANTANY AVAILANT A TANK TA 47



New York Committee Urging a Fair Trial Hears Chetnik Fought Nazis Loyally

A former United States Marine Corps captain who parachuted from a British bomber in August 1943 onto a mountain in Yugoslavis, declared in a statement yesterday that during his three months in Serbia, he never had found any evidence of collaboration between Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch, his staff and the Germans. The general is a prisoner of the Yugoslav Government and is to stand trial on charges that he collaborated with the Nazis.

The statement was made by Walter R. Mansfield, a lawyer, of 2 Wall Street, the first witness at the opening session of an inquiry under the auspices of the Committee for a Fair Trial of Draja Mikhailovitch, in the auditorium of the New York County Lawyers' Association, 14 Vesey Street.

Serving with Arthur Garfield Hays, who is chairman, are Charles Poletti, former Governor of New York; Adolph A. Berle Jr., former Assistant Secretary of State; Theodore Kiendi, Porter R. Chandler, former Assistant United States Solicitor General, and Thomas K. Finletter. Mr. Chandler is counsel to the committee and in charge of the examination of witnesses. The purpose of the hearings is to take evidence and offer it to the Yugoslav Government.

Saw Burned-Out Chetnik Homes

Mr. Mansfield said that General Mikhailovitch and his groups of Chetniks had fought often and

the other hand. I observed several encounters between German troops and the Chetniks. In my conversations with Mihailovich he expressed hatred for the Germans, pointing out past blood baths of Serbian people."

He said that Mihailovich and his Chetniks had fought vialiantly against the Nazis, describing numerous attacks on German garrisons and ambushes of German forces.

Mansfield said he had seen many Serbian villages burned by the Germans in reprisals for attacks by Mihailovich and his guerrillas.

Mrs. Albert Seitz, wife of the American colonel who led the military mission attached to Mihailovich's staff, also is expected to testify tomorrow.

Dorothy Thompson, columnist and author, honorary chairman of the committee, made a statement shortly after the session began in which she declared that American honor was involved in the case of General Mikhailovitch. She said General Mikhailovitch and American officers had served together in the war, and described the present attitude of the Belgrade Govern-ment in the case as "a refusal to accept the testimony of 600 American service men," who, she added, will be glad to testify in defense of the Chetnik leader. She said also that statements by the Yugo-slav Government in the case amounted to "condemnation in advance."

Upon adjournment, Mr. Hays announced that hearings would resume at 11 tomorrow morning.

hard against the Germans, and that he had seen numerous daily radiograms received by the Chet-nik leader from his field commanders advising of attacks on German garrisons and ambushes ion German forces. He added also that while there had been a short period of collaboration between the Mikhailovitch forces and the forces of Marshal Tito, the Chetnik units had been "knifed in the back" by Tito groups. The witness said the phrase "knifing in the back" was literal, explaining that he meant that Tito troops had attacked Mikhailovitch troops from the rear.

He declared he had seen many instances of Serbian villages burned and destroyed by Germans in reprisal for attacks by General Mikhailovitch and his guerrillas. He said that on one occasion he had counted 125 houses burned in such a reprisal.

The witness said he had seen. many posters put up by Germans in Serbian towns stating that "because of nefarious acts of the brigand Draja Mikhailovitch, we have been forced to take the lives of ... " and the number of those killed was given.

Fight for Draja lunney, Landon BTROIT MAY 1

NEW YORK, May 9-Alf M. Landon and Gene Tunney joined four governors today as sponsors; of the committee for a fair trial for Gen. Draja Mikhailovich.

The governors are Dwight Griswold of Nebraska, Simeon Willis, of Kentucky, Coke Stevenson of Texas and Ernest Gruening of Alaska

The committee of congressmen. educators, churchmen and labor leaders seeks to have the trial of Mikhailovich, the Chetr.:k guerilla leader, given to an international tribunal rather than the Yugoslav government.

The committee charged the Tito government was conducting a smear campaign against Mik-hailovich and said "forced confessions, implemented by scientific use of drugs, have become the rule in totalitarian countries.

Mihailovic 'Knifed,' Says Yank



Capt. Watter R. Mansfield (left), answers questions put by Col. Porter Chandler (right) at Mihailovic inquiry. Seated at table are court stenographer, Theodore Kiendl, Charles Poletti and Arthur Garfield Hayes (l. to r.), members of Committee for a Fair Trial for Mihailovic.

Group Opens Inquiry Here

Troops of Tito's Yugoslav guerillas literally "knifed Draja Mihailovic's troops in the back," attacking them from the rear, Marine Capt. Walter R. Mansfield, a New York attorney, testified yesterday at the open hearing of a Commission of Inquiry ap-

pointed by the Committee for a Fair Trial for Mihailovic.

The "knifing" began after a short period in which the two guerilla armies collaborated; Mansfield said.

Mihailovic, organizer of early Yugoslav resistance to the Germans, is now a prisoner of the Tito government, charged with treason in collaborating with the Germans after his break with Tito.

Mansfield parachuted from a British bomber into the Yugoslav mountains near Ivanica, Serbia, on Aug. 19, 1943. He spent many months with Mihailovic.

"He always expressed hatred of the Germans," said Manafield. "He expressed it violentiy after 'blood massacres' of Serblan people after guerilla attacks and sabotage had been carried out. I saw many instances where Serb villages were burned by the Germans in reprisais for Mihailovic attacks on German troops. In one village alone, there were 150 houses burned."

He told of seeing posters put up by the Germans, stating that because of "attacks by that brigand Mihailovic we have been forced to take the lives" of persons listed.

Tito has refused to permit Americans who served with Mihailovic to testify in his forthcoming trial. The commission has issued a statement saying its purpose is to "have written depositions from U.S. and allied military personnel concerning their experiences in Yugoslavia when it is alleged he was collaborating with the Germans.

Dorothy Thompson, novelist and correspondent, spoke shortly after the hearing was opened by Arthur Garfield Hays, chairman. Other members are Charles Poletti and Theodore Kiendl.

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Ex-Marine Says M ihailovitch Was Loyal Ally

Man Who Parachuted Into Yugoslavia forO.S.S.Lays Treason to Fake Chetniks

A former Marine Corps captain who parachuted into German-held Yugoslavia in 1941 to establish first American contact with General Drajs Mihailovitch testified here yesterday that in three months he passed at the guerrillamountain lair he saw no evidence of collaboration between the Chetnik leader and the Germans.

The witness, Captain Walter Mansfield, who was transferred to the Office of Strategic Services for the purposes of his hazardous mission, said on the contrary the Yugoslav leader expressed deep hatred for the Germans. He deacribed eyewitness accounts of fighting between the Mihailovitch forces and the Germans, and he offered a possible new explanation concerning the collaborationist charges that the Yugoslav People's Government has made against Mihailovitch, who is now awaiting trial in Yugoslavis for alleged treason.

Now an Attorney Here

Captain Mansfield, now a New York City practicing attorney, was the first of about twenty American officers who will present their atories before the commission of inquiry of the Committee for a Fair Trial for Draja Mihailovitch. The Yugoslav government recently turned down the request of the United States government that some 600 American service men who had been rescued by Chetnik forces after bailing out over Yugoslavia be permitted to testify in behalf of General Mihailovitch.

Sitting on the commission at its opening session at the New York County Lawyers Association, 14 Vesey Street, yesterday were Ar-thur Garfield Hays, chairman; former Governor Charles Poletti, of New York, and Theodore Kiendl,: New York City attorney. Miss Dorothy Thompson, author and columnist, made a statement in; behalf of the committee in which she asserted that "American honor is involved" in the Yugoslav government's refusal to hear the American airmen. Porter R. Chandier presented the evidence for the commission, which announced. that it hoped the testimony would. be received by the court that will. try General Mihailovitch.

Strahinja Maletich, commiskioner of immigration of the Yugoslav Consulate in New York, and Harry Justiz, counsel to the bonpulate were present at the hearing, but only hnofficially, they said.

Tells of Fake Chetniks

The new light which Captain Mansfield shed on collaborationism in Yugoslavia during the war, concerned what he described as "fake Chetniks" who were roaming the country trying to pass themselves off to villagers as genuine Chetniks.

"The Germans reached a point where the only way they could deal with the guerrillas was to organize guerrillas to fight guerrillas," the witness said. "They organized guerrillas Joyal to the Germans to fight the other guerrillas."

Captain Mansfield said that before his mission he was briefed on how Mihailovitch was supporting the Allied cause, and he told how he parachuted from a British plane to land on the side of a mountain at a prearranged place, and was taken to General Mihailovitch's headquarters to meet him and his ragged forces. He told of Mihailovitch's deep hatred of the Germans for perpetrating their 'blood massacres" on the Serbs, and how during a short period of a joining of forces between Mihailovitch and Marshal Tito, the latter's guirrillas turned on the Mihailovitch band and "knifed it in the back."

He testified to the burnings of villages and shooting of their inhabitants by the Germans in reprisal for the attacks by Mihailovitch forces on German patrols.

Collaboration Reports

Although British officers told him of reports they had heard that Mihallovitch was collaborating; with the Germans, and he kept a sharp eye out for evidence to that effect, he found none, he testified. He did discover in one distant village an apparent truce between a Chetnik commander and the German occupying force, but the Chetniks explained that through this show of friendliness to the Germans actually they were obtaining valuable information to use against them.

He said that General Mihailovitch apparently had about 70,000 guerrillas, and hundreds of thousands of sympathizers in Yugoslavia. He had no artillery, no ail force and no tanks, according toe Captain Mansfield, and the supplies that were parachuted to him from the Allies were not abundant. The witness said that he was not under surveillance, and went wherever he liked while he was in the country. He spoke enough of the native language "to get along," he said, and he talked almost daily with Mihallovitch and his officers in French.

Captain Mansfield will resume the witness stand when the inquiry is continued tomorrow mornins At 11:30 o'cleat

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N DEFENSE OF MIKHAILOVICH



pt. Walter Mansfield of the American Army points out on a map to the Commission of Inquiry here, the town at which he participated with Mikhailovich in blowing up a bridge.

OSS Men Back Mikhailovich

Army Officers Testify Here He Showed No Signs of Aiding Germans.

Gen. Draja Mikhailovich, bearded Yugoslav guerrilla der, showed no signs of collaborating with the Germans and spent much of his time combating attacks by Marshal Tito's Partisan forces, former American Army ficers testified today in the second session of a commisnon of inquiry which is seeking a fair trial for the Chetnik leader.

Arthur Garfield Hays, chairin of the commission, read a statement released by the Yugoslav embassy in Washington wich quoted Mikhailavich as ting that he needed no help om abroad in his forthcoming trial for treason and that he had anfidence he will receive fair atment at the trial, in which he ces a possible death sentence.

'I have confidence in the present courts of the Federal People'si public of Yugoslavia and I conler that without help from! road I shall be able to present! a full and just defense," the statement read. The Yugoslav emssy release quoted a Yugoslay ws agency.

Two Captains Testify.

The two former Army officers who testified today were Capt. Walter Mansfield of 245 West Fourth street, and Capt. George Musulin, former tackle for the University of Pittsburgh football team. Both men were members of the Office of Strategic Services and were parachuted into Yugocan mission to the Chetniks.

They testified before an inquiry commission established by the Committee for a Fair Trial for Draia Mikhailovich, consisting of Hays, Adolf Berie, former Assistant Secretary of State, and Charles Poletti, former New York Lieutenant-Governor. Sessions are being held at the



Sun Staff Photos, by Las

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Capt. George Musulin testifying as to how he parachuted into Jugoslavis as an American officer to combine with the Chetniks against the Nazis.

County Lawyers Association, 14 Vesey street.

Mansfield, who gave parts of his testimony yesterday, said he was with Mikhailovich for six months and never saw any signs pro-German activity. of He stated that he had gone on a number of missions with the General's guerilla forces against. the Nazis.

Partisans Attacked Chetniks.

"I never saw Chetniks and Germans fighting together against the Partisans," he said in a reply to a question from Col. Porter R. Chandler, serving as counsel for the presenting of evidence.

On the contrary, Mansfield said, there were numerous attacks on Chetniks by Partisans. One time, he added, the Chetniks took a town from the Germans, killed 200 of them and then found that they were being attacked by the

Partisans on the flank. "That night," he said, the B. B. C. announced that the Partisans had taken the town."

Finally in January, 1944, when supplies and arms had stopped coming from the Allies to Mikhailovich, the American mission saw that the thing was hopeless and decided to make their way to the coast and then to Cairo. On the way, Mansfield said, they had to fight off numerous attacks by Partisans.

Musulin, who parachuted alone into Yugoslavia in October, 1943, also testified that Partisans attacked Chetniks.

"In the spring of 1944," he said. "the Partisans, equipped with numerous American and British supplies invaded Serbia. On the basis of my personal observations and on the basis of the observations of all the British liaison officers with whom I discussed the matter, I am : convinced that this invasion was directed not against the Germans; but against the Chetniks."

He said that during frequent inspection tours he found the ceasantry in Serbia 100 per cent behind Mikhailovich and that he had never found even the slightest suggestion of collaboration with Germans in the general's headquarters.

Two Other Witnesses.

Also scheduled to testify today were former Tech.Sgt. Gus T. Brown of Luling, Tex., who was the first airman to meet Mik; hailovich and Lieut. John P. Devlin, who served with both Partisans and Chetniks. Devlin said that his testimony would be simllar to that of the first two wit-Desses

Hays read a letter when the inquiry opened from Dr. Sergije akiedo, Yugoslav charge d'affidres here, in which he declined to be a party in the investigation. and added that he could not but "are: feel that the proceedings "are: based on invidious assumptions and conjectures. wholly contrary. to ascertainable fact respecting the integrity and independence of thec ourts of the Federal Pec-ple's Government of Yugoslavia."

Col. Chandler said that the inquiry had no intention of reflecting on the courts of Yugoslavia and that justification for it was the fact that there were no Allieo witnesses to testify in Yugosiavia.-



Yugoslavia Withholds Reply to Second Note to Let Saved Fliers Testify for Him

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON, May 14-The State Department announced today that the United States had renewed its official request that American aviators who had been aided by Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch during the war be permitted to testfy in his behalf during his trial in Yugoslavia on treason charges. It was said officially that the trial would be held shortly. The announcement was made

after a reply had been awaited in vain since May 7. The original re-quest was made March 30. It was refused flatly April 4. Since then; many of the fliers who had been saved by General Mikhailovitch's forces during the Axis occupation of Yugoslavia have appealed to the White House and the State Department that renewed efforts be made for permission to testify.

The note transmitted by the Embassy in Belgrade to the Yugo-slav Foreign Office under instruc-tions from Washington referred sharply to one statement in Yugoslavia's reply to our original request. It said:

"The Yugoslav Government's reply [to the first request] contained statement which the United the States Government has difficulty reconciling with the principle of judicial determination of culpabil-"that the crimes of General itv. Mikhailovitch against the people of Yugoslavia are far too big and horrible that it could be or should be allowed to be discussed whether he is guilty or is not."

"Meanwhile," our note continued, "representations have been made to the United States Government by various individuals and groups in the United States who have emphasized their readiness to testify on behalf of General Mikhailovitch. A large majority of such persons are United States aviators who were shot down over Yugoslavia and were rescued and returned to Allied lines by Mikhailovitch's forces.

"As an example; a group of. twenty United States airmen who thus parachuted into Yugoslavia between January and December, 1944, have called personally at the Separtment of State and have ex-. seed their desire to make avail-

the information they possess by attending the trial in person or by submitting testimony in writing, if considered appropriate. Numerous approaches to the same end have also been made by mail.

In the circumstances, the United States Government desires to renew its request to the Yugoslav Government that arrangements be made whereby the evidenc of such persons may be presented in the trial of General Mikhailovitch and that the United States Govern-ment be informed as a matter of urgency concerning those arrangemente

HERALD-TRIBUNE MAY New York, N. Y. 15.

U. S. Renews Fight **ToAidMihailovitch**

Sends Second Note Urging **Trial Hear Americans**

From the Herald Tribune Bureau

WASHINGTON, May 14. — The United States government, in a second note to Yugoslavia, has renewed its request that evidence of American defense witnesses be heard at the trial of General Draja Mihailovitch on charges of collaboration with the Nazis, the State Department said today.

The second note asks the Yugoslav government, "as a matter of urgency," to inform this govern-! ment of arrangements to hear the witnesses, including American Anny flyers shot down over Yugoslavia during the European war and returned to the safety of Allied lines by Mihailovitch's forces. which formed the first uprising against the Germans.

Delivered May 7, the new American note is a reply to a Yugoslav note of April 4, which turned down flatly the American request . of March 30.

The Yugoslav refusal, the State Department revealed, declared it is "solely up to the militiary courtwhich will deal with this case to summon any witnesses whom it might deem necessary, and the government . . . of Yugoslavia are not entitled to exercise any influence on the court." The Yugoslav note also contained a state-



WASHINGTON, Department (INS)-The State made a renewed appeal to the Yugoslav government today to permit American airmen rescued from Yugoslav territory during the war to testify in behalf of Gen. Draza Mihailovich at his

treason trial. The United States renewed its appeal following demands of American fliers that the government press its original request, re-

jected only by Yugoslavia. Referring to the earlier note, the new communication said the department has "difficulty rec-onciling with the principle of ju-dicial determination of culpabilthe earlier statement by Belitv grade that Miliailovich's crimes were "far too big and horrible to permit discussion of whether he is guilty."

ment "which the United States government has difficulty in reconciling with the principle of judicial determination of culpability," the State Department declared in its new note.

This Yugoslav statement, quoted in the new American communica-; tion, is "that the crimes of General Mihailovitch against the people of Yugoslavia are far too big and horrible that it could be or should be allowed to be discussed? whether he is guilty or not."

THE CHICAGO SUN. WEDNESDAY, MAY 15. New U.S. Plea Made For Mikhailovitch

WASHINGTON, May 14 .- (UP) The United States has made an urgent second request that Yugoslavia permit American aviators to testify at Gen. Draja Mikhailo-vitch's treason trial.

The aviators were rescued by Mikhailovitch's forces during the war. They want to save him from possible execution by the government of Marshal Josip Broz-Tito. Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson today made public the text of the second note to Yugoslavia.

Renew U.S. Plea For Mihailovic WASHINGTON. May 14 (AP).

-Acting Secretary of State Acheson said today the U.S. has renewed its request that American fliers be permitted to testify at the forthcoming treason trial of Gen. Mihailovic in Yugo-D slavia.

A previous request on behalf of fliers rescued during the war by Mihailovic forces was rejected by the government of Marshal Tito. The note disclosed today, delivered at Belgrade May 7, Y M delivered at Belgrade May asked an urgent reply.

R Charges against Mihailovic include the accusation that he col-R laborated with the Germans.

Acheson also told his news R conference:

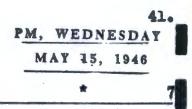
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1-An early conclusion is expected of economic agreements under which France will obtain D a loan of several hundred million dollars and additional credits N E to a total of more than \$1.000 .-000,000. S

2-The U. S. is still holding up \$50,000,000 of surplus war prop-D erty credits for Poland pending clarification of the Polish censorship situation. Also, Acheson M disclosed, the credits are awaiting indications from Poland as Y, to whether it intends to provide the U.S. with information on its international economic relations. 3-The U. S. has not received

any notification from King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia, rejecting proposed economic consultations because of this government's policies on Palestine.



U.S.A. Renews Mikhailovich Witness Plea

Regards Evidence Of U.S. Citizens as Mat ter of Urgency

> By ALEXANDER H. UHL Foreign Editor

WASHINGTON, May 15, new effort is being made by the U. S. A. to enable U. S. witnesses to testify at the trial of Gen. Draja Mikhailovich now scheduled for late this month in Belgrade.

So far as can be determined here there is not much likelihood that the Yugoslav Government will change its attitude-that it is up to the military court to decide what evidence to receive.

The State Dept. yesterday re-vealed it had sent a note to Belgrade telling of renewed applica-tions by U. S. citizen., many of them fliers, to testify in behalf of Mikhailovich.

"In the -i-cumstances," the note said, "The United States Government desires to renew its request to the Yugoslav Government that arrangements be made whereby the evidence of such persons may be presented in the trial of Gen. Mikhailovich and that the United States Government be informed as a matter of urgency concerning these arrangements."

The note also criticized a statement in the Yugoslav reply of carly April which said "that the crimes of General Mikhailovich against the people of Yugoslavia are far too big and horrible that it fould be or should be allowed to be dis cussed whether he is guilty or not.' The department said it had diffi culty in reconciling that "with the principle of judicial determination, of culpability."

The Yugoslav embassy in Wash ington has declined an invitation to send witnesses for the "fair trial"! hearings being conducted in New York by an unofficial commission of inquiry headed by Arthur Garfield Havs. Sergije Makiedo, Charge d'Affaires, in a letter to Hays, said:

"... permit me, on behalf of my government, to decline to be a party in any way whatsoever to activities which I cannot but iee! are based on invidious assumptions and conjectures wholly contrary to ascertainable fact respecting the integrity and independence of the courts of the Federal People's hepublic of Yugoslavia.





American Army testifying be-; fore the Commission of Inquiry here yesterday that he was with the Yugoslav guerrilla leader for six months and never saw any signs of pro-German activity. Hearing the testimony are, left to right, a stenographer; Theodore Kiendl, Adolph Berle and Arthur Garfield Hayes, chairman.

CHICAGO HERALD-AMERICAN MAY 15.

Knifed Mihailovich's

Sun Staff Photos. Three United States Air Corps men who parachuted into Yugoslavia to join the Chetniks against the Nazis, Left to Right-Richard L. Feldman, John P. Devlin and Gus T. Brown Jr.



CHICAGO DAILY NEWS. 18 ** * Pri., May 24, 1946.

Leonard Lyons

THERE WILL BE a senatorial investigation of the Tito-Mihailovich story encompassing all the Balkans. For if Tito's allegations that Mihailovich collaborated with the Germans are true, then the American officers who worked with and are testifying for Mihailovich insist this charges them also with collaborating with the enemy.

Charge Tito's Troops

sial to The Herald-As

NEW YORK, May 14 .- Troops of Tito's Yugoslav guerrillas lit-erally "knifed Draza Mihailovich's troops in the back," attacking them from the rear, Marine Capt, Walter R. Mansfield, a New York attorney, testified today before the committee for a fair trial for Mihailovich.

The "Imifing" began after a short period in which the two guarrilla armies collaborated, Manafield said.

Mihailovich, organizer of early Yugoslav resistance to the Germans, is now a prisoner of the Tito government, charged with treason in collaborating with the Germans after his break with Tito.

Mansfield parachuted from British bomber into the Yugoslav mountains near Ivanica, Serbia, on Aug. 19, 1943. He spent many months with Mihailovich.



HIS STORY Former Army Air Forces Lt. Richard L. Felman, 1746 Andrews ave., Bronx, is holding a poster in German offering 100,000 reichsmarks for the capture of Mihailovich. The pictures he put into evidence at the hearing today

of a sub-group of the Fair Trial for Gen. Draja Mihailovich Committee were first printed in the N. Y. Journal-American and other Hearst newspapers. The Yugoslav leader must soon stand trial for treason in a court controlled by Tito.

Says Mihailovich

(Photo in Today's Picture Section)

Condemned during the closing years of the war for working against the Russians, General Draha Mihailovich, Yugoslav Chetnik leader, was revealed today to have helped Red prisoners who had escaped Nazi prison camps to get back to their outfits.

The disclosure was made by a former OSS captain, Nick Lalich, Z of Cleveland, before a special former OSS captain, Micz Lalich, committee of inquiry, a sub-group Committee, at the County Lawyers' Association, 14 Vesey st.

The witness said he landed at Mihailovich's headquarters around August, 1944. Like his predecessors on the witness stand, Lalich had been briefed on possible Chetnik collaborationism, but he said he saw no such evidence.

ASSIGNED ESCORT.

Lalich told the committee 45 Reds who had escaped from Nazi camps walked into Chetnik headquarters. And, he went on, the man who has been vilified as an enemy of the Reds-Mihailovich -asked the Reds where they wanted to go and how they wanted to travel.

Mihailovich then gave each man 120,000 dinars, and assigned 50 of his Chetniks as a special escort. The Chetnik guard saw the Russians safely through the mountain passes of Yugoslavia and into Italy.

An earlier witness, former Lt. Richard L. Felman, 1746 Andrews ave., Bronx; who was shot down over Yugoslavia, said Mihailovich saw 200 downed American fliers leave the country from a secret airfield.

Felman said the Chetnik leader signed short-snorter notes, and autographed pictures for the American airmen.

A picture showing Felman and. Mihailovich, which first appeared in the New York Journal-American and affiliated Hearst newspapers, was placed in evidence.

NEW YORK WORLD-TELEGRAM, FRIDAY, MAY 17, 1946

Ex-Flyer Says Chetniks Lost Town to Save Yanks

today how the Chetnik forces of Trial for Gen. Mikhallovitch at Gen. Draja Mikhallovitch saw one the New York County Lawyers Assn., 14 Vesey St. Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch saw one of their villages wiped out by the flyers they had rescued.

The reason the Chetniks gave, he said, was that "one American flyer could inflict more damage ion the Germans than 100 or 150 Chemiks."

Nazis Strip Corpse.

The story was told by Richard L. sFiman, formerly a first lieu plane wreckage, he went on, they Mr. Feldman said he and 200 tenant attached to the 98th stripped the body of the ball gun- other Allied flyers were evacuated

A young Bronx airman related before the Committee for a Fair other airmen be turned over to 1944, through Gen. Mikhailovitch's

Mr. Felman, 25, of 1746 Andrews Germans because they refused to Ave., Bx., related that he was surrender him and other American shot down over Yugoslavia July 9, 1944. after a bombing mission over the Romanian oil fields at Ploesti.

He said he and all of the other crewmen with the exception of the ball gunner, who was killed when ball gunner, who was killed when ball gunner, who was killed when boy's parents. Then they erected back to Soviet territory on a 200-safety by Gen. Mikhailovitch's peasant guerrillas. When the Germans found the Saw No Collaboration.

them. failed, they burned a nearby village.

Mr. Felman said the Chetniks later exhumed the body of the gunner from a shallow grave and gave him a funeral attended by 800 peasant warriors. They them-selves, he related, took pictures of the funeral to send home to the boy's parents. Then they erected

Tanber Squadron, as he testified ner and then demanded that the from . Yugoslavia on Aug. 9-10,

When profferred rewards help. During his stay, he added, he never once saw any sign of Gen. Mikailvisch Chetnik collaboration Germans. scheduled to so on trial soon in Belgrade on charges of treason.

Another witness, Nick Lalich of Cleveland, formerly a captain in the Office of Strategic Service, testified that Gen. Mikhailovitch helped 45 Russian soldiers get back to Soviet territory on a 200-

BY RAY BICHARDS. Herald-American Washington Bureau.

WASHINGTON, April 6 .- Complete documentary evidence was produced in Washington today to disprove the Russian falsehood hat Gen. Draja Mihailovic col-aborated with the Germans.

It came from a variety of sources, including the Serbian National Defense Council, the files f Congressmen and the records f the State and War departnents

It will be used in an exposure on the floor of Congress should the White House and the State Department stand idly by much onger while the great Yugoslav patriot's execution impends as a result of his betrayal in power politics at the 1943 Terhan conrence.

ADE OUTLAW-

Abandoned at Tehran by Prime Minister Churchill, President Roosevelt concurring, Mihailovic ras pronounced an outlaw by talin.

Churchill thus freed Greece of undue Soviet government inter-Stalin won a free hand rence. n installing his puppet Tito, the Froat slayer of 600.000 of Mi-hallovic's Serb patricis, as head of the Yugoslav state in a move that made Yugoslavia Soviet

stalin charged, for the record, hat Mihailavic had covered a German retreat in early 1943.

This claim is now being given he widest possible circulation in he United States by the Comunist press and fellow-traveling ewspaper columnists.

REFUSED HITLER—

But the records in Washington how that, asked by a German white-flag bearer named Lt. Krueger to receive a special Gestapo missary from Hitler on the prop-sition. Mihailovic proclaimed rom his mountain headquarters sition. March 3, 1943:

"Loyal to the common allied 1150 Rerie all negotiations.

On, week later Mihailovic reted to the central committee of the anti-Communist, anti-German, independent government he as trying to maintain for the onstitutional Yugoslav monarch, ing Peter:

"The attempts of the enemy to get in contact with me continue. This time the offer eame from the Germans and Italians together. This at-tempt I refused emphatically, and I shall continue to do so in the future. Please be careful we are not misrepresented by intrigue."

Subsequent records and cirumstances show Mihailovic kept his promise of loyalty to America nd Britain against the axis roughout the war.

When Chetnicks under the com-

former Air Force sergeant testified today, and when the Chetniks refused to surrender the Americans, 10 of the nostages were St. shot.

SAVES 500

Long after his secret bertrayal at Tehran, up to January, 1945, Mihailovic had saved at least 500 American army fliers forced down in his mountain stronghold on their return from Ploesti oil field raids.

When Germany withdrew on all fronts and Russia took over completely in Yugoslavia, the first act of the Tito war ministry was to pronounce a death sentence on Mihailovic, then a fugitive in the hills.

Chetnik Held by Tito.

mand of Gen. Drais Mikhailo-The testimony was given by July 16, read: "We've been hear-vitch, Yugosia" guerrilla leader, yer who was tail-gunner on the helped the 10-man crew of an plane shot down July 4, 1944, by American bomber to safety, Ger-man occupation forces seized 20 Serbian peasants as hostages, a Inquiry in the Case of Gen. Mik-former Air Force sergeant testi-ing ing the period. One entry, dated ing a lot of tales-partisans in hallovitch, on its third day of hearings at the New York County Lawyers Assn. Building, 14 Vesey

Gen. Mikhailovitch is held by the forces of Marshal Tito for trial as a collaborator with Nazi occupation forces.

Mr. McEcol testified he spent 38 days with the Chetniks before he and 279 other U. S. airmen Were evacuated from an airstrip built by the pessants at Gen. Mikhailovitch's urging. "All during that time I never

That there were cross-currents of propaganda in the wartorn. country was indicated by a diary kept by the former sergeant dur-

ing the period. One entry, case-ing the period. We've been hear-nertisans

Today's first witness, Gus T. Brown, a former Air Force setgeant from Luling, Tex., declared that the Serbian peasant looked upon Mikhailovitch as Americans look upon Abraham Lincoln. He said that after the general had told him he would like to visit an American ranch, he had invited him to do so after the war. "That invitation still stands,"

he added.

Arthur Garfield Hays, chairman saw a single act of collaboration of the commission, put into the by the Chetniks under Mikhailo- record a letter he had written to vitch with the Germans." he said, the charge d'affaires of the Yugothe charge d'affaires of the Yugo-slav government in Washington. The current inquiry, he wrote, "in no wise questions the integrity or independence of the Yugoslavian The letter closed with a ourts." uoration from Elihu Root, late bove all government, above, all

Evidence in Mikhailovitch Inquiry

WORLD TELEGRAM MAY 17 APR.16, 1946.

New York, N. Y.

American fliers testified today before the Commission of Inquiry to the effect that Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch, Yugoslav guerrilla leader, was friendly to U.S. airmen forced down during air missions. The above photo, showing Gen. Mikhailovitch (arrow) reviewing troops with American fliers standing in the rear, was submitted in evidence today by Richard L. Felman, 1746 Andrews Ave., Bz., who was a first lieutenant with the 98th Bomber Group. He said that his plane was forced down while returning from a raid on the Ploesti oil fields on July 9, 1944, and that the above photo, taken by a Serbian soldier, was made on July 31, 1944.

Yank Testifies Nazis Shot Mikhailovitch Aids

NEW YORK "SUN" MAY 17, 1946.

54 REMIKHAILOVICH SAVED THEM



These Americans, here to testify before the Commission of Inquisy on behalf of the Yugoslav guerrilla leader, point to places on maps where they fought with the Chetniks against the Nazis. Above is Second Lieut. Michael Rajacich of Washington, D. C.



ascribed to scarcity since the Partisans themselves were eating bread. I was held under arrest until I convinced them falsely I had communicated a message to London and Bari by means of a acn-existent miniature transmitter that I was being kept under confined to a diet of figure and durest." Water. This could hardly be

Capt. Nick Talich of Cleveland.

ly variety, now became much ress friendly. Our airmen, without winter clothing, without shoes, were living in abyemal conditions on a straw-covered floor and were

OSS Men Put Finger on Tito¹⁵ 1

They Assert His Partisans Showed Hostility to Americans When Russians Came In.

The entry of Russian troops into Yugoslavia was the sign for Tito's Partisans to become hostile to American airmen, to place them practically under house arrest and make them sleep on straw-covered floors and live on a diet of flour and water, according to former officers of the American OSS who were assigned to Tito on an American

mission.

These claims were asserted by Joseph Veselinovich of St. Louis, a native of Veliki Zdenci, Slavonia, Yugoslavia, who was attached to the OSS as a lieutenant in the war, before the commission of inquiry being conducted at the County Lawyers Association, 14 Vesey street, in an effort to insure a fair trial for Gen. Draja Mikhailovich, Chetnik guerrilla leader, charged with treason by the Tito Government in Belgrade. The inquiry will end tomorrow.

"I was frequently told by Partisan intelligence that the Chetniks were collaborating with the Germans and that they had cap tured Chetnik soldiers, who had been fighting alongside the Ger-mans," Veselinovich testified yes-"I personally saw no terday. such evidence and no such prisoners. In the area under Gen. Drapsan the Chetniks were virtually non-existent for the simple reason that the Serb people had been wiped out wholesale in the Ustashi massacres of 1941-42.

Favored Tito for a Time.

"When I entered Yugoslavia I was inclined to be strongly pro-Tito on the basis of propaganda and newspaper accounts received in Italy," he continued. "It was only later, after I was able to establish contact with the people themselves, that I discovered the truth. I and the other American officers were kept constantly under surveillance and our movements were restricted so that it: was difficult for us to know what people really thought or what was really going on. When, we were able to talk to peasants, almost invariably we found an antipathy that amounted to hatred of the Partisans and every. thing they stood for.'

"The people looked to Mikhailo-vich and the Allies for liberation from the Partisan terror," bias "Peasants, more-Veselinovich. over, are extreme individualists and none of them have any sym-pathy for the ideology of Communism.

"After the Russians entered Yugoslavia the attitude of the Partisans toward Allied personnel became cold to the point of hostility. We were forbidden to talk to or associate with any one. We were kept under almost house rrest. Partisan treatment of allied airmien, which had previously been of a formally friend-



Navy Radio Tech. 1c. Arthur Jibilian of Teledo, Ohio,

Saw No Collaboration.

Daniel Desich of Lorraine, Ohio, a former captain in the OSS, said that during ten months with Tito in Yugoslavia he witnessed only one minor engagement between the Partisans and the Germans: He said he failed to find any evidence of Chetnik collaboration with the Germans.

Arthur Garfield Hays, chair-man of the commission of inquiry, made public the following letter to Dr. Sergije Makiedo. charge d'affaires of the embassy of Yugoslavia in Washington:

"With all deference to your expressed feeling, we must inform you at once that the activities of the commission of inquiry in no wise question the integrity or independence of the Yugoslavian courts. Your government declined. the request of our State Department to permit American service men to present evidence to your, courts of facts within their knowledge. This request has been re-newed within the last few days. If this testimony is not to be heard in your courts, we propose to hear the evidence under appropriate safeguards and report it to your courts in the hope that it will be received and considered.

"Outside the hearing room at the County Lawyers Association following statement of Elihu Root, a distinguished former Secretary of State of "Bie" United ernments, above all majorities."



HERE TO AID MIHAILOVICH ... Former Lt. Michael Rajachich, of Washington, D. C., studies a map of Yugoslavia as he prepares to testify today before the Fair Trial for Gen. Draja Mihailovich hearings. Lt. Rajachich is one of many American fliers saved by the Chetnik general when forced down in enemy territory. The general is being held in Belgrade as a traitor.

POST. FRIDAY. MAY 17. NEW. YORK

Flier Tells of Aid By Mihailovic

BY HENRY BECKETT

Gen. Draja Mihailovic ordered, and sometimes supervised personally, the rescue and evacuation of American fliers forced down in Yugoslavia, the unofficial Commission of Inquiry in the case of the Chetnik commander was told today.

Lt. Richard L. Felman, 1746 Andrews Av., The Bronx, testi-fied that Chetniks ignored a Ger-man offer of 200,000 dinars for his capture and suffered the burning of bne of their villages in retaliation for harboring him when his plane was shot down in July, 194

Mihailovic forces, Felman said, "told me that 'One American can kill more Germans than 150 Serbs, so we're glad to sacrifice a town."

Capt. Nick Lalich of Cleveland, head of an American Air Rescue Unit, supported Felman's conclusion that there was no evidence of collusion between Mihailovic

and fascist forces. He told of the protection given 378 Americans, 45 Red Army men who escaped from the Germans, and other Atlied soldiers at Pranjane airfield. Partisans under Marshal Tito, on the other hand, attacked the air rescue radio station operated by his unit, Capt. Lalich said.

The formation is

Earlier today, . Commission Chairman Arthur Garfield Hays read a letter from Lt. Col. Louis Huot, former OSS officer, who had refused to testify. Huot Huot wrote that aid to American flyers and evidence of Chetnik guerilla activity "shed little light" on the case. :

Hays denied Huot's implication; that "this commission has preudged the case."

More U. S. Fliers Aid Mihailovich

Two American fliers who were shot down over Yugoslavia and saved from Nazi prison camps by Gen. Drais Mihailovich, will tell of their rescue today before a special committee of inquiry.

They, are LL, Richard L. Felman, of The Bronz, and Lt. Micheal Rajachich, of Washington, D. C.

The commission, a sub-group of the Fair Trial for Mihailovich Committee, is holding public hearings at the County Lawyers' Association, 14 Vesey st.

COURT TO GET DATA

In session since Monday, the commission has been taking depositions from former Army men who were rescued by Mihailovich or his Chetniks, and re-furned to the American lines.

These documents are to be sent to Belgrade, where it is hoped they will be presented to the court that is to try the Chetnik leader on a charge of collaborat-ing with the Nazis.

At yesterday's session former Assistant Secretary of State Adolph A. Berle raid he believed the United States had "certain responsibilities" to assure Mihailovich a fair trial.

PREJUDICE DENIED.

Arthur G. Hays, chairman of the commission, denied charges that the committee has already prejudged Mihallovich as not guilty of treason.

The Department of State still tras received no reply from the Yugoslavian government to its second request for permission to send former American airmen to testify at Mihailovich's trial. A former_request was turned down.

POST New York, N. Y.

N. P. MM MAY 17, 1946.

'Mihailovic Not Prejudged' -Hays

As the hearings of the unofficial Commission of Inquiry in the case of Gen. Draja Mihailovic resumed today, Arthur Garfield Hays, chairman, announced that he had renewed invitations to two witnesses who had refused an invitation to testify.

Lt. Col. Louis Huot, former OSS officer, and tSoyan Pribichevich, war correspondent in Yugoslavia, had declined on the ground that the commission had prejudged the case in favor of the former guerrilla leader now awaiting trial on charges of collaboration.

"We have not prejudged the case," Hays replied, saying that the commission wanted all available testimony from Americans, whether it favored Mihailovic or

"We are merely taking testimony and depositions in accordance with the rules of the U. S: District Courts," he added. The commission will send its record to Belgrade this month in the hope that it will be admitted as evidence in the trial.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, FRIDAY, MAY 17, 1946.

4 MORE WITNESSES BACK MIKHAILOVITCH

Although one former Army officer of the Office of Strategic Services and an Americanized war correspondent of Yugoslav birth declined to testfy because they con- Mikhailovitch were "completely sidered the proceedings here "im-proper and prejudiced," another based on faked photographs." OSS man and three more former American sirmen voluntarily came to the defense yesterday of Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch, Yugoslav guerrilla leader accused by Marshal Tito's Communist Government of collaboration with the Nazis.

These opposition and favorable entiments were expressed at the third hearing of the Fair Trial for Mikhailovitch Committee's inquiry at the County Lawyer's Associa-tion, 14 Vesey Street.

Arthur Garfield Hays, chairman of the inquiry committee, put into the record a letter to the Yugoslav Legation in Washington explaining that the hearings here were not undertaken "at the request of Gen-

tified that the charges against General Mikhailovitch could not be true because he had saved their lives after they were shot down over Yugoslavia.

200 2000 mg

Lieut. Joseph Viselinovich of St. Louis, Mo., a former OSS man grounded in Yugoslavia, said the treason charges against General

eral Mikhailovitch."

He also indicated, in answer to letters' from Louis Huot, former OSS officer assigned to Marshal Tito's Parimans, and from Dr. Stoyan Pribechevich, former war correspondent (who both declined to testify) that this inquiry does not pretend to be a trial and in no way reflects on the integrity of Yugoslav courts.

Staff Sgt. Mike McKool of Dal-las, Tex.; Lieut. John P. Devin of State College, Del, and Lieut. Also Friedburg of Cedarhurst, L. I., tes-

56 MIRROR New York, N. Y. JUNE 12, 1946. M'Dowell Takes Mihailovic's Side

Col. Robert H. McDowell, former head of a U. S. military mission to Gen. Mihailovic in 1944, named in the Yugoslav indictment of Mihailovic as meeting with the Chetnik chief and a German officer, said yesterday that Mihailovic was "a bitter anti-Nazi."

In a statement issued through the Committee for a Fair Trial for Draja Mihailovic, McDowell said he had "seen and heard of absolutely no. evidence to connect Mihailovic personally, or officers under his direct command, with any form of collaboration with the Germans."

McDowell said that in 1944 German officials contacted him "for the purpose of discussing surrender of German forces," adding:

"As is now well known, there were many such German contacts during the last months of resistance and they had little significance due to the Nazi unwillingness to realize that the Allies were serious in theirdemands for unconditional surrender."

As a result of the German request McDowell and Mihailovic had two meetings with a Herr Starker, German Foreign Office employe. "There could have been no"

"There could have been no opportunity for Mihailovic to have had private meetings with Starker," McDowell said. "During the period covered by these meetings, the Yugoslav Communist efforts to capture Mihailovic were so constant and severe that it must have been evident to the Germans that the General was in no position to aid them or to accept aid from them."

That incident, McDowell said, "Is simply an example of the opfort made today to destroy the reputation of Mihailovic by the distortion of facts."

The statement, approved by the War and State Departments, a cording to the committee, plained that McDowell, formeris, a professor of Balkan history at the University of Michigan, was on a mission to Mihailovie front August to Nov. I, 1944.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, MONDAY, JULY 15, 1940

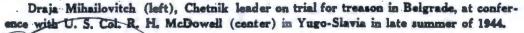
AMERICAN DENIES YUGOSLAV CHARGES

Col. Robert McDowell, chief of the last American military mission with Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch in Yugoslavia, characterized as false and misleading many of the statements attributed to him at the court-martial of the Chetnik leader and twenty-three co-defendants for treason in Belgrade, according to the text of an interrogation made public yesterday by the Committee for a Fair Trial for Draja Mikhailovitch, Dispatches from Belgrade indicated on Friday that General Mikhailovitch was likely to be sentenced today.

Colonel McDowell; a member of the General Staff Corps now on Washington, made his duty in sworn statement in the form of aof interrogatories proseries pounded to him by a Commission of Inquiry in General Mikhailovitch's case, consisting of Arthur Garfield Hays, Adolf A. Berle Jr., former assistant Secretary of State; Charles Poletti, former Govassistant Secretary of ernor of New York, and Theodore Klendl, prominent New York at-torney. Colcnel McDowell's statement was passed by the War Department before it was released by the committee.

Colonel McDowell testified that General Mikhailovitch had at all times maintained hatred toward the Nazis, committed acts of repeated hostility against them and refused to have any contact or collaboration with the enemy. In his judgment, Colonel McDowell said, "the Germans had greater fear and hatred of General Mikhailovitch than of Tito, that the most important acts of sabotage against Axis communications were Axia communications were per-formed by Chetniks, and that Mikhailovitch was ready to place his forces under Anglo-American command and cooperate with both Tito and the Russians."

Colonel McDowell denied that either he or General Mikhailovitch had ever met the German administrator for Serbia, as evidence at the Belgrade trial said they had. He denied that General Mikhailovitch had received 5,000 rifles from the Germans while he was at the General's headquarters. He also denied that, as alleged, he had told General Mikhailovitch that the United States would aid him and his Government exclusively, or that he had encouraged General Mikhailovitch to continue the struggle againet, the Partisans,







The Canadian Social Crediter, May 30th, 1946

ix Hundred A Justice for General hat Others Say --

"He saved our lives, we'll save his!" Motto of the National Committee of American Airmen to aid General Mihailorich.)

"If this man (Mihailovich) is executed after a mock-trial, it will be another black trime added to the long list which the Soviet dictatorship has committed as it has marched over Eastern Europe. If the American government remains quiet, we shall share in the guilt. The archives of our State Department and of our Army contain abundant materials from American and British intelligence officers assigned to Mihailovich's headquarters, and from pilots whose lives were saved by the Chetniks, which prove that this man deserves praise as one of our allies rather than con-

demnation as a traitor."-The New Leader. March 30th, 1946.

"Mihailovic headed the first guerrila outfit to battle the Germans. . . . There wasn't enough hell in Yugoslavia then, so Tito gets up a civil war. Some people who are in a better position than I to know the facts say that Tito is a stool-Pigeon for the Commies rather than a fellow who is Yugloslav 100per center."-Herb Graffis, in the Chicago Daily Times, April 12th.

"Victim of Power Politics." - Cleveland Plain Dealer, March 26th.

"A Shameful Betrayal. If the United States Government does less than its utmost to prevent the planned murder of Gen.

Draja Mihailovic by Tito's Communists, it will have comremember with shame forever. . . Gen. Mihailovic was mitted an act of betrayal that the American people will OUR FRIEND AND ALLY. . . . Mihailovic's only offense is that he RESISTED COMMUNIST RUSSIA IN DEFENSE OF OUR OWN COUNTRY'S FREEDOM." -- First Page Editorial in All Hearst Newspapers, March 29th, 1946.

Space prevents our listing hundreds more such extracts.

Public Opinion Proves Powerful Force Be

The Committee for a Fair Trial for Draja Mihailovich hailed the postponement of the Yugloslav Chetnik hero to June 10 by the Belgrade dictatorship as a tribute to the power of public opinion, reports The New Leader, May 25th. The democratic world has been shocked by the attempt of Yugloslav Communists to make Mihailovich into a traitor and to exploit his "trial" as a weapon to

further destroy opposition everywhere. One manifestation of this reaction was the public hearings heid in New York City by the Commission of Inquiry, with Arthur Garfield Hayes, Charles Poletti, power felt, even across frontiers," and Adolph Berle and Theodore George Creel, chairman of the hundreds of American airmen who were rescured by the Chetnicks, but not concluded.

"The Yugoslav Government's action in postponing the trial shows that public opinion, when really aroused, can still make its Kiendl hearing the testimony of committee, declared. "We are. grateful to the United States Government for its strong note of and of Army Intelligence Officers. May 7, repeating its earlier de-The hearings have been adjourned | mand that American testimony be heard."

One Serb remarked that the trial was probably postponed because Mihailovich is still unpresentable after his confession extracted by to: ture.

Thomas E. Healy, New York Post correspondent, reports from; Rome (May 21) that "Yugoslavia is the first dictator product of the war against dictatorship. . . . An and they by an impartial estimate total two-thirds of the Yugoslav people-to support the regime, or for their own good not to oppose it."

"Belgrade is a minor Moscow. . . Absolute power corrupts absolutely. . . . Yugoslavia is a police state in which roughly \$0,000 secret police agents of OZNA control the lives and politics of 15,-000,000.

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About

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J. S. Group Clears Mihailovic **Of Yugoslav Treason Charge**

Gen. Draja Mihailovic, captured commander of Yugoslav Chetnic forces, today stood unofficially cleared of charges that he collaborated with Axis forces, after a series of public hearings here by the Committee for a Fair Trial for Draja Mahailovic.

hailovic and the Axis powers: On tion."

fore the commission," the report the contrary, all of the evidence said, "which tended to show any tended strongly to disprove the collaboration between Gen. Mi-existence of any such collabora-

Germans.

isted."

charges of collaboration with the

"No evidence was adduced be-

fore the commission that tended to

show any collaboration between General Mikhailovitch and the Axis

powers," the report said. "On the

contrary, all evidence tended strongly to disprove the existence

of any such collaboration. In this connection it should be noted that

all classes of witnesses were con-

stantly on the lookout for collab-

oration, had full opportunity to discover it, and would be expected

to have discovered it if it had ex-

The report disclosed that the witnesses in General Mikhailo-vitch's territory had had ample op-

portunities for observation; could

go and talk freely with civilians and soldiers alike; and had ob-

tained full access to staff confer-

ences as well as to operational re-

ports and orders. According to the report, the evi-

dence also established that the

Chetnik leader had continued to

conduct hostile operations against

both the Germans and Italians even

after the Allies had stopped send-

ing him supplies and had concen-

trated their support in favor of

Chetnik's Aid to U. S. Recited

Mikhailovitch himself fought, the

report declared that in some such

instances Chetnik troops "were compelled to break off combat

with the enemy to defend them-

selves against attacks on their flank or rear by the (Tito) Par-

Evidence of American person-nel before the commission, the re-port continued, disproved the charge that General Mikhailovitch

or his forces had surrendered Al-lied airmen to the Germans. On the contrary, he report main-tained, it has been established be-

yond reasonable doubt that Gen-

eral Mikhailovitch and his forces

made every effort to protect, res-cue and return to Allied territory

all Allied airmen forced down in

testimony, it added, also indicates that upward of 500 Allied airmen

were reacued and repatriated in

The commission's report also included testimony that General Mikhailovitch had built an airstrip

for use in vacuating American flyers, which had to be abandoned under Partika: attack made with

the aid of supplies dropped by American planes to Tito's forces.

The

territory under their control.

Marshal Tito.

tisans."

this way.

tended

The committee's report said Mihailovich, scheduled to go on trial for his life in Belgrade next month, could not possibly receive a fair trial there unless American military personnel who were' in Yugoslavia during the war were permitted to testify.

POST,

YORI

The committee which held the hearings is composer of a group private citizens headed by Post Columnist Dorothy Thompson and Gov. Charles Poletti. They are interested primarity in pav-ing the way for a fair trial for Mihailovic when he submits his defense for his life.

Tito Bars U. S. Witnesses The State Dept. has officially The State Logarity requested that American military personnel be permitted to testify in Mihailovic's behalf, but Yugo-slav Premier Tito has refused. Most important findings tend-to the collaboration

charge were these:

Forces under Mihailovic's com-mand engaged German troops that might otherwise have been used against Allied forces.

American military officers gave testimony which indicated neither Mihailovic nor his subordinates 1 YOR surrendered Allied airmen to the Nazis.

Fake Evidence Charged .

There were instances, testimony showed, where Tito's sup in porters faked evidence to be used Z against Mihailovic at his trial.

Mihailovic's forces, while en-E gaged with the Germans, were attacked from the rear by Tito's supporters. "No evidence was adduced be-

NEWS Indianapolis. Ind.

JUN_ 11. 46. **Crack Relief Whip** on Tito, Legion Asks

The American Legion asked that all United States relief supplies be withheld from Yugo-slavia until that government as-sures a "fair and impartial trial" for Gen. Draia Mihailovic, Chetnik leater now held by the Tito regime as a collaborationist.

In a resolution passed by the Legion executive committee and sent to the state department, it was pointed out that the imprisoned Chetnik leader was responsible for saving the lives of ap-proximately 600 American flyers forced down in his area during the war.



Inquiry Commission Reports M **Getting No Evidence Chetnik** Played Pro-Axis Role

The Commission of Inquiry into the case of Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch, Yugoslav guerrilla leader, disclosed yesterday that after a week of public hearings it had found no evidence tending to show the Chetnik had collaborated with the Axis Powers.

.In making public its report of testimony taken in the auditorium of the New York County Lawyers' Association, 14 Vesey Street, from May 13 to May 18, the unofficial commission, under the chairmanship of Arthur Garfield Hays, also held that the testimony of American witnesses was material on the question of guilt or innocence of General Mikhailovitch as a way criminal, and that the exclusion of such testimony "would be so highly prejudicial as to prevent the possibility of obtaining a fair trial.

The commission pointed out that the witnesses it had called for examination included members of American missions officially at-tached to General Mikhailovitch members of American missions of ficially attached to Marshal Tito and American airmen forced down by enemy action in Yugoslavia. The commission added that the Yugoslay Government had been invited to have counsel on hand to examine the witnesses, but had declined the offer.

U. S. Personnel Testified

At the outset of its report the commission emphasized the fact that its functions were limited to ican military personnel, who de-sired to do so, to testify under oath to facts they knew regard-ing the charges against General Mikhailovitch. Its assignment, it continued, "did not contamplate the formulation or expression of any views regarding internal pol-itics in Yugoslavia."

The general is expected to go on trial in Belgrade on June 10, on

Chicago Herald-American 4-Fri., May 31, 1946 ****

Evidence Favors Mihailovich

BY WILLIAM KERR.

"No evidence was adduced before the commission which tended to show any collaboration between Gen Drass Mihailovich and the Axis powers. On the contrary, all evidence tended to disprove the existence of any such collaboration."

With those words, the commis-sion of inquiry of the committee for a Fair Trial for Gen. Mihailovich, which has concluded hear-ings held in New York, made public its findings today.

HIGHLY PREJUDICIAL.

The commission expressed the fear that the general, now held for trial as a traitor by the Red dominated Yugoslav governmen of Marshal Tito, will not have a fair trial. It said:

"We are convinced that the testimony given before us is material on the guestion of the guilt or innocence of Gen. Mi-hailovich as a war criminal and namovich as a war criminal and that, under standards of justice which have been recognized by civilized nations, the exclusion of such testimony would be so highly prejudicial as to prevent the possibility of his obtaining a fair trial."

The report was based on evi dence taken May 13 and May 14 Winesses included members or American missions officially at-tached to Gen. Mihailovich, members of American missions of ficially attached to Marshal Tit and airmen forced down by enem action in Yugoslavia.

Listing specific actions wit-nessed by American officers, in-cluding Chetnik battles against German troops in which General SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

STOP FOOD, SAYS MISS MITCHELL

EXAMINER, JUNE 26.

LOS ANGELES, June 25, (INS)-Ruth Mitchell, sister the late Gen. William (Bill Mitchell, says that "by abandoning General Mikhailovich, America and the western powers a abandoning the Baikans and ca ern Europe to the Russians."

Miss Mitchell, one-time colonel in Mikhailovich's underground army, asserted that the genera trial was inspired by Moscow make a "laughing stock" of t western democracies.

"The Communists would pig ture us as so weak we canno save the man who befriende us in our hour of need," sh said.

playing along with them, permitti them to perfect their plans to do us. Conditions in Yugoslavia to are even worse than when the Nams had it-they are a sample of what life would be anywhere under com munist domination."

Transcript Sent To Belgrade

By HENRY HILLMAN Testimony by on-the-spot Amer-ican military men tends "strongly" to disprove" charges that Gen Draja Milhailovic collaborated with the Nazis during the war, and exclusion of this testimony from his forthcoming trial in Yugoslavia "would be so highly prejudicial as to prevent the possibility of his obtaining a fair hearing," a Commission of Inquiry announced here yesterday.

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The Commission, created by the Committee for a Fair Trial for Mihailovic, summarized the findings of its hearings between May 13 and 18 in a 20-page report which it forwarded to the State Department, with a request that a copy be sent to the Yugoslav Government and another to the Belgrade tribunal which will weigh the Chetnik leader's fate.

Eyewitnesses informed the Commission not only that Mihailovic had continued to fight the Nazis after the Allies stopped sending him supplies and turned their support to Marshal Tito, but also that some efforts were made by Tito partisans to frame evidence of collaboration against the rival leader for political control.

"An American officer," the report recounted, "saw in operation at Tito's headquarters a photographic laboratory at which a fake photograph purporting to show fraternization between Chetniks and Germans had been manufactured and was shown to him."

Captured Nazi Town

Another American officer testified that he served with one of Mihailovic's aides, a corps commander, in capturing a town garrisoned by the Nazis. "The Chetniks then delivered

the town to the Russians who were advancing in the vicinity," the report continued. "A few hours later the American officer was imprisoned by the Russians in the same jail with some of his late German opponents.

"The Russians then proceeded to disarm and imprison the Chetniks who had taken the town. According to the Beigrade newspapers, the Chetcorps commander has nik since been executed after 'confessing' that he was guilty of collaboration."

Witnesses before the Commission were of three categories: (1) members of U.S. missions attached to Mihailovic, (2) mem-bers of U. S. missions attached to Marshal Tito, and (3) American airmen forced down by enemy action in Yugloslavia. Headed by Arthur Garfield

Hayes, the Commission included former Lt. Gov. Charles Poletti, former Assistant Secretary of

State Adolph Berle and Theodore Kiendl. The Yugoslav government was

invited to send counsel to crossexamine the witnesses and study the evidence which the Commission declared is material to the charges under standards of jus-

tice Continued on Pase 12 tice Which have been recognized by civilized nations through-out the years." The Yugoslav government declined.

American officers disclosed they had been given free access to operational reports by Mihailovic, had sat in on staff conferences, mingled freely with the Chetnik troops and participated in en-gagements against both German and Italian forces.

More than 500 allied airmen, mostly Americans, were rescued by the Chetniks. Reports from Tito headquarters that the Chetniks were turning over American fliers to the Germans were probe ! by the U.S. Army and proven false.

Flank Attacks

The Commission noted that in many instances the Chetniks had to beat off flank attacks by Partisan forces of Tito before going into action against the Germans.

"There is no doubt," the report said, "that hostilities amounting to civil war existed between the Chetniks and the Partisans."

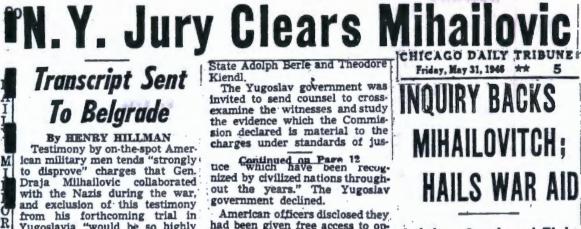
It pointed out, however, that Mihailovic had been acting as duly authorized Minister of War of the recognized Yugoslav Government and claimed that he had been attacked in the rear by the Partisans while trying to maintain the fight against the invaders.

The Commission took cognizance of the recent statement by the Minister of the Interior of the present Yugoslav government that in addition to charges of collaboration, Mihailovic will be accused of "concrete crimes against our people, such as murder, arson, plundering and the handing over to the Germans"

Af Partisan soldiers adduced before the Commission which tended to support those charges," the report went on, "and several witnesses testified they had never seen or heard any such instances."

One account told the Commission concerned the construction by Mihailovic of an airstrip near Pranjani to permit American planes to land and pick up rescued fliers and evacuate them to Italy. This was done after October, 1943, when Mihailovic had no more hope of obtaining allied supplies.

"In September, 1944, with the aid of their new American supplies, Partisan forces attacked the airfield, and the American rescue mission, together with Gen. Mihailovic and his troops, were forced to withdraw," the report said.



Aclaims Continued Fight

Against Nazis

New York, May 30 [Special] -Draja Mihailovitch, the Chetnik leader in Yugoslavia accused by Marshal Tito's government of collaboration with the Germans, con-tinued to fight the axis and to help American airmen until Germany's collapse despite withdrawal of allied support, a commission of inquiry reported here today.

The commission, designated by the committee for a fair trial for Draja Mihailovitch, made public a transcript of sworn testimony given before it at hearings here between 102 May 13 and 18 by a group of American citizens who were in contact! with Gen. Mihailovitch during the War.

The witnesses included members of American missions officially attached to Mihailovitch, members of American missions officially attached to Marshal Tito, and American airmen forced down by enemy action in Yugoslavia.

U. S. to Get Report .

Members of the commission were Arthur Garfield Hays, chairman; Charles Poletti, former governor of New York; Adolf Berle, former assistant secretary of state, and Theodore Kiendl. They said their report will be delivered to the American state department with a request that it be forwarded to the Yugoslav government.

The commission said all the evidence heard by it tended strongly to disprove the existence of collaboration between Mihailovitch and the axis powers and that no evidence was adduced which tended to show such collaboration.

We are convinced." the report said. " that the testimony given before us is material on the question of the guilt or innocence of Gen. Mihailovitch as a war criminal and that, under standards of justice which have been recognized by civilized nations thruout the years, the exclusion of such testimony from the trial of Gen. Mihailovitch would be so highly prejudicial as to prevent the possibility of his obtaining a fair trial." Mihailovitch faces trial on a charge of treason to Yugoslavia, Tito Given Credit

Several American officers testified that they participated with Chetnik troops in operations against the Germans only to hear such operations shortly afterwards described the British Broadcasting cor-

59 poration as having been carried by partisan troops under Mars Tito.

The evidence indicated that after September, 1943, and the BBC, whose broadcasts into Yugoslavia were that country's principal source of news from the outside world, adopted a policy of crediting all renistance activities to Tito without mention of the Chetniks.

On many occasions, the report said, Mihailovitch was prevented from following up successes against the Germans because the partisan forces, armed with allied equipment, atack him. Mihailovitch's effort to capture Belgrade was frustrated by Partisan attacks, it was stated.

500 Allied Flyers Saved

The charge that Mihailovitch or his forces surrendered allied airmen to the Germans was completely lisproved, the report said. Testimony indicated that upward of 500



The inquiry commission of the Committee for a Fair Trial for Draia Mikhailovitch found vesterday that all the evidence submitted F.W. to it "tended strongly to disprove charges that the Yugoslav guerilla 2 leader collaborated with the Nazis. The commission added that ex-

clusion of such evidence from his 5 trial, to be held June 10 in Bel-



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grade, be so "would so . highly prejudicial as to prevent the pos-sibility of his obtaining a fair trial."

Witnesses examined by the commission at hearings con-cluded May 18 included mem-bers of U. S. memmissions officially attached

Mikhailovitch

to Mikhailovitch, members of American missions attached to Marshal Tito and U. S. airmen forced down in Yugoslavia by enemy action.

The commission said that apparently the Yugoslav Govern-ment does not intend to grant permission for Allied witnesses to testify. Therefore, the commission will deliver a copy of its report and testimony to the State Department with a request that it be forwarded to Yugoslavia. Another copy will be sent directly to the tribunal in charge of the case.

Refused to Attend.

The commission, consisting of Arthur Garfield Hays, chairman: ormer Gov. Charles Poletti, former Assistant Secretary of State Adolph Berle and Theodore Kierdi, noted that the Yugoslav Government was invited to have counsel on hand to examine witnesses at the commission hearings, but refused to accept the offer. The hearings were held in the New York County Lawyers Association auditorium at 14 Vesev St.

U.S. Clears Mihailovic Axis Collaboration MAY 31.

NEW YORK, May 31 .- A voluminous, detailed report iled with the State Department at Washington and the lugoslav government today cleared Gen. Draja Mihailovic, hetnik leader, of any evidence of collaboration with the Gernans, as charged by the Communist-dominated government f Marshal Tito.

The report, filed by the Fair 'rial for Mihailovic Committee, vas based on evidence taken by he committee's board of inquiry t a five-day hearing held in the lew York County Lawyers Assoiation offices here.

Witnesses included members of he American mission attached o Gen. Mihailovic's headquarers, officers and men attached o Tito's staff and American airnen forced down and rescued by he Chetniks.

The report stated:

"No evidence was adduced before the commission which tended to show any collaboration between Gen. Draja Mihailovic and the Axis powers. On the contrary all evidence tended to strongly disprove the existence of any collaboration. The report also disclosed that:

Americans, who participated in the capture of German garrisons with the Chetniks, reported that the British Broadcasting Co. beamed to Yugoslavia, gave credit for those battles to Tito's partisans.

Evidence disproved charges lodged against Gen. Mihailovic by Marshal Tito that he or his men surrendered American airmen to the German forces.

CABLES AID OFFER FOR MIKHAILO Q: The Committee for a Fair Trial Z for Draja Mikhailovich an-D znounced today at its offices here withat it had cabled an offer to wthat it had cabled an offer to othe Yugoslav Government to send zi. witnesses to Belgrade by air to a testify in his behalf.

The cable said that failure to a reply within forty-eight hours would be taken as a sign of refusal. The witnesses who would give evidence concerning the former Chetnik leader, now about to be tried on charges of collaboration with Germany, would include American Army officers and airmen.

It was announced also that the committee was offering to the State Department for its use and for transmission to Yugoslavia a record of evidence taken here by a commission of inquiry.

charged that the Yugoslavs have convicted him in advance of trial.

JUNE 6PM

Politics: West

. Committee for a Fair Trial for Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch has made a final appeal to the Yugoslav Government asking that American witnesses be permitted to testify. Yugoslav Covernment declining to take part in London's Victory Day celebration says British behavior has been such Yugoslavs would not understand participation.

MAY Boston, Mass. 51 **Probe Clears Mihailovic Of Collaboration Blame**

By WILLIAM HORAN

AMERICAN

JUNE EVE. SUN 10, URGES U. N. TRIAL FOR CHETNIK CHIEF

The Committee for a Fair Trial for Mikhailovich urged in a letter to Their Acheson, Under-Secretary of State, today that the base of the Chetnik leader, who goes on trial today in Belgrade, be submitted to the United Na-tions and that Military Intelli-gence and the State Department release for publication all confidential data bearing on the case.

"The trial and execution of Mikhailovich without counsel for the defense or witnesses for the. defense would inevitably exacerbate the internal situation in Yugoslavia, bringing with it a potential danger of civil war," the letter declared, adding that its effects would "seriously ag-gravate relations between the western democracies and Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union, which would in itself constitute a danger to the peace of the world."

"For these reasons," the letter continued, "the Committee for a Fair Trial for Draja Mikhailovich believes that the case of Draja Mikhailovich is a matter of concern to the United Nations. We therefore urge that the American The cable asserted that since Government in recognition of the Mikhailovich has been held in military services rendered by Gen. communicado since his arrest on Mikhailovich, and in further rec-March 13, the committee did not ognition of his services in resaccept the Tito government's cuing more than 500 American assertion that he had refused the airmen, bring the Mikhailovich aid of American witnesses, and affair before the appropriate body of the United Nations."

[cleared Gen. Draja Mihailovic, Special to the Buston American Chetnick leader, of any evidence NEW YORK. May 31-A vol- of collaboration with the Germans, NEW YORK. May Since the as charged by the Communist-with the State Dept. at Washing, ton and the Yugoslav government, Tito.

The report, filed by the Fair Trial for Mihailovic committee. was based on evidence taken by the committee's board of inquiry at a five-day hearing held in the New York County Lawyers Ass'n offices here.

- Witnesses included members of the American mission attached to Gen. Mihailovic's headquarters, officers and men attached to Tito's staff and American airmen forced down and rescued by the Chetniks.

"No evidence was adduced be fore the commission which tended to show any collaboration between Gen. Mihailovic and the Axis powers." the report stated. "On the contrary, all evidence tended strongly to disprove the existence of any collaboration.

"In this connection it should be noted that all classes of witnesses were constantly on the lookout for constantion, had sail would be the 14 J. + 18 - 1 116

The source offer Asses in " Mihailovic and his " " " and " to fight viernier and at die troops aver though the Allies hid refused them supplies in favor of Tito's army.

"American officers testified to numerous specific operations of this kind in which they had themselves participated with Gen. Mihis direction," the report stated. MAY EAGLE2. Brooklyn, N. Y.

U. N. Trial Urged For Mikhailovich

Trial for Gen. Drain Milthailovich by a tribunal under U. N. jurisdiction was urged today by more than a score of public figures in a letter to Secretary of State James F. Byrnes.

The statement. delivered to the State Department by executives of the Committee for a Fair Trial for the accused Chetnik leader, urged that American military intelligence personnel be allowed to testify before the international tribunal.

The signers included Sumner Welles, Dorothy Thompson, Sen-ators Thomas C. Hart and Millard Tydings, Representative Clare Boothe Luce, Prof. John Dewey, John Haynes Holmes, William Green and Bishop William T. Manning.

PM New York, N. Y. New Plea Made For Mikhailovitch

Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, May 2.-Mor-ris L. Ernst, New York attorney, signified his willingness today to go to Belgrade to defend Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch in response to the invitation of a U.S. committee set up to assure a "fair trial" for the Yugoslav Chetnik leader who faces treason charges for alleged collaboration with the Nazis.

The U. S. State Dept. previously had sent a note to the Yugoslav Government asking that U. S. military personnel associated with Mikhailovitch during the war be permitted to testify on his behalf. This request is reported to have been rejected by the regime of Marshal Tito.

Members of the defense com-mittee include Roger Baldwin of the American Civil Liberties Union. chairman; Bishop William T. Man-Clare Boothe Luce, and former Under Secretary of State Summer Welles.

In an appeal to Under Secretary of State Dean Acheson that the Mikhailovitch trial be turned over to an international tribunal as an Allied concern, the committee declared that "we feel the American sense of justice and American honor are involved in the case of Ger., Mikhailovitch." It pointed out that he led the first effective anti-Nazi guerilla army in Europe, served under direct Allied command for almost three years and was recognized for his services to the Allies.

THE QUESTION OF THE GUILT OR THE INNOCENCE OF GENERAL MIHAILOVICH AS A WAR CRIMINAL

-YMAK DERING

Report of Commission of Inquiry

- - of the - -

COMMITTEE FOR A FAIR TRIAL FOR DRAJA MIHAILOVICH



ARTHUR GARFIELD HAYS, Chairman

MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION ADOLPH BERLE CHARLES POLETTI THEODORE KIENDL

MAY 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 1946 New York, N. Y.

The New York Eimes

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Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. "All the News That's Fit to Priot." ADOLPH S. OCHS, Publisher 1836-1935.

Published Every Day in the Year by THE NEW YORK TIMES COMPANY. ARTHUE HAYS SULZERGER, President and Publisher. JULIUS OCHE ADLER, Vice President and General Manager. GODWARY N. NELSON, Secretary.

FRIDAY, MAY 31, 1946.

TITO AND HIS PRISONER

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The cause of a fair trial for Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch probably is a lost cause. There is little reason to hope that the Tito Government of Yugoslavia intends to heed the pleas of our Government or of the many Allied airmen who owe their lives to him and his Chetniks. It intends to find him guilty of collaboration with the Germans and hang him or shoot him.

This much has been done, however, by the pleas in his behalf and by the hearing given United States witnesses by the Commission of Inquiry headed by Arthur Garfield Hays: a record has been made for history. That will be small solace for Mikhailovitch as he goes to his death. But it will serve to mitigate, if it does not entirely clear, his memory. If, by some miracle, the; Tito Government should decide now to surrender him to some other country or international authority for a fair and open trial, then the pleas and the inquiry would indeed have done a great and historic service.

2-Wed, June 12, 1946

Chicage Herald-American



Mihailovich was personally responsible for saving the lives of approximately 600 American airmen forced down during the war over territory in which men under his command were operating, and,

"Whereas, General Mihallowith's aid and assistance to such American airmen, at considerable risk to himself and members of his command, is prima facie evidence that he was not

a collaborationist, and, "Wheras, it is apparent that the Communist government of Marshal Tito is intent upon giving General Mihailovich a summary and unfair trial of the kind which characterizes Soviet justice,

"Therefore, be it resolved that

the American Legion petition the United States government to exert its influence by every possible means to insure a fair and impartial trial for General Mihailovich in return for the generous aid and assistance accorded American airmen, and

Be it further resolved, that the American Legion further petition the United States government to withhold all financial aid, UNREA supplies and other assistance from Tito's government and all persons and territores within Marshal Tito's command and/or control until such time as a fair and impartial trial by an inter-allied tribunal is guaranteed General Mihailovich."

GARY, IND. POST-GAZETTE, JUNE 12, 1946.

trial.

LEGION ASKS FAIR **TRIAL FOR MIHAILOVIC**

Indianapolis; June 11 (AP)-A fair and impartial trial for Gen. tribunal is guaranteed Mihailovic. houses. Draja Mihailovic, chetnik leader of Yugoslavia, was asked yesterday by nist government of Marshai Tito is the American Legion executive intent upon giving Mihailovic a committee.

summary and unfair trial of the The Legion's statement credited kind that characterizes soviet jus-the chetnik leader with having tice." the petition said. saved the lives of 600 American. The resolution originated in the airmen and asked Secretary of Legion's Wisconsin department

THE NEW YORK TIMES,

SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 194

BYRNES AID ASKED FOR MIKHAILOVITCH

House Group Plans to Seek! State Department Pressure for International Trial

Special to TER NEW YORE TIMES.

WASHINGTON, May 31 -A. House Foreign Affairs subcommittee has agreed to call on the State: Department to "exercise its full and appropriate energies" to obtain a fair trial for Gen. Draja: Midhailovitch, it was disclosed todey.

Representative Karl E. Mundt, Republican, of South Dakota, a member, said the subcommittee had prepared a report recommending that the Chetnik leader be tried before an international war criminals tribunal instead of by the Yugoslav Government of Marshal Tito, which he said, has prejudiced the case.

An international trial is necessary to obtain . "dispassionate and unprejudiced" judgment, with all the facts brought into the open so the world can know that "gen-uine justice" is done, he asserted. The subcommittee toured twenty countries from August to October last year to investigate the economic and political situation within them.

ance from Marshal Tito's govern-

"It is apparent that the commu-

Yugoslavs Reported Split

In Yugoslavia, Mr. Mundt said General Mikhailovitch was characterized by Tito partisans as a traitor and by Chetniks as a martyr, wit hthe result that committee members were unable to reach. a decision as to whether he was guilty of collaborating with the He pointed out that partisans showed them pictures of Chetniks with German Army officers but that none of the photographs had included General Mikhailovitch.

Majority Leader John W. Mc-Cormack, Democrat, of Massa-chusetts, told the House that he agreed with the subcommittee's recommendation but that "our government has done everything it possibly can "to obtain a fair trial for the Chetnik Leader.

Mr. Mundt conceded that the State Department had requested permission of the Tito government

State Byrnes to do everything pos- where several of the rescued fliers, sible to see that he gets a fair are now legionnaires.

The resolution suggested the Officials of Cheimsford and withholding of all financial aid Braintree, in England, have per-UNRRA supplies and other assist- mitted a Cheimsford man working in Braintree and a Braintree man ment until trial by an inter-allied working in Chelmsford to "swap"

for the appearance at the trial of

U. S. Airmen forced down in Yugo-

slavia and rescued by the Chetniks.

"However, they have not done all they can until they accompany

H. S. Asked to Use Pressure.

Department make use of its power

to withhold aid to the partisans

as pressure to bring about a fair

If General Mikhailovitch is guil-

ty of traitorous acts against the

Tito Government, which has been

recognized as one of the Allies, he is equally guilty of crimes against all of the Allies, and his trial is a problem for all "of the United Nations instead of the

Yugoslavs alone, according to the

Mr. Mundt said the subcommit-

The report will be submitted to

the full Foreign Relations Con-

mittee next Tuesday and be made

public, he said. The subcommittee

Mundt, of Representatives Thomas S. Gordon, Democrat, of Illinois; Frances P. Bolton, Republican, of Ohio, and Joseph F. Ryter, Repub-lican. of Connecticut.

composed, in addition to Mr.

tee would also make important disclosures in regard to Prussia,

He suggested that the State

the request with a little pressure,

he declared.

trial.

sub

committee.

Poland and Italy.

WORLD TRIBUNAL **IS PROPOSED FOR** MIHAILOVITCH

CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE

Saturday, June 1, 1946 ****

Washington, D. C., May 31 (AP)-Rep. Mundt [R., S. D.] said today that a house foreign affairs subcommittee will recommend next weel that Gen. Draja Mihallovitch, Yugo alav guerrilla leader, be tried by an international tribunal.

Mundt told the house the subcom mittee will not express an opinion as to whether Mihailovitch collab orated with axis powers during the war, but will voice opposition to his trial on such charges by the Yugo alay government.

The Yugoslav government, nov iheaded by Marshal Tito, is sched uled to start the trial June 10 in Beigrade.

House Democratic Leader McCon mack of Massachusetts expresse approval of the view Mundt sail the subcommittee would express. The subcommittee membership in cludes Mundt and Representative Gordon [D., Ill.], Ryter [D., Conn. and Bolton [R., O.]. They made trip to Europe last fall.

CHICAGO SUN. JUNE 1, 1946

Mikhailovitch Trial By World Court Asked

WASHINGTON, May 31 .- P Representative Mundt (Rap., S.I said today that a House forei affairs subcommittee will recom-mend next week that Gen. Drate Mikhailoyitch, Yugoslav guerniti leader, be tried by an intern tional tribunal.

Mundt told the House the su committee would not express an opinion as to whether or not Mikhailovitch collaborated w Axis powers during the war, b will voice opposition to his tr on such charges by the Yugosia government.

62

JULY 22, 46. "Tragic Martyr"

Dramatic Role in History.

THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir :-Those whom the gods would destroy nately commit, when most exhilulti ed in their folly, the blunder for. h our language has almost exclu-187 sively reserved the adjective "egregious." It may well be that connivance he killing of General Mikhailovich in in at blunder by the Russian dictatorship, and that it will mark the beginning of its decline,

or Drain Mikhailovich, the most antic hero of world war II, will probably live in history as its most tragic martyr. And if so his ghost will a thousandfold more powerful inst those who would enslave his ntry than he alive would have been.

To appreciate this fully most Ameras must recall that Yugoslavi", ned after world war I, is half the Kingdom of Serbia and half former provinces of Austria and Italy; that the attempt at union was never reaily essful, and that it was a Serb coup at in March, 1941, that overthrew the "Yugoslav" arrangement to enlist in the then German-Russian pact. The b soldier Mikhailovich was the ler of that defiance of Hitler which thrilled the world. The German attack on Russia was postponed for ten weeks. Moscow was saved by the Russian ter, but the Croatians and Slovehrans, who now, with Russian, aid, cominate the Serbs, refused to join in and isting the Germans until Russia had n attacked. When in 1943 the defeat Germany was assured, the Russians turned against Mikhailovich.

These incontrovertible facts are the enual drama of the Mikhailovich gedy. The Russian chiefs, who opcrate under theatrical pseudonyms-Stalin, for steel; Molotov, for thunder; myko, for lightning; et cetera-must fully conscious of the drama, however reckless. The Serbs of America, understanding it all, are again Serbs; name Yugoslavia is anathema

the Serbs fought for freedom through five centuries of enslavement which kept them illiterate. The legenda their race, which fed their innate tred of tyranny, were handed down minstrels called gouslars, who were often blind. The Serbs have a fascinatsuperstition that whenever the

nd minstrel tells of the heroism of past with inspiring eloquence, the wood nymphs come out to join the livgenerations in listening. Then the nd gousiar sees. Serb gousiars with chanting of the heroism of Milcaoliovich for many centuries to more. LOUIS GRAHAMI MITH.

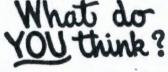
New York.



JUNE 21, '46.

MEN WITHOUT & COUNTRY -What is now hap-Chicago, June 16pening to Gen. Mihailovitch, former ute to Mikhailovich Cites His hero of Yugoslavia, who fought the Nazis and Communists, will also happen to the two champions of freedom and liberty, Gen. Anders, chief of the Polish army now in exile, and Gen. Bor Komorowski, hero of Warsaw, if they dare return to their native Poland. F. A. OSUCH

> POST New York, N. Y. JUNE 18, '46.



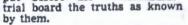
QUESTION: Do you think American flyers should be allowed to testify at the trial of Gen. Mihailovic?

PLACE: Madison Av. and 24th St

ANSWERS:

LEON GORDON, Optician, 2d Av .-- I think so. The testimony

at hearings here seemed to prove that he did all in his power to aid our flyers when wherever they contacted him. The least could be that done now is to put before the



SAMUEL J. GERTLER, Salesman, Jerome Av., The Bronx-In view of the

apparent danger he into in rescuing our flyers, they should be allow. ed to help. All evidence should be made known iso that he can be judged. He judged. should be granted the right of

their testimony. IRVING KABAT, Textile Busi-

ness, Dickens St., Far Rockaway -I think they should. But in that cooked and dry kind of government it would not do much good. Most of the time the decision is made before the man comes to trial.

They might pretend to listen, but they don't.

Chicago Daily Tribune the world's greatest newspaper

FOUNDED JUNE 10. 1847

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 1946 + 16

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Writers should confine themselves to 200 or . 300 words. Give full names and addresses. No manuscripts can be returned. Address Voice of The People, The Tribune, Chicago 11.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE JULY 18, 1946.

A VETERAN WONDERS

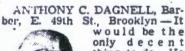
Champaign, Ill., July 17-Gen. Mihallovitch has been executed on charges of treason and collaboration. He was crucified at Yaita on the altar of appeasement, the same altar that sold Czechoslovakia and many other countries into slavery.

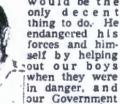
In 1944, my life, as well as the life of my crew members, was saved by the Chetnik forces of Gen. Mihailowitch. This was done at the cost of at least 50 Chetnik lives. The Germans knew where we were, but they didn't dare come after us. Instead they killed hostages to try to force our release. We were returned to our own forces.

Does this sound like collaboration. or treason to the cause for which we were all struggling? Who sets himself up as a judge of this case? He is Josip Brozovitch [Marshal Tito], Russian communist educated, Jugoslav renerade, who cared so little for his own country that openly, and with the tacit blessing of Josef Stalin, he collaborated with the enemy until Germany overran Russia.

Our beloved Roosevelt, and, by his own admission, Churchili, delivered Mihailovitch and the Serbs to Tito. Does that, and the other kowtowing to Russian domination, sound like the things for which we supposedly fought? When will we find out how else the administration has crucified those ideals for which so many died?

A FORMER ARMY PILOT





should demand that they be heard. The record should be kept straight so that he gets a fair trial.

IRVING LEHNER, General Manager, Pinehurst Av. - Cer-tainly they should. When

they were in trouble he was the one who went to their aid. The issue right now is clouded. The testimony that they would give might clear

up the issue and save his life.

MIHAILOVICH BETRAYED

63

Joliet, Ill., May 28-One of the worst atrocities of the war occurred at Zagreb, Yugoslavia, a number of days ago. Gen. Draza Mihailovich, the famous Chetnik leader, was tortured by indescribable methods by Tito's Partisans. He was tortured continuously for days and nights, and, in the last agonies of despair and suffering, he agreed to say, whatever Tito wanted him to say during the coming trial.

This incident is a black mark on our. country, a black mark which the present administration helped to bring on us. Our so-called "Democratic" administration was perfectly willing to betray Mihailovich and give support to the communist Tito. When this administration betrayed Mihailovich it also betrayed our own people in the United States. Now the time has come when the whole world realizes how great our mistake was.

The Democratic administration stood by and watched as Europe, country by country, became communized. It bowed to the wishes and whims of Russia and England. It allowed the rest of the world to minimize our efforts during the war. And now this administration won't so much as lift a hand in protection of our small, hard fighting allies, such as Mihallovich and his Scrhian Chetniks.

We need a change badiy. Our counttry is in danger.

MILORAD KONJEVICH

HERALD-TRIBUNE New York, N. Y. JUNE 20. 46.

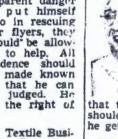
Mihailovitch's Due

To the New York Herald Tribune:

What manner of people are we if we allow Mihailovitch to suffer under Russian matice? Mihailovitch. who dared to defy Hitler at a time. when it seemed sheer suicide for even a great people like the British to stand up against him.

Are our memories so short that we can forget the admiration we felt for the fight this brave man and his gallant people put up? A fight which he never lost to Hitler but lost because we were duped into thinking Tito to be a friend of the democracies when in reality he was merely a tool of the Communists.

Are we not fine enough in spirit to acknowledge this mistake, and are we not strong (nough to demand that Mihailovitch be delivered unscathed? VIGILANTIBUS. South Shaftsbury, Vt., June 14, 1946



64 POST JUNE 23, 146. Washington, D. C. POST 'I Fought Beside Mihailovitch'

One of the American witnesses requested by Gen. Draja Mihailovitch, on trial for treason at Belgrade, is Marine Capt. Walter R. Mansfield. Mansfield, assigned to the Office of Strategic Services for duty behind enemy lines, was the first American liaison officer with Mihailovitch and his Chetniks. The Belgrade court has refused to let him. testify. Following is the first of three stories relating Mansfield's experiences in Yugoslavia:

By Walter R. Mansfield

OUR BLACKED-OUT Halifax thundered over the Albanian mountains toward Nazi-held Yugoslavia. The objective was contact with a band of guerillas on a plateau in central Serbia. We had taken off from North Africa five hours before.

A few minutes later I saw five fires in the pattern of a square cross, far below. A tiny light blinked acar the fires. It repeated. These were the signals we had been briefed to accept. I hooked on my parachute, threw my legs over the side and shoved off. My mission had begun.

I was being sent in as the first American liaison Since May, officer to Gen. Draga Mihailovitch.



This photo of General Mihailovitch was made during the period covered by Captain Manfield's story 1941, when Yugoslavia fell, his soldiers had operated from secret hideouts against enemy garrisons and communications lines. Now, on August 19, 1943; I was landing in a pile of rocks on the mountainside,

I unbuckled my chute, hid it and waited in the. cold. Within five minutes I heard Serbian voices. and was soon surrounded by a small group of men; dressed in homespun peasant clothes or captured German and Italian uniforms and carrying all sorts of weapons. They all had heavy black beards and wore a skull and bones insignia. They began to. shout and kiss me when they found out that I was an American.

Briton There First

THE DROP zone was a beehive. There were about 300 guerillas, tending fires, standing guard on the hillocks or waiting to gather up the 15 parachute containers dropped by the bomber. They loaded them on oxen carts and we set out.

After 2 miles of walking we penetrated a little woods on top of one of the hills and found. a big log fire surrounded by rough-hewn benches. Nearby were a few pup tents and two or three :hatched peasant houses.



The author in the Serbian mountains, with Maj. Voya Lakagevitch of Mikailovitch's army

EVE. SUN TITO MINION ASSAILED New York, N. Y.

Col. Radosav Djurich, star witness for the prosecution in the trial of Gen. Draja Mikhailovich, was described as a "disreputable officer" who had ligison with the Germans, in the statements of two former American officers who served in Yugoslavia, which were released today by the Committee for a Fair Trial for Draja Mikhailovich. One statement was had ordered his arrest for sus-signed by Capt. George Musulin pected collaboration with the New York, N.Y. of Pittsburgh, a member of the Germans. JUNE 10.19

first OSS mission to Mikhailovich; the second was signed by Capt. Eli Popovich of Chicago, who served with several OSS missions to Marshal Tito's forces.

6/29/146.

In both statements it was pointed out that Djurich, a former Chetnik, had gone over to the Partisans only after Mikhailovich JUNE 10.1946

EVE. SUN New York, N. Y.

JUNE 25, '46.

DEFENDS CHETNIKS

An American captain of En-

gineers, who parachuted into Yugoslavia to serve with Marshal Tito's Partisan Army, in a letter addressed to the British press today asserts that many of the individual Partisan soldiers were pro-Chetnik and asked him hy the American were supporting the Communists.

Eli Popovich, an American of Yugoslav parentage, in his letter released by the Committee for a Fair Trial for Draja Mikhailovich, takes exception to statements in the British press quoting Brigadier Fitzroy MacClean and Major Randolph Churchill, British officers who served with Tito, as stating that the charges against Mikhailovich were about accurate.

Popov.cn declared that he never saw evidence of Chetnick collaboration with the Germans and that on several occasions he was

able to prove Partisan anti-Chetnik claims to be false.

NEWS

(NEWS foto by Straus)

MERITED. Major Gen. William J. Donovan, wartime head of the Office of Strategic Services, pins the Legion of Merit medal on former Marine Capt. Walter Mansfield. Mansfield earned the award for his services with Gen. Mikhailovitch, Yugoslav Chetnik leader. Ceremony took place at the general's home, 1 Sutton Place.

TIMES New York, N. Y. JUND 24, 46. ITTO IS CONDEMNED BY MISS MITCHELL

armer Mikhailovitch Chetnik harges 'Mockery of Justice' in Belgrade Trial

HENDERSON; Nev., June 23 —Mias Ruth Mitchell, sister of the late Brig. Gen. William (Billy) Mitchell, and a guerrilla fighter under the Yugoslav Gen. Draja thailovitch, lashed out tonight spinst what she termed the mockery of justice now being conducted in Belgrade."

Answering charges of one of meral Mikhailovitch's co-defendts, Dragi Yovanovitch, Belgrade lice prefect during the Nazi occupation, that she was seen with the Gestapo and Chetnika, Miss Mitchell said:

Tt is a great honor, one of the beatest ever bestowed upon me, to be called a traitor by that Scoundrel, Tito. If ever there was traitor to the Serbian people, it Tito."

Miss Mitchell admitted ahe had been seen with the Gestapo on the occasion of her arrest and courtmbartial for Chetnik activities. When the set of the set of the set of the rteen months in eleven different izi prison camps. Pressure by the Swiss Government won her release on a prisoner of war exchange.

Miss Mitchell attacked the United ates State Department for its "failure to force the Tito government to allow me and the American aviators aided by the Chetnik

"I cannot understand it," she ontinued. "Tito is allowed to en-

trench himself more firmly by the bolitical use of American food, but r Government makes no demand

see the greatest patriot of the ar given the comfort of American testimony, even though it would do him no good at that farce of

trial." She claimed for General Mikilovitch "virtually every victory credited to Tito." She charged that the Allies deserted General Mikhellovitch and "sold him down the ver" after his forces were instruental in turping the tide of the north African battle.

Miss Mitchell went to the Balkans as a magazine correspondent. he remained to fight against the erman invasion. After her capire in May, 1940, by the Germans she was condemned to death. A Belgrade prison chief offered to pommute the sentence if she would ight for Tito. she said.

"That should clear up who collaborated with the Germans," ahe declared. "T have been sickened by the Beigrade traveaty and I inend to continue my fight to enter. ugoslavia, for I-would consider it T high honor stabiling trial beside Mikhailovitch. If he is a traitor, so * every one of the democracytry Serbian people."

Mihailovich Defense Arouses Spectators

BELGRADE, July 9 (AP)—While spectators at the trial of Draja-Mihailovich, shouted "traitor" and "no need for a defense" yesterday, counsel for the Chetnik leader insisted that Mihailovich had not collaborated with the occupying forces. "Mihailovich", he said, "sincerely regrets that even one round of

"Mihailovich", he said, "sincerely regrets that even one round or ammunition should have been fired between the Chetniks and partisans."

A spectator was removed from the court for shouting at the defense counsel, Nikola Djonovich, the fifth ejected since the speech for the defense began.

In an attempt to defend Mihailovich against charges of political treachery, Djonovich said that "no one in London complained about him. He was a minute man, too small to have his own policy." Mihailovich's tragedy, he added,

Mihailovich's tragedy, he added, lay in the fact that he did not reach an agreement with Marshal Tito.



Defends Mihailovich

Ruth Mitchell, sister of the late Gen. Billy Mitchell, told newsmen that Marshal Tito was a "traitor." Miss Mitchell served as a guerilla under Gen. Draja Mihailovich and said the trial of Mihailovich in Belgrade is a "mockeng of justice."

2-Mon., June 24, 1946 * Chicago Herald-American

Billy Mitchell's Sister Rips Tito

HENDERSON, Nev., June 24.---(P)--Ruth Mitchell, sister of the late Gen, William (Billy) Mitchell and a guerilla fighter under the Yugoslay general Draza Mihailovich, lashed out today against what she termed the "mockery of justice now being conducted in Belgrade."

Answering charges of one of Mihailovich's co-defendants, Drazi Jovanovich, that she was seen with the Gestapo and Chetniks, Miss Mitchell told the Associated Press:

ciated Press: "It is a great honor, one of the greatest ever bestowed upon me, to be called a traitor by that scoundrel, Tito. If ever there was a traitor to the Serbian people, it is Tite. For even now he is holding power by using the notorious Creat Ustashi, an organisation of murderers trained by Mussolini. TELLS DEATH SENTENCE.

"During the war they were responsible for the slaughter of 600,000 Serbian peasants. Now they are cast in the role of patriots."

Miss Mitchell admitted she had been seen with the Gestapo on the occasion of her arrest and court-martial for Chetnik activities. She was sentenced to death after 13 months in 11 different Nazi prison camps. Fressure by the Swiss government got her release on a prisoner of war exchange.

"SOLD DOWN RIVER."

Miss Mitchell bitterly attacked the U.S. State Department for its "failure to force the Tito government to allow me and the American guiators aided by the Chetnik forces to testify at the trial."

In Washington a State Department spokesman said the department had done all in its power to get Yugoslavia to allow the American filters to testify at Mihailovich's trial.

GEN. MITCHELL'S SISTER DEFENDS MIHAILOVITCH

'Henderson, Nev., June 23 (P)--Ruth Mitchell, sister of the late Brig. Gen. William [Billy] Mitchell, and a guerilla fighter under the Yugoslav Gen. Draga Mihailovitch, lashed out tonight against what she termed the "mockery of justice now being conducted in Belgrade." Answering charges of one of Mihailovitch co-defendants, Dragi Jovanovic, Belgrade police prefect during the Nazi occupation, that she was seen with the Gestapo and Chetniks, Miss Mitchell fold the Associated Press:

"It is a great honor, one of the greatest ever bestowed upon me, to be called a traitor by that scoundrel, Tito. If ever there was a traitor to the Serbian people, it is Tito. For even now he is holding power by using the notorious Croat Ustashi, an organization of murderers trained by Mussolini.

" Slaughtered Peasants "

"During the war they were responsible for the slaughter of 600,000 Serbian peasants. Now they are cast in the role of patriots."

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The attractive, suburn haired Miss Mitchell bitterly attacked the United States department for its "failure to force the Tito government to allow me and the American aviators - aided by the Chetnik forces to testify at the trial."

"Farce of a Trial"

"I cannot understand it," she continued. "Tito is allowed to entrench himself more firmly by the political use of American food, but our government makes no demand to see the greatest patriot of the war given the comfort of American testimony, even tho it would do him no good at that farce of a trial."

In Washington, D. C., a state department spokesman said the department had done all in its power to get Yugoslavia to allow the American fiyers to testify at Mihailovitch's trial. He said the department had dispatched two notes to Yugoslavia in the matter, that the latter government refused in one reply to permit the Americans to attend the trial

and had not answered the second request.

Miss Mitchell went to the Balkans as a magazine correspondent to cover an Albanian regal function. She remained to write and eventually fight against the German invasion. For a time she worked for the British intelligence. After her capture in May, 1940, by the Germans she was condemned to death. A Belgrade prison chief offered to commute the sentence if she would fight for Tito, she said.

"That should clear up who collaborated with the Germans," she declared. "I have been sickened by the Belgrade travesty and I futend to continue my fight to enter Yngoslavia, for I would consider it a high honor standing trial beside Mihailovitch. If he is a traitor, so is every one of the democracy loving Serbian people."

Denies Nazi Aid **ByMihailovitch**

McDowell Says Talks With Germans Were Only on Terms of the Surrender

Robert H. McDowell, of Arling ton. Va., a former colonel in the United States Army who was mentioned on Monday in the indictment filed against General Drais Mihailovitch in Belgrade as having allegedly engaged in collaborationist activities, sharply denied the accusation yesterday, and accused the Yugoslav government of distorting facts. in order to "smear" the former Chetnik leader.

In a statement issued in New York through the Committee for a Fair Trial for Draja Mihailovitch, McDowell, now a civilian attached to the Balkan section of the War Department intelligence section in Washington, admitted that he and Mihailovitch conferred with German commanders, at their request, during the fall of 1944, but said the purpose of the meetings was to discuss "the surrender of the German forces. McDowell at the time was chief of an American military mission to Mihailovitch's headquarters.

"As is now well known," Mc-Dowell said in his statement, which was approved by both the State Department and the War Department, "there were many such German contacts during the last months of German resistance, and they had little significance due in the original indictment was to the Nazi unwillingness to realize that the Allies were serious in said to have taken place in Augtheir demands for unconditional ust, 1944; and another a month later was mentioned.] surrender."

McDowell explained that he was present at the meetings because uted to him in the Yugoslav inhe had been ordered to attend. dictment that "we Americans are Mihailovitch, he said, was "most not interested in your fight with unwilling to have any contact with the Germans. . the Germans," but at McDowell's helping exclusively you and your request consented to attend. The movement in Yugoslavia," Yugoslav vertion of the meetings. Dowell said it was "grossly dishe said, "is simply an example of torted." the effort made. today to destroy the reputation of General Mihailomust have made an error in transvitch by distortion of the facts." mission of that part of the in-

[The Associated Press in a dis- dictment." patch from Beigrade Tuesday said [Substantially this same version Mihailovitch admitted he had met of the statement came in a spethe Germans in the second half cial dispatch to the New York

MIRROR

New York, N. Y. JULY 15, 46.



Robert McDowell, chief of the tinal American mission to Gen. Mihallovic, charging that many of | Col. McDowell questionna i re



the statements attributed to him by the Belgrade court were false, was made public here by the Committee for a Fair Trial for Draja Mihailovic in connection with the sentencing to-day of the Chet nik leader.

America is

Mc-

Regarding a statement attrib-

"I'm sure," he added, "the press

[Substantially this same version

In reply to a

of November, 1941, but added Herald Tribune and from the that the meeting followed a Ger- wires of The Associated Press and that the meeting followed a German attack against him by five United Press.] divisions. The meeting specified The former American colonel'

General Draja Mihailovitch (right) inspecting his Chetnik troops somewhere in western Serbia in August, 1944. At left is Colonel Robert H: McDowell, of Arlington, Va., former chief of a military mission to General Mihailovitch's headquarters. The Yugoslav government, trying the former Chetnik leader

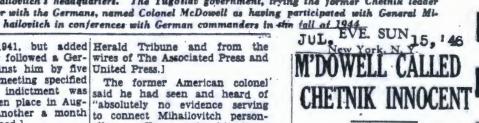
as a collaborator with the Germans, named Colonel McDowell as having participated with General Mi-

said he had seen and heard of "absolutely no evidence serving to connect Mihailovitch personally, or officers under his direct command, with any form of col-laboration with the Germans."

"This evidence," he went on, "includes not only personal observation, but the totality of the documents seen and conversations held with U. S., Allied and even enemy personnel."

submitted to him by the committee and approved by the War Department, Col. McDowell testified that Mihailovic consistently maintained a bitter hatred to-ward the Nazis. The Chetnik leader, he said, committed re-peated acts of hostility against the Germans and refused to have any contact or collaboration with them.

Col. McDowell expressed his judgment that "the Germans had greater fear and hatred of Mihailovic than of Tito."



Col. Robert McDowell, a member of the General Staff Corps now on duty with the War De-partment, made under oath careful answers to a number of ques-tions, and they were sent to members of the Jugoslav court but were ignored, the Committee for a Fair Trial for Drain Mikhailovich charged here touay. It made public McDowell's testimony, saying Americans were entitled to the facts though appar-ently they could not aid Mikhailovich.

McDowell affirmed that Mikhailovich remained a greatly feared enemy of the Germans. Important acts of sabotage against them were committed re; peatedly by his Chetniks. He re fused collaboration with. the Nazis. Finally, McDowell as-serted that intellectuals and peasants alike gave wide support to and showed strong affection for this Serb leader.

The committee added that Mc-Dowell's full testimony should have had a direct bearing on the trial and was relevant "under commonly accepted standards of civilized justice on the issue of the guilt or innocence of Gen. Mikhailovich."





54. STAR Washington, D. C. JULY 15, '46. Two Now in D. C. 'Feel Honored' To Be on List With Mihailovich

Ex-Attache Is Little Sorry He Did Not Get Death Sentence

Constatin A. Fotitch, who was ugoslav Ambassador to the nited States until July, 1944, and Zhivan Knezevich, who was military attache at the Embassy; oth expressed themselves as hocked by the sentences announced today in Belgrade, but said they feel honored to have een included in the list of Serb atriots headed by Gen. Mihailovich.

"It is justice behind the 'Iron Curain'" Mr. Fotitch said.

Gen. Mihailovich and 10 of his 3 co-defendants were sentenced to leath before firing squads. Mr. Fotitch and Mr. Knezevich, each send enced to 20 years in absentia, were mong those receiving prison fermis. Mr. Fotitch live in Washington at 01 Albemarle street N.W., with his wife and daughter, Miss Pola Potitch, 17, who is a student at the Cathedral school. His mother and

hree sisters live in Belgrade. Family Escaped in 1945. Mr. Knezevich lives at 3701 Thirteenth street N.W., with his wife and two little girls who, he said, esaped from Yugoslavia in October, 1945, and joined him here. He likerise has a mother and three sisters in Belgrade.

When he said he felt it an honor to be condemned with Gen. Mihailovich, Mr. Potitch added, 'every 'decent Serb feels the same WAY.

The sentences were passed before the trial opened, he asserted. "When the American Govern-nent asked that the American lyers, who were saved by Gen. fivers. Mihailovich be permitted to testify in his behalf. Tito replied that crimes were so terrible that his his innocence could not be ditussed," Mr. Fotitch said.

Wants Free Country.

"Of course, I want to go back to Yugoslavis, but I want to go back. to Yugoslavia as a free country and not to a dictatorship. I hope. that will come about."

Mr. Fotitch sent a message to. President Truman, imploring him to use all your authority with the e "monstrous sentence" of Gen. the Mihailovich, from being carried out.

He said "the sentence passed on Gen Mihailovich will be deeply resented by the Serbian people for whom he was, and will remain, the symbol of their traditional fight for democracy and against any dictatorship, no matter from what side it comes

"If this sentence is carried out, it will greatly affect the tranquility and internal peace of Yugoslavia and, consequently, the peaceful consolidation of this part of Europe," he deolaled.

Mr. Foultch came here in 1935 as Minister, and became Ambassador when the Yugoslav mission was



CONSTANTIN FOTITCH. Underwood &

raised to an Embassy in 1942. He resigned two years ago, July 8, 1944. when, he said, the new government was formed in Yugoslavia, which "is the puppet of Tho."

Mr. Fotitch said he was denounced by German Foreign Minister von Ribbentrop in 1941 on the ground he had contributed to the "conspiracy" which threw out the Yugoslav government which had made a deal with Hitler.

Mr. Knezevich was under the impression he had been condemned to death instead of to 20 years in prison, until a reporter for The Star gave him the news from the Belgrade dispatches. He said he felt "dishonored a little" that the death sentence had not been passed on him.

Heined Organize Coup.

He has been under a death sentence before. He said he and his brother, Radoye Knezevich, now in London, had heiped organize the coup d'etat of March, 1941, whereby King Peter assumed control of the government and ousted those who had made the deal with Hitler. Both he and his brother, he said, were condemned to death by Hitler as well as 24 other superior officers responsible for the coup d'etat.

When he and his brother Radoye could not be found in Yugoslavia, the Gestapo shot another brother, he said.

He said when the names of himself and his brother were included in the list of so-called "war criminals" 101 trial with Gen. Mihailovich, their mother sent a telegram to Radoye in London which said: "All my love to my good children."

Left Embassy With Fotitch.

After the coup d'etat, Radoye be came minister of the royal court of King Peter in London, and Zhivan became chief of the prime minister's military cabinet, Zhivan said. He came to the Washington Embassy in 1943, and left with Mr. Fotitch in July, 1944.

"Death by Tito's court is an honor for a patriot," he said. "I would have been dishonored if I had not been on that list of patriots, I work-ed so much to bring Yugoslavia into the war on the side of the Allies." The brother who was shot by the Gestapo left a widow and three children, he said.

2 Sentenced With Mihailovic 67 **Defend His Patriotism Here**

until July 1944, declared here yesship" and for release of Gen. Mihallovic, the former Chetnik leader. from the death sentence given him by a Yugoslav military court earlier in the day.

ALC: NOT A DESCRIPTION OF

Foultch, who expressed pride in receiving in absentia a 20-year prison sentence for his loyalty to the Serb leader accused of collaborating with the Germans, urged President Truman directly to "use all your authority with the government in Balgrade" to set aside "this monstrous sentence."

Sees Serions Effect

Fotitch wrote the President that the death sentence of Gen. Mi-hailovic, if carried out, will greatly affect the tranguility and internal peace of Yugoslavia and consequently the peaceful con-solidation of this part of Europe."

Similarly sentenced with Fo-titch in his absence from Yugoslavia was Zhivan Knezevich, who was military attache at the em-bassy here. He said he felt "dis-honored a little" that he had not received the death sentence meted out to the Chetnik leader and 10 of his followers.

Not Officially Advised

Neither diplomat has received direct advice from the Red-supported Tito government as to their sentence. The State Department said it has not been told of them. No request for extradition has been received, the department said.

Fotitch said he learned of the charges against him from Belgrade newspapers. He said he Potitch lives in the 3000 block was accused of conducting pro-Albemarie St. NW., with his wife Mihailovich propaganda in the and 17-year-old daughter, Pola, United States, work which he Cathedral School student. He ex-

THE NEW YORK TIMES, TUESDAY, JULY 16, 1946.

Tito Hails "Reaction's" Defeat

LONDON, July 15 (Reuter)-Marshal Tito declared tonight "the sentence pronounced on Mikhailovitch was a sentence on interna-tional reaction." the Belgrade radio reported tonight. Speaking at Cetinje, Monenegro, he added:

The trial showed there is not only unity among the reaction but also among all democratic forces. Mikhailovich associated with all forms of reaction at home and abroad. He did not shrink from having connections with the Catholic Church, with the Croat Peas-ant party. It was a coalition of reaction and this coalition was defeated.

"Now reaction tries to take its revenge in denying us Istria, Trieste and the Julian provinces. Reaction would make an alliance with the devil himself."

Constantin A. Fotitch, Yugoslav; to Yugoslavia when it is a "free Ambassador to the United States country." He announced he would "continue to fight against any terday that he will continue to form of dictatorship-from either fight against "the Tito dictator-ship" and for release of Gen ship, the worst saddled on any country."

Assails Trial Fairness

The sentences pronounced yesterday were passed before the trial opened, he asserted, fidding: "When the American Govern-ment asked that the American fliers who were saved by Gen. Mihailovich be permitted to testi-by in his behalf, Tito declared in advance of the trial that his crimes were 'so monstrous' that his guilt or innocence could not be discussed."

. Both the former ambassador and his attache pointed proudly to their efforts in support of the Chetnik leader's reported opposition to Nazi domination of their homeland. "Every decent Serb." Fotitch said, "considers it an honor to be condemned with Gen. Mihailovich.

Doomed by Hitler

Knezevich, who was sentenced to death by Hitler, believed Tito also would repeat the fuhrer's sentence. He and his brother, Radoye Knezevich, were condemned to death after helping organize the March, 1941, coup d'etat that placed King Peter in control of their government.

"Death by Tito's court is an honor for a patriot," he complained disappointedly yesterday.

His brother was shot by the Gestapo, leaving a widow and three children, he said.

The former attache lives in the 3700 block Thirteenth St. NW., with his wife and two young daughters who, he said, escaped from Yugoslavia in October, 1945. said gave him great satisfaction. pressed anxiety over his mother Fotitch said he plans to return and three sisters now in Belgrade.

King Prepares an Appeal

LONDON. July 15 (UE)-Excied, King Peter's Yugoslav National Committee decided today to cable urgent appeals to the United States, Great Britain and France to intercede with Yugoslavia to prevent the "legal assassination" of General Mikhailovitch.

Fourtch Extradition Not Asked

WASHINGTON, July 17 (CP)-The State Department said today it had received no request from the Yugoslavia Government for the extradition of Constantin Fotitch. former Yugoslav Ambassader to the United States. M. Fotitch was sentenced in absentia to twenty years at hard labor by the same Yugoslay tribunal that decreed death for General Mikhailovitch.

NEW YORK DAILY MIRROE July 17, 1946 Mercy Plea Rejected, Mihailovic to Die Today,

Demonstration in behalf of Draja Mihailovic is staged in Filth . Ave., in front of Yugoslavian **Consul-General's** office. Pickets, Including former 15th Air Force fliers saved in Chetnik territory, are led by Capt. Nick Lalich, former OSS officer.



BELGRADE, July 16 (INS). Gen. Draja Mikhailovic lost his personal appeal for clemency today and is expected to be shot by a Yugoslav firing squad at dawn tomorrow.

Appeals of 10 others also were rejected by the presidium, or executive committee, of the People's National Assembly.

Mikhailovic and eight others seatenced to die for treason personally asked clemency. The two others, tried and convicted in ab sentia, appealed through their counsel in Belgrade.

The two not arrested are Gen. Peter Zivkovich, former premier and war minister, now in Rome, and Mladen Zuyovich, former

Continued on Page 20

h E GOT IN THE WAY

To the surprise of practically no one, Draga Mikhailovitch has been found guilty by a Yugoslav military court of collaboration with the Nazis and has been condemned to

be shot, along with 10 of his 23 co-defendants.

Mikhailovitch was not condemned for anything he did to Yugoslavia. There was ample evidence at the trial that he was inspired by patriotic motives in whatever he did. American officers here and abroad testified to this.

The trial court was composed of three officers belonging to the forces of Marshal Tito, leader of the Partisans, who were pro-Communist guerrillas. The Partisans and Mikhailovitch's Chetniks didn't get along very well.

Prior to the rise of the mysterious Tito, Mikhailovitch had been the only important Yugoslav leader still fighting against the Germans to whom his country's army had surrendered. The followers of Tito were under Communist leadership. Until the war ended, both Tito and Mikhailowitch fought against the German forces in Yugoslavia, but they also apparently fought each other.

Tito Had Inside Track With Russians end of the war. Mikhailovitch

Yugoslavia fell within the Russian sphere with the didn't like Communists. Tito

had the inside track. His men eventually unearthed Mikhailovitch and put him and his most important followers on trial

Evidence from American fliers who had been rescued by the Chetniks, and from American and British liaison officers, as to Mikhailovitch's actions and motives was brusquely refused by the court. The spectators in the packed courtroom at intervals would dutifully scream: "Death to the traitor!"

And finally, as expected. Mikhailovitch was condemned. In short, he got in the way of the Bus

EWS, TOESDAY



Draga Mikhailovitch



NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 1946



OUR U. S. FLYERS and a former OSS captain picket Yugoslav Consulate at 745 Flfth Av. yesterday efore sending telegram to President Truman asking him to intercede in death sentence of Gen. raja Mihailovic. L. to r.—Richard L. Felman, The Bronx; Alex Chester, Brooklyn; Robert N. Vlachos and Melvin Subrey, Manhattan, and Nick Lalich, Cleveland. Lalich, former OSS captain, lived with Mihailovic in 1944. Others, former members of 15th Air Force, say they were rescued by Mihailovic's hetniks.

HICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE : Friday, June 28, 1948

MIHAILOVITCH CHARGES FALSE. TITO AID SAYS

Chicagoan Served on Partisan Mission

False charges of collaboration ere made against Gen. Draja Mihailovitch's Chetniks on several ocsions during the war by Tito's mmand, Eli Popovich, senior sur-Anglo-American member of the Anglo-American mission to Tito's headquarters, said yesterday in a tter.

Popovich. who lives at 9744 Comercial av., said he had asked the Committee for a Fair Trial for Mihailovitch to give the letter to the ritish newspapers.

I believe it would interest the ritish public to know the opinions of the American officers who re in Yugoslavia together with rg. Fitzroy MacClean and Maj. adolph Churchill (British memof the mission]," Popovich said.

Parachuted in Twice

opovich spent 10 , months st to's headquarters in 1944. parauting into the country with the other mission members. He dropped first, he said, Jan. 20, 1944, and main April 16, 1944.

"MacClean and Churchill have said in the British press that they consider the charges against Gen. Mihailovitch fundamentally accurate and that they therefore believe the allies were justified in abandoning him." the letter intended for the English newspapers said. "They say Tito had the overwhelming majority of the people behind him.

They add that. Tito was far more active in fighting the Germans, and that they have seen 'definite proofs' of collaboration between Chetniks and Germans."

Asserts Charges Are False

The former army captain, who was liaison officer for months, at Tito's command, then says that he, Maj. Linn M. Farish ["my commanding officer subsequently killed in Greece "], MacClean, and Churchill several times were able to satisfy themselves that "specific charges" made against the Chetniks were false.

"Once after the Partisan [al-legedly communist Tito] unit to which we were attached took over a town from the Chetniks, we discovered three wounded American airmen in a Chetnik hospital. The Partisans told us the Chetniks had been seen to turn over the remaining crew members to the German garrison in a near-by town.

We subsequently discovered that these crew members, whose names we had, had been evacuated safely to Italy.

Under Armed Guard

"During my entire stay with Mac-Clean and Churchill at Tito's headquarters, none of us was permitted to witness a single battle, altho we received many reports of battles. Despite our repeated protests - as one of Yugoslav parentage I spoke Serbo-Croat fluently - none of us

was able to go anywhere without an armed guard. The Partisans frequently showed us documents they claimed to have captured from the Chetniks; but whenever I asked, as was my duty, to interrogate these captured Chetniks, I was told it was not possible.

"Despite precautions taken by our partisan attendants," Popovich "I was able now and then to said. speak to peasantz. I soon discovered-and I can name many American officers of Yugoslav parentage who had similar experiences-that whenever one was able to speak to peasants alone or in twos they almost invariably expressed burning hatred for the partisan regime and consternation at the Anglo-American policy.

"Invariably they asked me, 'Why are you Americans supporting the Communists? [The name "Parti-SADS " was rarely used in Yugoslavia.] Don't you know they are our enemies?'"

he concluded. "Mahailovitch will live forever as a martyr."

KANKAKEE DATLY JOURNAL 69 **Rogers Says**

William Rogers, ex-lieutenant in the air corps who has devoted much of the past few weeks in defense of General Mahailovitch, prominent Jugoslavian soldier, who was executed as a traitor about two weeks ago, charged yesterday that Marshall Tito, current head of the European nation, is a figurehead of Stalin who is attempting to form Jugoslavia into a buffer state for Russia. The Manteno ex-GI made the charges as he spoke to members of the Kiwanis club.

Rogers described his experiences of being shot down over Belgrade on Sept. 8, 1944 as he and a crew of eight others were in a B-29. He stated that he suffered a broken leg in the crash and that two Serb-ians under Mahailovitch helped him to recovery. Those two Serbs, a doctor and his wife, the speaker explained, were executed two weeks later.

Spends 33 Days Under General

The speaker stated that he lived for 33 days among the people under Mahallovitch and during that time existed better than he did at any time he was a member of the 15th Air force.

"I had fresh meat, milk, vege-tables and the best in food," he explained. "There just wasn't anything those people wouldn't do for me."

In speaking of the recent trial of the Jugoslavian general he termed it "a magnificent example of, what is in store for us in the future if Russia and Communism is to continue its rule."

At the trial, which he said went against the general because of socalled "documentary proof," one of the charges was that Mahailovitch did save American airmen but that later he had several of them executed.

"Named at the trial as one of those executed," the Manteno man pointed out, "is an American alrrian who is working with me on the committee in this country to try to halt future atrocities such as the trial."

Saved 500 Lives

The general is credited by Mr. Rogers with saving the lives of 500 American airmen during the period of January to September, 1944. When these airmen learned that Mahailovitch had been captured and was to be tried they formed a committee to try to save his life.

"Our first note to the state department asked that some of us be allowed to testify at the trial." he explained. "The request was flat!" refused. Our second note went un-enswared. We then raised enough money for some of us to go to Washington to confer with state department officials and several senators. We did get a senatorial investigation started but after some evidence had been sent to Jugoslavia that was all we ever heard of the entire case."

"There is no doubt in my mina but that the state department did not go as far as it could have in the saving of Mahailovitch's life."

VETERANS ASK 70 TRUMAN'S AID

Want Him to Intercede in Mikhailovich Case.

Four former 15th Air Force pilots who said they were rescued by Draja Mikhailovich's Chetniks in Yugoslavia and a one-time OSS captain who lived with the condemned Yugoslav general in 1944 telegraphed President Truman today urging him to intercede in the death sentence imposed on the Chetnik leader.

Earlier they had picketed the Yugoslav consulate at 745 Fifth avenue for half an hour. They failed to see Oscar Gavrilovich, the Consul General, and left a copy of the Truman telegram. Nick Lalich, 30-year-old former

OSS officer, who headed the pickets, told reporters he believed there might be a chance to save Mikhailovich, if President Truman and Prime Minister Attlee of Great Britain acted within the next twenty . four hours. A message was sent last night to Attlee, asking him to intercede, Lalich said.

How Placards Read.

Placards carried by the pickets read: "500 American airmen know the truth about Draja Mikhailovich, but Tito won't let usi talk"; "Mikhailovich fought; Germany to save us - will his re-ward be execution?" and "500 American airmen will pray if FLIERS HERE PROTEST Mikhailovich is executed." CHETNIK CHIFF'S DOOT

The pickets, in addition to Lalith, now a student at Columbia, ene: Alex Chester of 196 Varet street, Brooklyn; Melvin Subrey f 360 East 55th street; Robert N lachos of 110 Fulton street, and Richard L. Felman of 1746 Andrews avenue, the Bronx.

THE CHICAGO SUN, JUNE 12, 1946 U.S. Visa Delays Yugoslav Envoy

BELGRADE, June 11 .- (UP)-An information ministry spokesman said today that Sava N. Kosanovitch, recently appointed Yugoslav ambassador to the United States, had been trying unsuccessfully for two months to obtain a: U.S. visa. [The United States recognized the present Yugoslav government on April 18.].

The spokesman said Kosanovitch applied for the visa at the and of March after his appointment as Marshall Josip Broz-Ti-to's representative was formally accepted by the United States. He ald the U.S. embassy blamed "red tape or inefficiency" for the olse delav.

EVE. SUN New York, N. Y. PICKETING FOR MIKHAILOVICH JULY 16. 146



Sun Staff Photo.

39.

American airmen, who were rescued by the condemned General, protest his death sentence before th building housing the Yugoslav Consulate on 5th avenue today. The veterans are, left to right Richard Feldman, Alex Chester, Robert N. Vlachos, Melvin Surrey and Nick Lalich.

TIMES New York, N. Y. JULY 15. '46. CHETNIK CHIEF'S DOOM

Four American fliers who were shot down over Yugoslavia during the war and rescued by Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch's men picketed the Yugoslav Consulate, 745 Flith Avenue, yesterday in protest against the death sentence given to the Chetnik leader.

In addition they sent a telegram to President Truman urging him to intervene to prevent "the execution of a brave man and a true ally whose only crime was that he fought for democracy and against all dictatorship."

The four fliers, members of the National Committee of American Airmen to Aid Draja Mikhailo-vitch, paraded in front of the building housing the consulate for a halfhour, starting at noon. They were joined by former Capt. Nick Lalich, who went into Yugoslavia in 1944 in charge of a mission to bring out the American airmen.

Mr. Lalich, now a student at Columbia University, bore a sign reading, "Mikhailovitch fought the Germans to save us. Will his re-ward be execution?" The other pickets carried placards saying. '500 American airmen were saved by Mikhailovitch. Was this treachery?" and "500 American sirmen know the truth about Mikhailo-vitch, but Tito won't let us talk."

Following the picketing the fliers attempted to see Oscar Gavrilovitch, the consul, but he was out. In his absence they left a copy of their telegram to Presi-dent Truman.

Among the signers were the four pickets, Alex Chester, 196 Varet Street, Brooklyn; Melvin Surrey, 360 East Fifty-fifth Street; Robert N. Vlaches, 110 Fulton Street, and Richard L. Felman, 1746 Andrews Avenue, the Bronx.

JOURNAL-AMERICAN New York, N. Y. JUTE 17, '46.

Vets to Picket For Draja

In protest against the Red death sentence meted out to Gen. Drain Mihailovich, a delegation representing American fliers he rescued, planned to picket the Yugoslav Consulate, 745 Fifth ave., itoday.

JOURNAL-AMERICAN New York, N. Y. JULY 16, '46. **Picket** Tito **Consul Here**

Former American soldiers who had seen Chetnik Gen. Draja Mi-buddies, today picketed the Yugoslav Consulate in protest over his death sentence.

Large noontime crowds gathered to watch them as they marched in front of the consulate at 745 Fifth ave. They attempted to see the Consulate General, Oscar Gavrilovich, but attaches said he was out, so they left a copy of a telegram of protest they had sent to President Truman and British Prime Minister Attlee.

"The whole trial was political simply because Mihailovich opposes Communism.' said one of the pickets, former Capt. Nick Lalich, 30, of 28 W. 96th st.

Lalich was with an OSS mission. rescuing stranded American fliers and said he knew, personally, that Mihailovich had been instrumental in bringing 432 back to American lines.

Other pickets were ex-1st. Lt. Alex Chester, 196 Varet st., Brooklyn: ex-5/Sgt. Melvin Surrey, 360 E. 55th st., ex-1st. Lt. Robert N. Vlachos, 110 Fulton st., and ex-1st. Lt. Richard L. Felman, 1745 Andrews ave., Bronx.

EDITORIALS

NEW YORK TIMES.

and a state

A loser in the Balkans, whether it be merely in a palace revolution or in a global war, can expect short shrift from the victor. Such probably will be the fate of Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch. Five years ago he was called a hero by mest of the democratic world as he rallied a guerrilla army to fight the Germans after Belgrade had fallen. Then he became a legend. Now he is a prisoner, hunted down and captured in a cave with the eleven-man remnant of what once was reported as an army of 300.000.

What is the truth about Mikhailovitch? In 1943 the Soviet Union accused him of being a collaborator. His own son was reported '> have echoed that accusation. His place as titular leader of the guerrilla movement was taken by a then shadow figure, Joseph Broz, who called himself Tito. With Soviet backing, and later the support of others of the Allied Governments. Tito organized an army that played an important part in the latter phases of the campaign against the Nazis in the Baikans. According to his supporters, Tito many times had to fight Mikhailovitch's men as well as the Germans. When victory came, Tito assumed control of Yugosiavia.

The Tito Government apparently had uried, found guilty and passed sentence on Mikhailovitch before his capture. Almost a year ago the then Foreign Minister of Tito's Government, Ivan Subasitch, deelared that, although the Chetnik leader would get a fair trial, enough evidence was, at hand to convict him and that he would be shot. What this evidence is has not been made clear. Is it based on testimony of partisans only, or does it contain Nasi records as well?

Mikhailovitch is too important a historical figure for the world to permit his summary trial and execution. If for no other reason than his early resistance to the Germans-and there does not appear to be any ground for believing that it was not sincere and important to the Allied cause in 1941-Mikhailovitch deserves a fair and exhaustive trial before the world. Appeals to this end are being addressed to the UNO. Traitor or patriot? The world has a right to know beyond any shadow of a doubt. Yugoslavia would be well advised, we believe, to turn over Mikhailovitch and its evidence against him to an international tribunal.

Cipe New Hork Cimes Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. "All the New That's Fit to Frid." ADDLFH S. OCHE, Publisher 1596-1935. Published Every Day in the Year by THE NEW YORK TIMES COMPANY. ARTEUR HATS SULISEROR, President and Publisher. JULIUS OCHE ADLER, Vice President and General Manager. Geovern N. Nilson, Secretary.

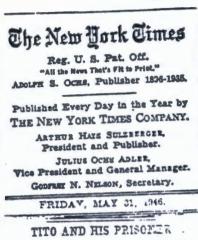
STATISTICS.

TUESDAT, MAT 14, 1948.

THE MIKHAILOVITCH TRIAL

Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch, who, once led a guerrilla army of 300,000. men against the Nazis in the Balkans, goes on trial for his life in a few days, charged with collaboration with the Germans. The Yugoslav Governmentwhich is headed by Mikhailovitch's bitter rival for power, Tito-has promised that he will be given a fair trial. It is said that he is to be allowed to select his own counsel. Foreign representatives will be allowed in the court room and will be permitted to report the procecdings. But it still is permissible to question whether General Mikhailovitch will be given a fair trial-that is, a fair trial by our own standards. A year before his capture last month the Yugoslav Government had said that when he was captured he would "be given a fair trial and then shot."

The Yugoslav Government has gone so far along the road that it probably is futile to hope that it would now consider turning over Mikhailovitch to an international tribunal. Yet that is the only way, we believe, that the rest of the world can ever be convinced that all of the facts have been brought out and that Mikhailovitch is actually given an impartial trial. If it is not done, and Mikhailovitch is found guilty and executed, the suspicion always will remain that he was killed more for political reasons than for actual acts of collaboration. In the partisan atmosphere of a Belgrade court room, brought to trial by a Government that has publicly prejudged the case, we do not see how a fair trial is possible. Tito and his Government would serve themselves and history well if they should present Mikhailovitch and their vidence to some international auherity. If their evidence is as concluave as they say it is, they should not fear the result. And the world would feel that justice had been served, instend of mercly vengeance taken.



The cause of a fair trial for Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch probably is a lost cause. There is little reason to hope that the Tito Government of Yugoslavia intends to heed the pleas of our Government or of the many Allied airmen who owe their lives to him and his Chetniks. It intends to find him guilty of collaboration with the Germans and hang him or shoot him.

This much has been done, however, by the pleas in his behalf and by the hearing given United States witnesses by the Commission of Inquiry headed by Arthur Garfield Hays: a record has been made for history. That will be small solace for Mikhailovitch as he goes to his death. But it will serve to mitigate, if it does not entirely clear. his memory. If, by some miracle, the Tito Government should decide now to surrender him to some other country or international authority for a fair and open trial, then the pleas and the inquiry would indeed have done a great and historic service.

The New York Times 45

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. "All the News That's Fit to Prist." ADDLFF S. OCHS, Publisher 1896-1935.

MONDAY, JUNE 3, 1946.

YUGOSLAVIA TODAY

The American and British Governments have sent formal protests to the Government of Yugoslavia against its incitement of obstruction to the Allied Military Government in Trieste, where any incident might set off an explosion that would be hard to cope with. This diplomatic step is merely one of a number of recent representations made to the Yugoslav Government.

Yugoslavia today is dominated by a small Communist minority headed by Marshal Tito, who not only views both the capitalist and the socialist West with doctrinal suspicion, but who also considers himself to be a Russian proconsul and the leader of the Communist spearhead toward the West. He is now imposing on his country a totalitarian regime which is ruthless in its methods.

Having "legalized" his rule by a typically totalitarian election boycotted by whatever remained of an opposition, Marshal Tito is putting into effect all that he learned during his long years of training in Communist revolutionary practice. There is neither political nor religious nor any other freedom in Yugoslavia. The press is shackled, the opposition has been crushed, and the OZNA, or Secret Police, sees to it that all Yugoslavs without exception join the Tito forces and hai! the Leader, or they do not est. The least sign of opposition entails the confiscation of ration cards for food and clothing, even the loss of identification papers, which might mean arrest. Private property, from the nation's industries and larger landed estates to stores, hotels and private homes, is being confiscated without compensation to its owners, who are generally imprisoned as "collaborators" or "profiteers." Even the UNRRA must serve as a weapon of the "revolution," for the supplies it sends free to save the starving are not only represented as coming from Russia but are also sold by the Government at profiteering prices.

Such practices are sometimes represented as the inevitable concomitants of a revolution. But there is no right of revolution by a minority in a country that is free. And it must be kept in mind that these are not excesses of undisciplined mobs committed in the heat of passion, but integrat parts of the policy of a Government claiming international recognition. The assurances given to the people of Yugoslavia and other countries of eastern Europe during the war must still be redeemed.

The New York Times

TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 1946.

MIKHAILOVITCH TO TRIAL

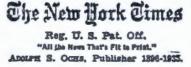
It now is announced from Belgrade that the postponed trial of Draja Mikhailowitch on charges of collaboration will begin June 10. Even with the foreign press invited, there is little hope, that it will be more than a formality. Officials of the Tito Government have said several times that the former Chetnik leader is to be found guilty and executed. Offers of Allied soldiers who were attached to his headquarters to testify have been brusquely declined. Attempted friendly interventions by this Government have been met in the same fashion.

Reports which come from irrefutable sources are that Mikhailovitch will enter the prisoner's dock a tortured

and broken man, ready to affirm any confession and any charge in order to; avoid a return to his torture cell. Apparently it was decided to take no chances on his testimony.

In the handling of the Mikhailovitch case—the tortures, the refusal to surrender Mikhailovitch to an unbiased court, the refusal to accept testimony from British and American soldiers who were in Yugoslavia and knew something of conditions—Tito and his Government have made a mistake that will react against them. They are making a martyr of Mikhailovitch and putting a stain on their own record that will not be easily erased.

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ARTHUE HAYS SULEERCEE, President and Publisher. JULIUS OCHS ADLEE, Vice President and General Manager. Geogram N. Nelson, Secretary.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 1946.

THE MIKHAILOVITCH TRIAL

The trial of Draja Mikhailovitch by the Tito Government is not going entirely by the script. The Chetnik leader, who proudly and correctly stated at one point, "I was the first insurgent [against Hitler] in Europe," made on his first day on the stand a much more spirited defense than had been expected after the tortures to which it is known he has been subjected. Perhaps he was encouraged by the presence of the muny foreign reporters to make a record for history.

The trial is expected to last several days and it may take a different turn than now is indicated. The first two days, however, have shown a trend. It consists of an attempt to prove that Mikhailovitch was a willing tool of "reactionary" British and United States influences which were more interested in seeing Yugoslavia kept out of the hands of the Communists than in seeing the Germans driven out. That can be the only reason for dragging in charges against British and United States officers who worked behind the lines with the Chetnik leader during the late stages of the war. On their face such charges are preposterous, as was proven by the statement of Col. Robert H. McDowell - the United

Robert H. McDowell — the United States officer allegedly involved — revealing that a meeting in 1944 with a German emissary at Mikhailovitch's headquarters (used to show alleged collaboration not only of Mikhailovitch but of the United States military mission) was in reality a meeting sought by the German command to discuss terms of surrender.

Despite Mikhailovitch's statement that he had been well-treated and the outward courtesy shown the defendant by the three-man military court, the events of the first two days of the trial strongly support the contention that a Government which long ago prejudged the case cannot reach a verdict (short of acquittal) that will remove all doubts as to the fairness of procedure and the judicial fairness of the decision.

The Tito Government itself is now on trial, no less than Mikhailovitch, because of its refusal to turn the Chetnik leader over to an international court or even to accept evidence in Mikhailovitch's defense from nationals of other countries,

The New York Times

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. "All the News That's Fit to Prist." ADOLPH S. OCHS, Publisher 1896-1935.

Published Every Day in the Year by THE NEW YORK TIMES COMPANY.

> ARTHUE HAYS SULISERGER, President and Publisher. JULIUE OCHE ADLER,

Vice President and General Manager. Goover N. Nelson, Secretary.

Goordan II. Mandoor, Beccounty.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1946. YUGOSLAVIA

In other columns on this page we publish today letters from the Yugoalay Embassy in Washington and from the United Committee of South-Slavic Americans challenging statements in our recent editorial "Yugoslavia Today." The statements made in that editorial were based on reports printed in this and other publications, or on official Government reports available in Washington, and the facts alleged in them are so well known that most partisans of the Tito regime, rather than deny them, prefer to explain and excuse them as part of the "new democracy."

The fact is that for a long time the American Government refused to extend full recognition to the Tito regime on the very ground that the latter has broken its pledges given under the Yalta compromise to establish "personal freedom, freedom from fear, liberty of conscience, freedom of speech, liberty of the press and freedom of assembly and association," and because the election which "legalized" Tito's rule did not "provide opportunity for a free choice of the people's representatives." These charges are backed by various foreign correspondents and by numerous Yugoslavs ranging from Dr. Subasitch, who joined Tito in the Yalta compromise, to Dr. Matchek, the Croat to operate are those joining Tito's National Liberation Front, and the only freedom they have is to praise Tito and say yes with totalitarian unanimity to what he and his fellow-Communists decree.

As for freedom of religion, it is true that it, like other freedoms, is guaranteed in the Constitution, but a Constitution is no good if it is not enforced. It is also true that priests have joined the Tito regime. In fact, it was a priest become a lieutenant colonel who led and may still lead the OZNA, or secret police. But the churches have been deprived of their land, revenues and schools; their priests are under Government surveillance, and their youth is regimented by a Government conducting an anti-religious campaign.

The confiscation of the property of "collaborators" is admitted, but if that is the only property seized then almost everybody with property in Yugoslavia must have been a collaborator. The fact is that "collaboration" has become a perfunctory charge to liquidate every opponent and to lay the basis for a Communist economy which has already nationalized 70 per cent of Yugoslav industry and left only small peasants and small traders to "free enterprise." We repeat that it is not only those who oppose work but those who oppose anything the Tito regime does who lose their ration cards and identification papers, and therefore either do not eat --or eat in jail.

Finally, dispatches to this and other newspapers reported only recently that the UNRRA Administration in Yugoslavia is charged with permitting its supplies to be used for Tito's military machine; that some are smuggled into Trieste to further Tito's annexation campaign; that there is discrimination in distribution in favor of Communists and their allies; that the people are made to believe that the food, clothing and medicine sent to them free by the United States and Great Britain really come from Russia and that the Government is profiteering in the sale of goods it gets for nothing.

Nobody can forget either the heroism or the sacrifices of the Yugoslav people in the cause of freedom. But neither can the Allies forget that it was they who brought Tito to power, and if Tito crushes freedom, the Allies are jointly responsible.

62. The New York Eimes

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TUESDAY, JULY 16, 1946.

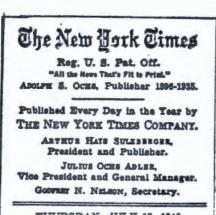
MIKHAILOVITCH

Like a Greek tragedy, the trial of Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch has proceeded to its inevitable conclusion. His conviction and sentence were certain from the start. The Tito Government repeatedly had said as much, even before he was captured in his mountain hideout almost a year after the end of the war. He was to be given a "fair" trial, found guilty and shot. That now is the verdict.

The Belgrade trial had the outward aspect of jurisprudence. It was a public trial, of which the outside world was allowed an uncensored account. Mikhailovitch was confronted with the evidence against him and allowed to answer the charges. There ends, however, the resemblance to judicial procedures in democratic countries, or even to the trial at Nuremberg, where a new principle of international law is being established. Mikhailovitch was held incomunicado for weeks after his capture and, as is known on good authority, he was subjected to torture during those weeks. Defense counsel was allowed only a few days in which to prepare his case. Proffered testimony of United States and British fliers, who had been rescued by the Chetniks, and of other Alijed officers who had done liaison work with Mikhailovitch, was barred. Wholly extraneous issues of United States and British political attitudes were introduced. The mere privilege of admitting or denying charges that was granted General Mikhailovitch does not answer the democratic world's idea of a defense or a fair trial.

Mikhailovitch's principal crime, obviously, was that he lost the war within a war that was fought in Yugoslavia. He did not deny from the stand that there were clashes between his Chetniks and Tito's Partisans. That, however, was not the charge. The public charge was that he collaborated with the Germans and Italians. He denied any collaboration with the Germans and admitted the authenticity only of some collaboration with the Italians. There is considerable evidence that the Partisans were not above such dealings themselves, when it suited their purposes.

More was at stake in Belgrade than the life of the one-time Serbian hero, who was the first man in Yugoslavia to iead a well-organized resistance to the Nazis. Tito's Government also was on trial. By the verdict it too has been found guilty. 73



THURSDAY, JULY 18, 1946. HE HELPED SAVE MOSCOW

The fingers of history, rustling through the pages of the Second World War, may provide an ironic postscript to the scene that took place at dawn yesterday somewhere in the vicinity of Belgrade when Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch crumpled before the bullets of a Yugoslav firing squad. The record is fairly obvious now. A more complete search and study of the files of the German General Staff, and a historical assessment of the various factors that entered into the successful defense of Moscow by the Red Army during the fall and winter of 1941, may show that the one most important factor was the time that was bought for the Russians in the spring of 1941 by Yugoslavia and Mikhailovitch. On the record written thus far, the Russian-controlled Tito Government has taken the life of a man to whom Russia owes a great debt.

The recorded facts of the German attack on Yugoslavia and Soviet Russia in 1941 are these, as testified to by von Paulus, the German commander at Stalingrad, and by Jodl, the former German Chief of Staff, before the Allied Tribunal at Nuremberg:

Hitler drew his plan for the attack on Russia in December, 1940. At that time he hoped to absorb the Balkans without a fight. This would secure his right flank for the attack on Russiz. Mikhailovitch, then a colonel, was among an influential group in Yugoslavia that resisted an alliance with Germany, overthrew the pro-Nazi Government and installed one favorable to the Allies. When it became evident that Yugoslavia would not yield without a fight, von Paulus tells us, Hitler set the date of the drive on Tugoslavia for March and that against Russia for five weeks later. The attack on Yugoslavia actually was launched on April 6, 1941.

While Hitler was preparing his move against Yugoslavia, the new Yugoslav Government at once sent emissaries to Moscow seeking a mutual assistance pact. The best that it could get was, first, a promise to remain neutral, and then a treaty of friendship. The Ribbentrop - Molotov non-aggression pact still was in force then.

The initial German attack on Yugoslavia made swift progress. The Government was driven from Belgrade. In the hills, however, a new Yugoslav hero emerged. Mikhailovitch, fighting a gallant delaying action, rallied the remnants of the Yugoslav Army and began an open and effective guerrilla resistance to the German Army. Because of this unexpected resistance, the German Army's timetable of five weeks between the attack on Yugoslavia and the drive on the Soviet stretched to ten weeks. When it began June 22, it was weakened by the necessity of maintaining several divisions in Yugoslavia to hold that flank.

Everyone knows the rest of the story. Delayed three months beyond the time originally set for the attack, the German Army failed to reach Moscow before, the dreaded Russian winter had set in. With the help of winter, the Red Army held the line in front of Moscow. Hundreds of thousands of Germans who had expected to garrison in the shelter of the Russian capital died instead in the icy trenches a few miles away. There is good reason to believe that thiseven more than the defense of Stalingrad-was the turning point of the German-Russian conflict.

History may decide that it is not Tito-who was in Belgrade while Mikailovitch was fighting in the hills in those early days-but the executed Chetnik leader whose statue should stand in Red Square in Moscow. But Mikhallovitch fell yesterday in Belgrade. WASHINGTON, D. C. "POST" MAR. 30, '46.

lihailovich

Early this week the Belgrade radio draatically announced that the Serbian terilla Icader, Gen. Draja Mihailovich, had been captured after a manhunt that had been in progress for more than two years. The, pture is supposed to have occurred near a ace called Vishegrad in the Bosnian Mountains, but just how it was effected is a matter some mystery. The official story by the ugoslav government is that Mihailovich was tracked down to a mountain cave, guarded by less than a dozen followers-all hat were left of his famous Chetniks, once aid to be more than 100.000.

Nothing further has been heard about Mihailovich or his fate at the hands of his aptors. The capture is said to have occurred early 10 days ago, and it is not at all impossible that Mihailovich may now be dead. Everywhere in the Russian sphere of inuence he had been denounced as one of the reat war criminals and proscribed. A spokesman for the Tito government promised that Mihailovich would have a fair trial at he end of which he would certainly be shot, ecause there was more than enough evidence of his crimes to convict him.

None of the great figures of the war has een the subject of more intense propaganda, dulatory and vindictive, than General Mihailovich. On the one side he has been portrayed as the very incarnation of selfless atriotism, on the other as the archtype of ascist traitor. Nevertheless, almost nothing is known by Americans about his real personality or about his real activities and notives. .It has never been made quite clear why the British government, whose diplomatic agents certainly had something to do with the decision of the Serbian army leaders o resist the German invasion and with the toup d'et it of 1941, which deposed the Regent Paul, later in the war transferred all its support and assistance from Mihailovich and his Serbian and Bosnian Chetniks to Tito and his Croatian and Slovene Partisans. In New York recently Winston Churchill is reported to have said that it was a matter of favoring the side that was hurting the Germans most. Moreover, he has unmistakable evidence that Mihailovich had collaborated with the Germans. But the nature of this supposed collaboration is not clear, nor is it explained whether the collaboration occurred before or after the rivalry of Tito and Mihailovich in Yugoslavia had reached the stage of open civil war.

Thus on the question of whether Mihailovich betrayed the Allies or whether (as his friends insist) the Allies betrayed Mihailovich, it is quite impossible, at this point, to form an unprejudiced judgment. One thing is certain, that the bitterness engendered by this controversy, which has religious as well as political aspects, will not soon subside. And here we have another example of the evil consequences of secret diplomacy and of the use of propaganda as a diplomatic weapon. In the case of Yugoslavia and other places the British and American peoples found themselves committed by their leaders to a policy the implications of which could not be understood and about which, for lack of real information, any intelligent discussion was impossible.

APR AV ashington, D. C.

U. S. Seeks to Send Witnesses In Behalf of Milhailovich

By Ldward T. Folliard Post Reporter

The United States Government has gone to the end of General Draia Mikhailovich of Yugoslavia. In a note sent to the Tito gov-ernment in Belgrade over the weekend, and made public yesterday by the State Department, this Government praised Mikhailovich's contribution to the Allied cause. It asked that Americans attached to his headquarters and fliers rescued by his.forces be allowed to testify pn, his behalf.

From this distance, the case of General Mikhailovich is one of the most baffling of the war. In the days following Hitler's plunge into Yugoslavia, he was hailed by the Allies as the Bolivar of the Balkans. The Nazis, harassed by Mik-hailovich and his 100.000 "Chetniks." were reported to have put a price of a million dollars on his head.

Later, for reasons never whoily explained. Russia and Britain swung their support to Josip Broz Marshal Tito', now the power behind the Communist-dominated covernment in Belgrade. The Tito, regime branded Mikhailovich as a Quisling and war criminal.

On March 24 Radio Belgrade announced that Mikhailovich and 11 of his Chetniks had been captured in a mountain cave. There appeared to be little doubt about what would happen to him. Ivan Subasitch, former Foreign Minister of Yugoslavia, announced last May that Mikhailovich would be that it was confident that Yugo-"shot" when captured. He said slavia. In the interests of justice that he would be given "a fair trial.; would want to make arrangements but we have enough legal evidence for the Americans to present their

up for Mikhailovich. They told up until yesterday. how his Chetniks had helped them when they fell behind the lines and how they had helped them to escape.

In its note to Yugoslavia, the United States Government recalled how Mikhailovich, in 1941, "led important resistance forces" against the German invaders, and. told how he underwent hardships and "contributed with his forces materially to the Allied cause so heroically participated in by Yugoslavia."

"Gen. Mikhailovich continued as commander of the Yugoslav Acmy and as Minister of War until May 1944." the note said. "Sinc" that time he has been on the p .:cal plane. a controversial figure.

"As the Yugoslav authorities are no doubt aware. United States Army personnel in an Allied liaison capacity were attached to Gen. Mikhailovich's headquarters during most of the period of his military activity. They also must be aware of the fact that many United States airmen were rescued and returned to Allied lines through the undaunted efforts of Gen. Mikhailovich's forces.

"A number of these individuals and others in the United States who were closely associated with Gen. Mikhailovich possess first hand evidence which cannot but have a bearing upon the charget of enemy collaboration which the Yugoslav authorities have indicated they will bring against Gen Mikhailovich."

The American Government said evidence. It asked for an expression The news from Belgrade prompt-ed many American airmen to speak ter. No reply had been received

APRIL 10, 1946

The Washington Post

An Independent Newspaper (Published every day in the year.)

Essene Mayer, Editor and Publisher

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General Mihailovich

Marshal Tito's government has curtly refected a formal request by the United States Government that some of the American officers who were saved by the Serbian Chetniks from death or capture be permitted to testify at the trial of Gen. Draja Mihailovich. The Yugoslav government, in its reply, did not deny that General Mihailovich had sheltered American and British airmen shot or forced down over the Balkans and had aided them to escape. It merely pointed out that he had done this from selfish and unworthy motives, namely, the hope of getting Allied assistance and especially arms for his forces. Thus the implication is that any testimony American officers might give on this point would be ipso facto irrelevant to the main charge that General Mihailovich cellaborated with his ostensible enemies, the Germans, for the purpose of making war against Tito.

This ingenious reasoning is echoed by the Moscow radio, which, while the case of Mihailovich is still theoretically sub fudice has been demanding the head of "one of the greatest Hitlerite criminals." Moscow, too, admits that Mihailovich "saved a certain number of American airmen" but goes on to ask: Was it possible for him to act any differently, especially as he hoped to receive aid in food and arms under those conditions? Indeed, the Moscow radio has hinted very broadly that the American and British officers who

were with Mihailovich are themselves tainted with his guilt, for, though it must have been obvious to them that Mihailovich was doublecrossing his own people and his allies as well, "the Anglo-American mission stayed at his headquarters at the very time his forces were fighting the partisans." From all this it is easy to see what the Yugoslav government means when it insists that "full justice will be done" in the case of General Mihailovich.

The truth, however, is that both the British and American governments have a certain moral responsibility in seeing that "full justice," according to our own understanding of that word, is done. Moreover, it would be dangerous as well as hypocritical to evade this responsibility. After all, it was not without diplomatic encouragement that the Serbian military leaders undertook the revolution which led to the invasion of their country and the destruction of their capital. It is also true that the many Allied promises of assistance to General Mihailovich were very imperfectly kept. Finally, it is true that, despite these promises, the bulk of Allied military assistance in Yugoslavia was given,for strategic reasons, not to Mihailovich but to his enemy Marshal Tito, thereby enabling him to seize and hold the power he now possesses. Thus the failure of Great Britain and the United States to insist upon open and impartial justice for General Mihailovich would vastly increase existing bitterness and suspicion among Communists and non-Communists everywhere in the world, and would make all future statements, promises or pledges by either of these powers open to the deepest skepticism.

This being so, the case of General Mihailevich contains a serious threat to world amity and peace. As such it may properly be brought before the Security Council of the United Nations.

the British Foreign Office nor the American Department of State has yet explained the sudten shift of policy whereby Mihailovitch was abandoned to the vengeance of his enemies. Consequently, there is no American who can read with any easy conscience about how this "first organizer of the resistance," as he proudly and rightly calls himself, now stands deserted and friendless, weakened by confinement and perhaps by torture, to face his vindictive and remorseless judges.

70. POST Washington, D. C. JUNE 17, 1946. Mihailovitch Trial

"It was understood in advance that the trial of General Mihailovitch was to be little more tlian a propaganda demonstration after the formula established by Mr. Vishinsky when he was prosecutor in the famous purge trials in Moscow. Now it becomes apparent that the propaganda is being directed not so much against Mihailovitch and the Chetniks, as against Great Britain and the United States. For this we have our own statesmen to blame. The indictment read at the opening of the trial last week charged that if was on orders from the British that Mihailovitch attempted the liquidation of the Yugoslavian Communists and that it was with British and American consent that he came to an understanding with the German occupation forces. Both the British government and the Yugoslavian government in exile, said the indictment, were kept informed of Mihailovitch's secret conferences with the German commanders. It was also charged that in 1944 Col.'Robert McDowell. an American liaison officer with the Chetniks, was present at a conference between Mihailovitch and the representative of the German military commander in Serbia.

The thoroughly disingenuous nature of these charges is to be found in the public statement issued by Colonel McDowell in New York last Tuesday. Colonel McDowell said that it was he, not General Mihailovitch, who arranged the conference with the Germans and that he did so on instructions from the American high command. The only purpose of the conference, he declared, was to discuss terms of surrender sought by the Germans. This, in fact, was the account of the conference given to the court a few days later by Mihailovitch himself.

From the moment, apparently, that the Partisans were organized in considerable force the civil war in Yugoslavia began to overshadow the war against the German invaders. This fact would in itself suffice to account for the actions of which Mihailovitch is accused, and also for the tacit or expressed approval of his British and American advisers. It should be remembered that the only kind of warfare Mihailovitch was capable of conducting was a guerilla warfare. In a three-sided guerilla war an occonsumal accommodation with one side or the ether would be almost inevitable. Mihailovisch admitted that some of his officers had actually fought with the Axis forces but insisted that they did this without his approval or consent.

Colonel McDowell says that it was the Partisan leaders who "prostituted and destroyed the popular resistance movement." By this; doubtless, he means that they were more concerned with gaining control of the movement than with getting rid of the Germans. To anyone familiar with the tactical patterns of Communism, this statement is by no means implausible. In any case, neither

The Washington post sunday, July 7, 1946 63.

Constantin Fotitch. former Yugoslav Ambassador to Washington, is standing trial, in absentia, with Mihailovitch in Belgrade as a traitor. Mr. Fotitch is safely located in this city, where he has a legion of friends, not one. of whom has any doubt about Mr. Fotitch's integrity. Indeed, the spectacle in Belgrade verges on the absurd to those who know Mr. Fotitch's record. Far from being a traitor, Mr. Fotitch served his country and the Allies unswervingly, and played a salient role in persuading his country to resist Hitler. This was a great service that the pre-Tito Yugoslavia did for the Allied cause. It bought three weeks of precious time, so that Hitler had to adjust his timetable for the invasion of Russia, and this change, it is held by many, including the German generals at Nuernberg, may have saved Russia.

At that time, March, 1941, Marshal Tito, oblivious. like the Russians themselves. of Hitler's designs on Russia, was under the impression that the war was imperialistic. He made no contribution to events in Yugoslavia. But Fotitch, from his post in Washington; helped to precipitate the coup d'etat in Belgrade which unseated the regent, Prince Paul, who had just come to terms with Hitler. The coup threw all Yugoslavia into a ferment. It was an invitation for Hitler to march in, but the Nazis, anxious to save time and resources, sought, instead, to fan civil war. The Allies prayed and worked for Yugoslav unity against Hitler, and it was to this end Mr. Fotitch exhorted his fellow countrymen.

To be sure, Mr. Fotitch is a Serb, but his efforts were directed at the wavering Croats, particularly at Dr. Matchek, the Croat leader. He persuaded President Roosevelt to pledge moral support and material assistance to the Yugoslavs. He besieged American newspapers, this newspaper among them, to buoy up the Yugoslavs in their hour of uncertainty. Mr. Fotitch's efforts were successful. Yugoslavia decided to reject a role as bondsiave to Hitler. The fight was on. It did not last long, but it lasted long enough, as we have said, to disrupt Hitler's plans for the invasion of Russia. There was nothing, as we wrote on March 30, 1941, that "the Fuehrer dreads more than the establishment of a Balkan front." Greatly daring, we predicted what the evidence at Nuernberg proves to have been the case-that Yugoslavia's decision to resist would prove to be Hitler's undoing. In that decision, in molding Yugoslav unity back of it, Mr. Fotitch did a signal service, and this is known throughout the 'Allied world, no matter what evidence is presented at Belgrade.

Tuesday, July 16, 1946 Mihailovitch

By the time this appears Gen. Draja Mihailovitch, so recently one of the great heroes of the anti-Axis world, may have fallen before the volley of a firing squad. In condemning Mihailovitch to death as a traitor and collaborationist. Marshal Tito's military court at Belgrade stipulated that the sentence should be executed within 48 hours. Thus any last-minute efforts by British and American governments to save Mihailovitch by some form of diplomatic intervention were wholly precluded. It is in any case doubtful that such an effort would have been made. When the State Department meekly accepted the refusal of the Yugoslav government to permit American airmen, whose lives had been saved by the Chetnik leader, to testify in his behalf, it was evident that his former allies had abandoned Mihailovitch to his fate.

The trial which preceded Mihailovitch's condemnation was by any Western standard of justice farce-tragedy. Marshal Tito's foreign ministry had, in fact, notified the world in advance what the evidence and the verdict would be. The trial was organized according to the familiar pattern established by the celebrated Vishinsky at Moscow. Judges, prosecutor, counsel and witnesses had their prescribed roles and performed them under the eye of the ONZA, Marshal Tito's secret state police. It was not really a trial in the sense of an inquiry into facts but a propaganda demonstration in the interest of Soviet foreign policy, directed only incidentally against Mihailovitch and his followers, and primarily against Great Britain and the United States. This accounts for the freedom and indeed encouragement allowed to American and other foreign correspondents who were assigned to report the trial.

General Mihailovitch appears to have conducted himself with courage and as much dignity as was possible in the circumstances. His defense, however, was largely negative; that is to say, it consisted mainly of denials. He did, however, make various admissions, which, as the examination was conducted, seemed to indicate that he was placing the primary blame for his truce with the Germans and his attacks on the Partisans on his British or American advisers. This and the fact that he bore no evidences of torture led for a time to suspicions in certain quarters at London that Mihailovitch and Tito had somehow come to an understanding that he would be acquitted and would later reemerge as a collaborationist of Moscow in its program of Pan-Slavism.

The verdict of the court puts an end to all such suspicions and probably fills those who entertained them with a sense of shame. For that matter no American or Briton can have an easy conscience about Mihaifovitch. For it was the decision of their own governments, taken on grounds of what at the time doubtless seemed military expediency, that raised Tito to power and has had the ultimate effect of delivering their former ally to his executioners.

1.1

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR APRIL 29, 1946.

Mihailovic Convicted Before Trial

and Millionillovich

An Intimate Message from Washington

Registered in U.S. Patent Office

By Neal Stanford

WASHINGTON Is Draja Mihailovic a Yugoslav patriot or traitor, hero or collaborator?

Yugoslavia announces his trial next month. Both Belgrade and Moscow have no doubt that this Chetnik leader is a traitor and scoundrel of the worst type. The Soviet press refers to him as "an Axis agent committing monstrous acts of treason." Marshal Tito's new Yugoslav Federated People's Republic announces that "Mihailovic's crimes are far too big and horrible to allow discussion of whether he is guilty or not."

With the government that is to try him and that Power's ideological mentor so openly prejudging the case, the decision of the court can be pretty well surmised. For Mihailovic has already been judged, if not sentenced, by the Moscow and Belgrade governments.

The United States Government has become involved in this trial not because it holds unqualifiedly that Mihailovic is patriot rather than traitor. Rather, "in the interests of justice," as it wrote Marshal Tito, it wants the defense to have an opportunity to state its case.

Washington refuses to become involved in the very controversial political conflict that arose between Chetnik and Partisan after Marshal Tito (a Moscow-trained Communist) moved into Yugoslavia and won over the Allies' support,

It only states factually that in 1941 when the Germans overran Yugoslavia. Mihailovic organized the first resistance .orces. It asserts: "Fighting under the greatest hardships, he contributed materially to the Allied cause."

All Washington is asking is that those considerations b taken into account in judging and sentencing this one-time ally.

Its request that Americans attached to Mihailovic's headquarters be permitted to appear in his defense has been turned down by Belgrade. Also, Tito's Government does not want the American airmen the Chetniks rescued to tell their stories in court. Several, however, in letters to the press and their Government, have risen to Mihailovic's defense.

CHRONICLE San Francisco. Cal.

APRIL 7, 1946 YUGOSLAVIA

No

General Draja Mikhailovitch, one-time hero of Chetnik resistance, sat in a Yugoslav jail last week waiting for his treason trial, hoping that American Army personnel would be permitted to testify in his defense.

A U. S. State Department note to the Tito government had urged that U. S. flyers who had been shot down over Yugoslav territory and given refuge from the Germans by Draja's forces he allowed to testify in the trial. At week's end Mr. Belgrade admits that Mihailovic may have saved "a number of American airmen." Washington put the figure at 600. But he could hardly have done otherwise, Tito's regime holds, since he wanted American food and weapons.

Belgrade, in comparison, boasts of having saved about 2.000 Allied airmen, mostly Americans. Partisans, however, did that, Belgrade explains, "as their duty toward their war comrades."

From the best evidence here, the answer to the question that opened this message seems to be that Mihailovic may have been both patriot and traitor; that he was patriot up until the time that the rival partisans became in his eyes more of a menace to his country than the Germans.

People here who should know insist that Mihailovic organized resistance forces that thwarted Hitier's deal with the Yugoslav Government. They recall that with the Allies in no position to arm the Chetniks, Mihailovic had largely to fend for himself. By the time help could be given, however, the Chetniks and Partisans were fighting a merciless civil war that made reconciliation impossible.

During that period. Mihailovic, who started out as a patriot, may have connived with the Axis for arms in his private civil war. Having fought the Partisans, who eventually became the basis of Yugoslavia's present Government, it is easy to understand why that regime is so hot on his trail,

Next month's trial may substantiate the charges that there is positive proof Mihallovic connived with the enemy. But it should not ignore the contentions of the American Government and of many individual Americans that the Chetnik leader, at least for the time they knew him, aided the Allied cause.

The temper of the Yugoslav Government being what it is, there seems only one possible verdict: A traitor's end for this Chetnik General. History rather than the military court may be left to record his original patriotism, which Washington does not question.

Byrne's office received the lengthy reply from Marshal Tito's government. It began with: No. Ended with: "Full justice will be done at the trial."





Gotham Gazette

Gen. Mikhailovitch, due to stand trial as a traitor im Yugoslavia, will either commit suicide or be shot while trying to escape, according to the Broadway grapevine, which usually knows.... The New York Times

The second second

Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. "All the News That's Fit to Prist." ADDLER S. OCHS, Publisher 1596-1995.

MONDAY, JUNE 8, 1946.

YUGOSLAVIA TODAY

The American and British Governments have sent formal protests to the Government of Yugoslavia against its incidement of obstruction to the Allied Military Government in Trieste, where any incident might set off an explosion that would be hard to cope with. This diplomatic step is merely one of a number of recent representations made to the Yugoslav Government.

Yugoslavia today is dominated by a small Communist minority headed by Marshal Tito, who not only views both the capitalist and the socialist West with doctrinal suspicion, but who also considers himself to be a Russian proconsul and the leader of the Communist spearhead toward the West. He is now imposing on his country a totalitarian regime which is ruthless in its methods.

Having "legalized" his rule by a typically totalitarian election boycotted by whatever remained of an opposition, Marshal Tito is putting into effect all that he learned during his long years of training in Communist revolutionary practice. There is neither political nor religious nor any other freedom in Yugoslavia. The press is shackled, the opposition has been crushed, and the OZNA, or Secret Police, sees to it that all Yugoslavs without exception join the Tito forces and hail the Leader, or they do not eat. The least sign of opposition entails the confiscation of ration cards for food and clothing, even the loss of identification papers, which might mean arrest. Private property, from the nation's industries and larger landed estates to stores, hotels and private homes, is being confiscated without compensation to its owners, who are generally imprisoned as "collaborators" or "profiteers." Even the UNRRA must serve as a weapon of the "revolution," for the supplies it sends free to save the starving are not only represented as coming from Russia but are also sold by the Government at profiteering pricee.

Such practices are sometimes represented as the inevitable concomitants of a revolution. But there is no right of revolution by a minority in a counitry that is free. And it must be kept in mind that these are not excesses of undisciplined mobs committed in the heat of passion, but integral parts of the policy of a Government claiming international recognition. The assurances given to the people of Yugoelavia and other countries of eastern Europe during the war must still be redeemed.

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GENERAL MIHAILOVICH

FIRST PAGE EDITORIAL IN ALL HEARST NEWSPAPERS.

PITTSEURGH SUN-TELEGRAPH MARCH 29, 1946.

Editorial

A Shameful Betrayal

IF THE United States Government does less than its utmost to prevent the planned murder of Gen. Draja Mihailovic by Tito's Communists, it will have committed an act of betrayal that the American people will remember with shame forever.

Gen. Mihailovic, as war minister of Yugoslavia, valiantly resisted the advance of the German armies across his country.

When the hopeless fight was lost, he refused to give up but organized the brilliant and tremendously effective Yugoslav underground army, which harried the Germans so boldly and effectively that many divisions of Nazi troops were kept from other fronts.

MONG the feats for which Americans are and A should be most grateful to him was his rescue of some 500 American airmen forced down in Yugoslavia in raids on the Romanian and Bulgarian oil fields.

So highly did the American Government value the bravery and military effectiveness of Mihailovic's patriot army that American military missions were secretly sent into Yugoslavia to cooperate with it.

Gen. Mihailovic was OUR FRIEND AND ALLY.

But when Soviet Russia set about infiltrating and undermining Yugoslavia, the United States Government withdrew its support from Mihailovic and gave it to the Communist puppet Tito.

NOW Tito's relentless agents have hunted Mi-hailovic down and Tito's spokesmen have announced, BEFORE ANY TRIAL HAS BEEN HELD, that he "certainly will be shot."

Mihailovic's only offense is that he RESIST-ED COMMUNIST RUSSIA IN DEFENSE OF HIS OWN COUNTRY'S FREEDOM.

In abandoning him to support the DESPOIL-ERS of his country's freedom, the American Government committed a sufficiently shameful act of betraval.

If it now permits him to be murdered by his Communist enemies, the shame will be eternal.

SOME FOUR YEARS AGO, General Draja Mihailovich, hero of Jugoslavia in its stubborn guerilla warfare against invading Nazis, was the toast of the United States and other Alliede nations

Then Moscow came into the picture, Suddenly General Mihailovich became a hunted man, condemned by his own government as a "traitor" and general Tito, supported by Russia. gained recognition as Jugoslavia's "true leader."

Tito accused Mihailovich of collaborating with the Germans and Italians. Mihailovich attempted to defend himself but, with Russia in control of Belgrade, he was forced to flee for his life.

Last week, from Belgrade came the announcement that he had been cantured, with 11 of his followers; the only remaining munibers of a guerilla force of 300,000.

Until Tito and Moscow took over the situation in Yugoslavia. Mihailovich's name was synonymous with other immortals in battles fought in the name of liberty and freedom He rendered great service to the Allied cause by disrupting German communications and supply lines in the Balkans when Marshal Erwin Rommel and his relentless Afrika Korps were marching on Alexandria, the Nile and Suez.

Because of his stubborn tactics, the Germans were force to maintain a force of 40 divisions in Yugoslavia and on Aug 16, 1942, British Commanders in the Near East-Admiral Hard wood, General Auchinleck and Marshal Tedder-joined in ; message to General Mihailovich, saying:

"With the greatest of admiration we are following you: directed operations, which are of inestimable value to our Allied cause."

This is the man now facing trial on charges of treason.

Americans and others who recall the glories that were Mihailovich's before Moscow stepped in are hoping that Belgrade will grant him a fair trial. History some day may write the truth about the controversial Yugoslav situation and this one-time hero whose death is so desired by the enemies of Jemocracy.

BULLETIN

Philadelphia, Pa.

Remembering a Friend

NOTE of the State Department to the Yugoslav Government of Marshai Tito asks that American testimony in behalf of the captured General Mikhailovitch be admitted at his coming trial. If Dalkan politics run true to form the bitter rivairy between these two leaders is likely to prevent a fair trial of Mikhailovitch. who is charged with treason and fascism.

The American note points out that American airmen owe their lives to the protection which Mikhailovitch gave them. The Serbian General was first among his countrymen to fight Hitler. In the days before the Soviet was attacked by the Nazis Marshal Tito remained aloof from his country's fight for independence.

In the last years of the war Great Britain and the United States yielded to Russia in the latter's request that all our aid should be given to the present Yugoslav dictator. But American sense of fair play demands that his opponent, who was a good friend to the cause of freedom when it badly needed one, should have justice done him.

Marshal Tito will gain in esteem in the western world if he accords his captured rival a fair opportunity to defend himself in court.

Chicago Daily Tribune 80 IBE WORLD'S GREATEST NEWSPAPER 80 WHERE IS AMERICA'S SELF-RESPECT?

The shabby show trial which Tito's Communists are putting on in Beigrade has evoked protests from even such a nonentity as the government of Bulgaria. Prosecution witnesses said that the present Bulgarian minister of war, Daman Velchev, had dealings with the principal defendant, Gen. Mihailovitch, for the purpose of establishing an anti-communist front which could lead to formation of a Balkan union.

The Bulgarian government promptly issued a statement saying that the charge was "completely fantastic." The protest is remarkable in that the Bulgarian government is as completely under the thumb of Russia as is Tito's Yugoslav dictatorship, yet there seems to be a limit to what Communists will take coming from other Communists. They draw the line at being made the goat in a propaganda scenario.

Contrast the Bulgarian protest with the inaction of the Truman administration and the state department in failing to take offense at maliclous slanders directed against this country and the war department during the Mihailovitch trial and you are reluctantly compelled to conclude that Bulgaria's government has more national self-respect than has the United States. Our government hasn't uttered a peep of protest while it has been deliberately smeared to serve the purposes of Russian propaganda.

Some of Tito's well coached perjurers testified in the trial that Col. Robert H. McDorgell, head of the American military mission at Mihailovitch's headquarters during the war, treated in company with the Chetnik leader with the Germans. The war and state departments failed to make sharp representations over this affront to American honor. The only response to this charge of collaborating with the enemy was in the form of a personal statement issued by McDowell, not thru any official channel, but thru the private Committee for a Fair-Trial for Gen. Mihailovitch.

McDowell said that in 1944 he received a German intermediary who was endeavoring to arrange terms under which German forces in Yugoslavia could be surrendered to American and British military representatives. Mihallovitch was not at the conference, which failed of its purpose. The false testimony given at the trial is permitted to stand without official rebuttal from our government. It serves the Russian intention of representing the United States to millions of inhabitants of the European slave states as having collaborated with Hitler.

Hitler. The fact that a smear of this sort was rigged against Col. McDowell was no accident. The colonel served as military aide to Secretary of State Brynes at the first conference of foreign ministers in Paris. The evident intention of Russia in putting its stooge. Thto, up to this smear is to discredit the United States and its diplomatic representatives in order to further Russian plans to fix the terms of the peace for Europe. Mr. Byrnes hasn't even the spunk to complain.

The secretary of state has many failings, but being a collaborator with German fascism isn't, one of them. If the charge were that he was a collaborator with Russian fascism, it would be far more plausible. CHICAGO DAILY NEWS 67.

JOHN S. KNIGHT, EDITOR and PUBLISHER

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TUESDAY, JULY 16, 1946.

With Outward Calm

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The world has watched the trial of Draja Mihailovic like spectators at an old folk tragedy whose end is known to all of them. Under Soviet justice, the outcome of a political trial contains no element of uncertainty or suspense.

In Yugoslavia, at least, two wars went on at once, sometimes more. There was the German war and later there was the civil war—the Communist revolution. In the intervals they fought the old native blood feuds between Croat and Serb; Mohammedan and Christian; nationalist and separatist. The fighting often followed the rules of mountain vendettas, which are cruel and treacherous.

A man might find himself fighting for his life in these separate wars on successive weeks or successive days. It would be possible to prove that almost everybody had communication at one time or another with any of his enemies while saving his hide from some other of his enemies. Mihailovic snatched at Italian food and ammunition on one or two occasions. Everybody, including Tito, snatched at what he could get.

Finally, the war against Germany and Italy was won. Mihailovic lost the Civil War—ostensibly to Tito—actually to the armed might of the Soviet empire. We had backed him in the German war—we threw him to the Communists to make a Red holiday.

He accepted the news of his death sentence with outward calm.

POST-GAZETTE Pittsburgh, Pa. JUNE 11, 1946.

Silent Yugoslavia

As the trial of General Draja Mihailovic, the Chetnik leader charged with freason, began yesterday in Belgrade, the United States State Department still had received no reply to two notes asking that American soldiers be permitted to testify for the defense.

It is incrcuible that a country that has received and is still receiving from us so much toward famine relief and economic recovery should with impunity snub our State Department. Possibly if we shut off the flow of food and other supplies it would loosen her tongue and elicit an answer to a reasonable request.

TIMES New York, N. Y. REPEAT JULY 16,1946. OF P.6~

MIKHAILOVITCH

Like a Greek tragedy, the trial of Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch has proceeded to its inevitable conclusion. His conviction and sentence were certain from the start. The Tito Government repeatedly had said as much, even before he was captured in his mountain hideout almost a year after the end of the war. He was to be given a "fair" trial, found guilty and shot. That now is the verdict.

The Belgrade trial had the outward aspect of jurisprudence. It was a public trial, of which the outside world was allowed an uncensored account. Mikhailovitch was confronted with the evidence against him and allowed to answer the charges. There ends, however, the resemblance to judicial procedures in democratic countries, or even to the trial at Nuremberg, where a new principle of international law is being established. Mikhailovitch was held incomunicado for weeks after his capture and as is known on good authority, he was subjected to torture during those weeks. Defense counsel was allowed only a few days in which to prepare his case. Proffered testimony of United States and British fliers, who had been rescued by the Chetniks, and of other Allied officers. who had done liaison work with Mikhailovitch, was barred. Wholly extraneous issues of United States and British political attitudes were introduced. The mere privilege of admitting or denying charges that was granted General Mikhailovitch does not. answer the democratic world's ides of. a defense or a fair trial.

Mikhailovitch's principal crime, obviously, was that he lost the war within a way that was fought in Yugoslavia. He did not deny from the stand that there were clashes between his Chetniks and Tito's Partisans. That, however, was not the charge. The public charge was that he collaborated with the Germans and Italians. He denied any collaboration with the Germans. and admitted the authenticity only of. some collaboration with the Italians. There is considerable evidence that the Partisans were not above such dealings themselves, when it suited their purposes.

More was at stake in Beigrade than the life of the one-time Serbian hero, who was the first man in Yugoslavia to lead a well-organized resistance to the Nazis. Tito's Government also was on trial. By the verdict it too has been found guilty. Chicago Duily Tribune 4. the world's greatest newspaper

HE MEN WHO CONDEMNED MIHAILOVITCH

Gen. Draja Mihailovitch has been convicted a military court in Yugoslavia and sentenced be shot. The sentence was inevitable from the moment that Mihailovitch fell into the hands of his communist rival, Marshal Tito.

Actually, however, the Serbian leader was indemned to death by a deal made thousands of miles from the mountain fastnesses to which he retired in 1941 to conduct guerilla warfare tainst the invading Nazis. His real executioners are Roosevelt and Churchill and they signed his death warrant when, at Tehran, they appeased Stalin by repudiating the royal Yugoslav

vernment in exile and agreed to recognize alin's agent, Tito, as the allied leader in ocpied Yugosiavia.

Until that time. Mihailovitch had been the apresentative of the legitimate government in a occupied country. Young King Peter had fused to collaborate with Hitler. He dismissed his regents and took over the government of the kingdom when Hitler demanded entry to Geran troops. His army was shattered in a matr of days. He and his court fied the country. Mihailovitch, then a colonel. retired to the Serbian mountains and started organizing his Berillas.

The Yugoslav government in exile promoted, mm to general, named him war minister and recognized him as the leader of its resistance forces. For more than two years he conducted heroic struggie against the Germans, harassing her communications and immobilizing thousends of their troops.

Then, in 1944, his legal status was destroyed order to appease Stalin. He found himself posed not only to German, Italian, and Bulgarian invaders, but also to the communist forces which rejected the authority of the govment whose servant he was. In his book, it is they who were the rebels, not he. What measures Tito took in his difficult position may be learned in time. Certainly, the concocted

reidence and tofture extorted confessions of a nmunist court cannot be taken at face value. The charge on which he was condemned was that of collaboration with the Germans, altho he asserted that he met leaders of the invading rees only in military parleys. The charge itself

s ironical, because Tito, like every other Communist in the world, was an active collaborationist with the Nazis from 1939 until Hitler raded Russia. And Tito was merely a tool of greatest collaborationist of the war, Stalin. Mihailovitch is condemned to death as a traitor, because he failed. Tito, who betrayed

earth, will execute the sentence.

Treason doth never prosper; what's the reason?

Why, if it prosper, none dare call it treason.

Churchill has all but confessed the error he made. The available evidence is that he was more or less forced into the deal by Roosevelt, to died without acknowledging his mistake. hallovitch is only one victim. The greater sufferers are all the people of central Europe, sacrificed to Roosevelt's delusion that a Commist can be trusted.

SATURDAY- Chicago Berald-American Editorial Page

The Mihailovich Lynching

THE conduct of the Yugoslav military tribunal that tried and condemned Gen. Draja Mihailovich was exactly what was to be expected of a Communist puppet court. The outcome was foregone from the start.

The murder of this patriot was the sole objective, and the hearing was conducted in the spirit of a lynching.

As the distinguished Americans of the Committee for a Fair-Trial for Draja Mihailovich have flatly declared:

"The trial was a parody on justice and the verdict a travesty . . . The Yugoslav authorities, by the SINGLE ACT OF REFUSING WITNESSES FOR THE DEFENSE, have impugned themselves and revealed to the entire world the fraudulent mature of the Belgrade proceedings."

The witnesses for the defense whom the Yugoslav puppet court refused to hear included many British and American airmen brought down over Yugoslavia and saved from German captivity by Gen. Mihailovich's forces.

Among the witnesses also were allied military officers assigned to co-operate with Gen. Mihailovich in his heroic resistance against the German occupation.

The Yugoslav court freely admitted hearsay and biased testimony slandering these officers AND THEIR GOVERNMENTS but it declined to accept any testimony from the officers themselves, knowing that they would REFUTE the false charge that Gen. Mihailovich had collaborated with the German enemy.

One of these officers, Col. Robert McDowell, head of the last American mission to Mihailovich, has given to the Committee for a Fair Trial for Draja Mihailovich the testimony he would have given in the Yugoslav court had he been permitted to do so.

It was one of Col. McDowell's duties to watch for and report any signs of collaboration but he found none.

On the contrary, he told the committee the general rebuffed all efforts to draw him into collaboration, even when these were made by former friends.

Relating an instance in which a group of Montenegrins who had collaborated with the Germans offered to join forces with Mihailovich, Col. McDowell said:

"The officer in command of the Montenegrin Chetniks earlier had been a close friend of Mihailovich, yet the general refused even to see the man. I have seen documents which prove that in other instances former friends of Mihailovich who had suc cumbed to German inducements has repeatedly attempted to open up re lationships with the general but has been rebuffed."

Testimony was given at the Belgrade trial that Col. McDewell hac advised Gen. Mihailovich to fight the Partisans (Communists) even with the support of the Germans.

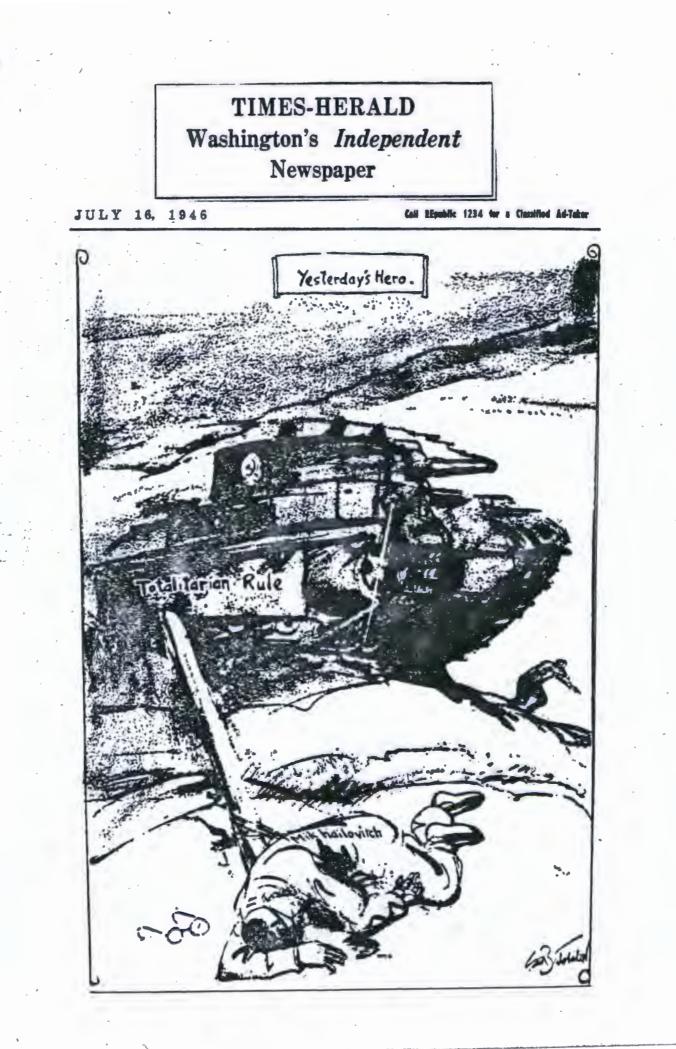
"The statement is completely false on all points," Col. McDowell declared.

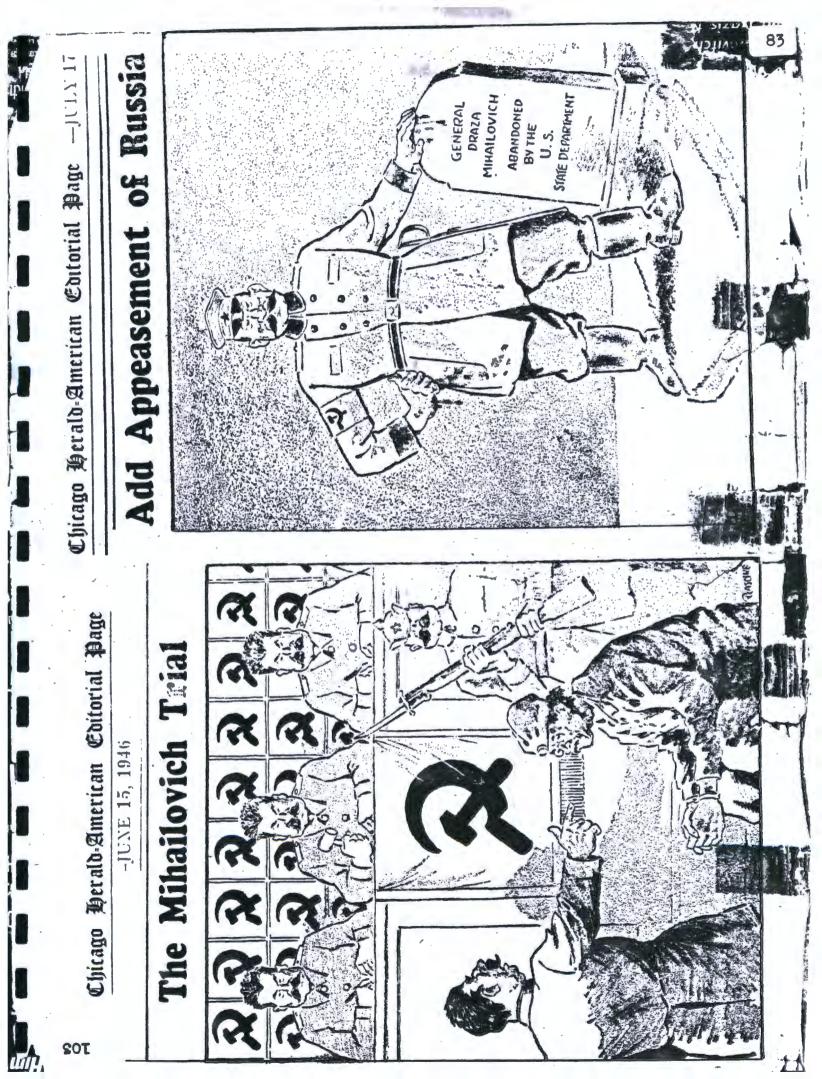
In the Belgrade court Gen. Mihailovich was accused of holding conversations in 1944 with a Nazi representative named Stearker.

Col. McDowell refuted that testimony by pointing out that it was he, not Mihailovich, who talked to Stearker, and that the object of Stearker's visit was to DISCUSS TERMS FOR SUBRENDERING GERMAN FORCES.

The Belgrade court accepted the testimony of a witness who said four American airmen, whom he named, were murdered by Gen. Mihailovich's

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The cheeks of every honest man Are wet with tears today; And everyone, at murder done. For justice kneel to pray.

The evil deed that Tito did Smells foul to honest men: The world will weep at. Draza's death Till freedom comes again.

Tito a triple traitor was, A life-long cheat and knave. Who sought through Russian tyranny To make his land a slave.

While Stalin kissed with Hitler. Tito kissed Hitler too. And blessed the bloody Nazi band That raped and sacked his native land. The Serbs and Draza made a stand But Tito was untrue.

And when the Russians joined the war And Tito turned to kill. He fought not for his countryfolk But fought for Stalin still.

When Draza won a victory, Black Tito claimed the credit. A radio on Russian soil In noisy clamor said it.

In vile folly the Allies

Then bowed to Stalin's orders, And gave to Tito countless guns To join the fight on Hitler's Huns; But Tito murdered Serbia's sons, Who guarded Serbia's borders.

Cold Stalin's orders must be served : The Serbs must not be free: Convicted by a mighty lie, Draza Mihialovich must die Who stands for liberty.

Five hundred Yankee airmen Give Tito back the lie: They know the truth of Draza Whom Tito dooms to die.

DRAZA DIES A MARTYR But Tito will not hear them speak

("Facit indignatio versus") WATSON KIRKCONNELL

Hamilton, Ontario, Canada THE AMERICAN SRBOBRAN Friday, July 26, 1946

MIRROR New York, N. Y.

JULY 18, '46.



Foul murder is his aim: Three of his bloody generals Conclude a court of shame.

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And as the summer sunshine dawns Upon white Belgrade town, The guns of murdering Communists Shoot noble Draza down.

At last the Yanks and English see No deed is on the level That sells the saints and heroes To please a bloody devil.

The lying clamors of their press And radio have ceased, And men and nations now begin To see the folly and the sin Of hoping by foul means to win The friendship of a beast.

Pale Churchill gnaws his black cig To hear of Draza's doom: The haggard ghost of Roosevelt la restless in the tomb;

But in the teeking Kremlin Where bloody Stalin stands, The tyrant laughs in bloody glee And cringing servants shrink to see Fresh blood upon his hands.

But all shall speak of Draza, And all shall tell his worth, Long after bloody autocrats Have vanished from the earth

For through all lands and nations His name shall glorious be When, to the comfort of all souls, Serbs, Balts, Ukrainians and Poles And Russians-shall be free.

Then let us pray for Draza, That he with God may dwel His tortures done, his warfare o'el Among the saints for evermore While Tito rots in hell.

MARTYRS OF MOSCOW! 'Last trail of Mihailovic and his Chetniks.) THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE. MONITOR, BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 1946

Mihailovic Executed at Dawn; **Denied Guilt as Collaborator**

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, July 17 (P)-Gen. Draja Mihailovic, once acclaimed by the allied world as the organizer of the Yugoslav Resistance movement, was shot by a firing squad at dawn today-less than 48 hours dawn today—less than 48 hours after his conviction on charges of treason and collaboration with the Germans.

Eight other men who were convicted with the former Chetnik leader were executed at the same time.

The others executed were Redoslavrade Radic, former Chetnik unit commander; Milos Glisch, Chetnik leader; Oscar Pavlovic, former, Zagreb Chief of Police; D. Yovanovic, former Chief of Police of Belgrade.

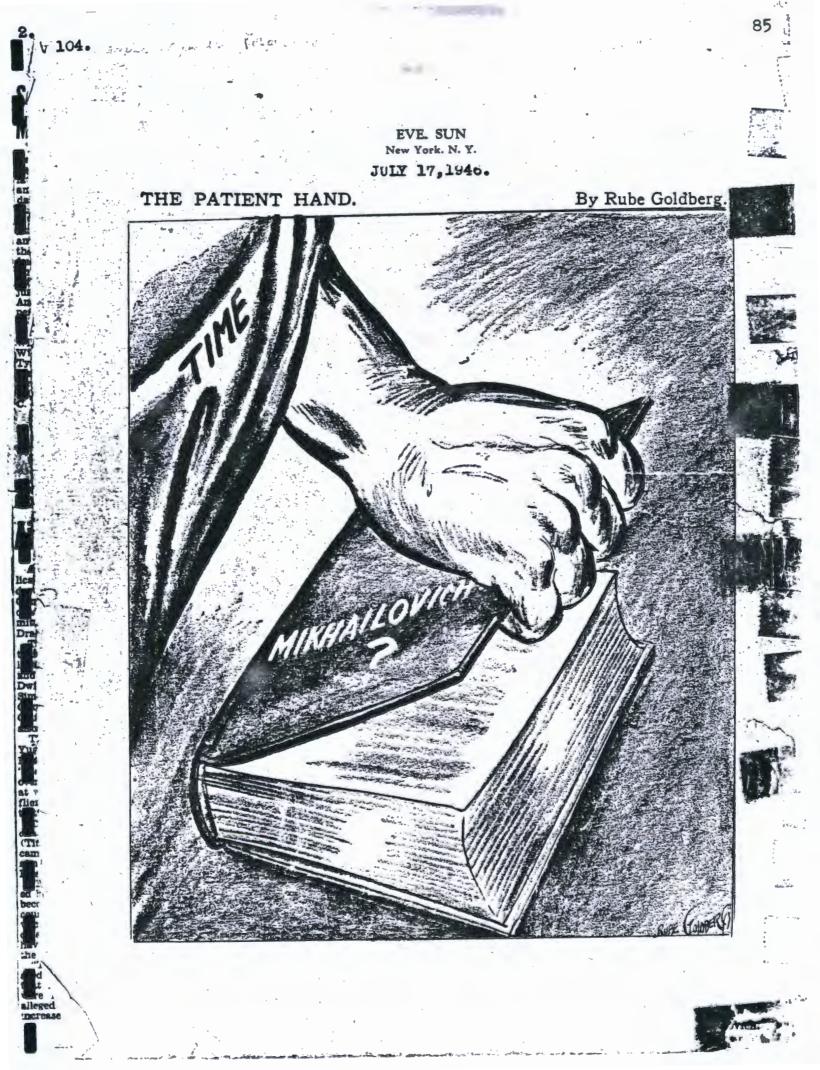
Mihailovic and 23 codefendants were convicted July 15 by a Yugoslav military court here. He and 10 others were sentenced to capital punishment, and the remaining 13 to prison terms ranging from 20 years to 18 months. Two of those sentenced to be shot and eight of those sentenced to prison were convictetd in absentia.

The Presidium of the Yugoslav Parliament yesterday rejected appeals for mercy, The trial of the Serbian-born

Chetnik leader and his fellow de-

fendants began June 10, and was marked by partial "confessions on the part of some of the principals. Mihailovic, however, maintained that he was innocent of collaboration and that he had fought to drive the Nazis from Yugoslavia.

The Yugoslav Government refused throughout the proceedings to allow United States fliers, who had been forced down in Yugo-slavia, to testify that they had been saved by Mihailovic and his Chetniks.



MAY 26, 1952

5.26.52

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS CONTINUED

and vodka!" Russians are damned if they do and damned if they don't. HANSARD ESTE

Philadelphia, Pa.

TITO SPEAKS

Sirs:

As a combat flyer during the past war I was shot down over Yugoslavia and lived for many months in the hills with Mihajlović and his Četniks. Were it not for this "war criminal," 500 American and Allied flyers, as well as myself, would not be alive today.

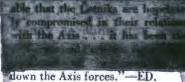
Immediately following Mihajlovic's capture in March of 1946, 20 of our group traveled from various parts of the country at our own expense to Washington to appeal to President Truman and Congress to let our stories be told and obtain permission for us to travel, also at our own expense, to Belgrade to testify on behalf of Mihajlović.

We succeeded in having the U.S. State Department send two official notes to Tito requesting that our testimony be heard at the trial. The first note was returned with a very crude and very flat "No." The second was completely ignored.

I might add that it was proved that a few Cetnik lieutenants were guilty of collaboration with the Nazis, However this is always true in guerrilla warfare....

CAPTAIN RICHARD L. FELMAN, USAF Fairchild Air Force Base Fairchild, Wash.

• The degree of collaboration between Mihajlović's Cetniks and the Nazis has never Leen clearly and objectively determined. Some diplomatic sources believe strongly that whatever arrangements Mihajlović or his lieutenants made with certain Nazi or Italian generals were made for the purpose of preserving Četnik strength for decisive action against the Germans at the close of the war. The British government has acknowledged that in 1941 Mihajlović rendered useful services to the Allied cause, but in 1943, according to Winston Churchill in Closing the Ring, the Chiefs of Staff reported: "It is clear from information avail-



CASE FOR THE CETNIKS

Sirs:

Your comment on Captain Felman's letter on Tito and Mihajlović (Letters to the Editor, LIFE, May 26) shows the fantastic thoroughness with which the Communists have falsified history, so that the Western worldincluding Winston Churchill and LIFE -is still befuddled enough to believe the inflated stories of Partisan resistance, and the corollary lie of Četnik collaboration with the Nazis.

The Partisans' chief concern from the start was the establishment of a Communist dictatorship; Yugoslavia's anti-Communist peasantry resisted; the result was civil war. Says Colaković, one of Tito's top ministers: "More men fell in that fratricidal struggle than in the struggle against the invader and the Ustaš." Tito claims his Partisans killed more Germansbut tying down Germans was more vital than killing them, and the Cetniks tied down fully as many in their area as Partisans did in theirs. Late in the war certain Četnik commanders, under attack from Partisan armies (air-supplied by Americans) and driven to desperation by their own shortages, made limited agreements with the Germans. Nevertheless they maintained their independence, rescued Allied airmen even when it meant clashes with Germans and struck heavy blows whenever opportunities arose.

CONTINUED ON PARE 10



The total evidence from a score of liaison officers and 600 rescued Allied airmen makes nonsense of the charges of collaboration. Major Linn Farish, senior American assigned to Tito's headquarters in 1944, was at first inclined to believe the charges against the Cetniks; indeed it was he who brought out the first Partisan "documentation" against Mihajlović. But after further experience in Yugoslavia he repudiated the significance of the "documents." In a report written in May 1944 he castigated the folly of supporting the Partisans in a war of extermination against the Cetniks. Before he was killed, Farish's opinion of the Partisan movement had evolved to the point of complete condemnation.

In the May 5 LIFE you reproduced only half the poster offering a reward for the head of Tito. The offer as actually printed also offered 100,000 gold marks for the head of Mihajlović! DAVID MARTIN

Norwalk, Conn.







• As it stated at the outset LIFE published the series "Tito Speaks" frankly as Tito's point of view and "as an important historical document." Mr. Martin, student of Balkan affairs and author of Ally Betrayed, a book on Mihajlović, here presents views on one aspect of Tito's history. With both sides heard from, LIFE now lets the argument rest.-ED.



Shall This Be His Monument?

liance with Germany. Drain Mihailo- overthrew their appeasing Governvic aroused his countrymen to Laht ment they proved that they loved libr their liberty.

It was 15,000,000 poorly armed, The hero of this liberty-loving heroic Yugoslavs against what at that movement was Draja Mihailovic, moment seemed to be a conquering, vic-leader of the patriotic Chetniks. He inspired his people, almost with bare prious Germany.

So enthusiastic was all the anti-hands, to resist.

The civilized world applauded his Nazi world that Ralph Ingersoll, to mention one American journalist, wrotecourage and daring.

n March 28, 1941:

"There is a great happiness in the TIME passed. Hitler attacked Soviet justice and the right? world today - and the Yugoslavs not make a single mistake and yet he has lost. He lost because the com- power, from democracy to the Big got a friend, mon people, the plain people of Three. Yugoslavia love liberty more than

lowest ebb and Russia was still in statement-that when the Yugoslavs erty more than they feared death"

WHEN the Allied cause was at its they fear death. That is a very large

can and British support, in arms and funds and advisers, were sent to him. Gen. Billy Mitchell's sister was in

Yugoslavia, the close friend and adviser of Mihailovic. American flyers aided him.

Yct, suddenly he was dropped. He was dropped by Great Britain and the United States. They withdrew their friendship and support. They smeared

his name. They associated him with the Nazi.

The reason for this unscrupulous hetraval of a noble hero was that by the Tehran and Yalta, agreements. -Yugoslavia was put in the Russian sphere of influence.

Yugoslavia, which stood up more manfully than many greater and more powerful European nations against Nazi enslavement, was, by order of her friends and allies and the so-called liberty-loving countries, forced to accept Russian enslavement.

Josip Broz, a Communist, once a soldier in the Russian Red Army, now called Tito, became the agent of Soviet imperialism in Yugoslavia.

And the United States and Great Britain permitted the enslavement by recognizing and aiding Tito.

IHAILOVIC was sacrificed to a deal.

Like Robert Bruce, he took to the hills. He and his Chetniks continued the struggle for the liberty of their people.

As during the war, they had rebelled against German enslavement. so after V-E Day they rebelled against Russian enslavement.

Americans have always loved the man who loved freedom, who gave his life for the liberty of his people.

Mihailovic has now been caught by Tito in a. Bosnian cave, a wreck of a man, tired, despairing, hopeless.

Shall we, after Tito has shot him erect a monument to his memory as we have erected monuments to other heroes in the battle for liberty? To Pulaski and Kosciusko?

Shall we hold requiems for him after Tito has slaughtered him?

Or shall we speak now, today, for

When Mihailovic is no more, let in have made it . . . Adolph Hitler did the United States and Great Britain. not be said that his blood is upon Amer-The focus changed from liberty to ica-that Americans deserted and for

Yet Mihailovic carried on. Ameri-

Russia. Stalin became the ally of

PART III. MORE RECENT PERIOD:



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Truman Statement

THE AWARD OF THE LEGION OF MERIT TO GENERAL DRAGOLJUB MIHAILOVICH

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Excerpts From Department of State Correspondence With Congressman Derwinski

In August of 1967, Congressman Edward J. Derwinski (R.-II1.), after an exchange of correspondence with the Pentagon and the State Department, obtained from the Department of State the declassification of the posthumous award of the Legion of Merit to General Dragoljub Mihailovich, which was made March 29, 1948, and classified at the time for fear of offending the Yugoslav Communist Government.

In its final letter to Congressman Derwinski the State Department, quoting the citation, said:

"An award of the Legion of Merit, in the degree of Chief Commander was made posthumously to General Mihailovich on March 29, 1948, under an order of the Secretary of the Army dated January 23, 1948. General Mihailovich was executed in Yugoslavia in June 1946. The citation accompanying the award, signed by President Truman, reads as follows:

'General Dragoljub Mihailovich distinguished himself in an outstanding manner as Commander-in-Chief of the Yugoslavian Army Forces and later as Minister of War by organizing and leading important resistance forces against the enemy which occupied Yugoslavia, from December 1941 to December 1944. Through the undaunted efforts of his troops, many United States airmen were rescued and returned safely to friendly control. General Mihailovich and his forces, although lacking adequate supplies, and fighting under extreme hardships, contributed materially to the Allied cause, and were instrumental in obtaining a final Allied victory.'

"The proposal for the award appears to have arisen from the interest in General Mihailovich expressed by a group of American aviators whom he had rescued during the war and who, despite his death in 1946, desired this recognition of his services to the Allied cause." 92

DRAJA MIKHAILOVICH-YUGOSLAV GUERRILLA LEADER

Mr. SMITH of Illinois. Mr. President, for more than 20 years a determined cealition of Americans and Yugoslavian refugees have struggled against overwhelming odds to clear the name and memory of World War II Yugoslav guerrilla leader Drafa Mikhallovich.

After the war Mikhailovich was tried and executed by the Tito government for collaboration with Germany.

The Tucson Daily Citizen recently published an article by Richard Felman, an American flyer who safely escaped from occupied Yugoslavia with the aid of Mikhailovich and his Chetniks. I ask unanimous consent that Major Felman's story be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD. as follows:

(From the Tucson (Ariz.) Daily Citizen, May 16, 1970]

D. MIKHAILOVICH: PATE WAS MERCILESS TO ME WHEN IT THREW ME INTO THIS MAELSTROM

(By Richard L. Felman)

(EDITOR'S NOTE .- Maj. Richard L. Felman (USAF, Ret.) has lived in Tucson the past two decades. He is a former New Yorker. He remains active in numerous ways in his fight to clear the name of Mikhallovich, recently attracting publicity against the Tito-backed entry of a lavish movie, "The Battle of Neretva," in last month's Oscar Award sweepstakes in the best foreign film category. It did not win.)

To the hundreds of us in uniform, home from history's greatest war (which was still unfinished behind us), there was no more beautiful sight in the world than New York harbor.

Drinking in the sights of New York-from shipside was diversion enough as we waited out the seemingly interminable time for anchoring.

I was hungrier for a newspaper than for a Red Cross coffee-doughtnut feed and eagerly grasped a New York Times. On Page two, my whole homecoming jubilation was shattered.

There was a dispatch from Yugoslavia: "Marshall Tito announced his Partisan forces had successfully destroyed the large ammunition dump and a railroad terminal at Gorny Milovits after fighting off superior numbers of German and collaborating Chetnik troops."

Not true! I was on that raid. With the Chetniks. It was a Chetnik raid. There wasn't

a Red Star-a Tito emblem-within 50 miles! On April 6, 1941, the savage hordes of the Nazi juggernaut invaded Yugoslavia. Its popular king, Peter II, was smuggled into London to live the unsatisfactory life of a ruler in extle.

The Yugoslav Army Peter had left behind was poorly equipped, a sitting duck for the then exalted Wehrmacht Panzer divisions, Within a matter of days, Adolf Hitler had, for the moment, another country-proud Yugo-slavia-in his pocket of world conquest. Hitler had the country, true. But not its alavia

ople. Though King Peter had fled he had left behind a man named Draja Mikhailovich, Peter's Minister of War and Commander-in-Chief of the Yugoslav armed forces.

Mikhallovich quickly assembled his makeshift, slingshot army and retreated to the hills. The first great guerrila leader of World War II began to make himself known. Reports began sifting through the German occupation lines of his spectacular raids on German garrisons, his acts of sabotage and of constant harassment of the Nazis.

Top German staff officers eventually were to admit that Mikhallovich caused so much embarrassment to the invincible Nazi machine that Hitler had transferred four Panzer divisions from the Russian front to wipe him out at all costs: that the pullout of those same divisions spelled the difference in the balance of power on the Russian front and changed the tide of the war.

Since September, 1939, when Hitler overran Poland, no country or people had been Americans viewed Mikallovich and his "Chetniks" as the 20th Century David, brazenly challenging Goliath. Newspapers paid tribute with admiring banners. Hollywood lasued a box office cinch with its own version of the brave Chetniks. The May 25, 1942, edition of Time magazine emblazoned a

Draja Mikhailovich profile on its cover. Children dropped "Cowboys and Indians" and played "Chetniks."

I knew this man, this legend. He and his Chetniks saved my life.

At the end of World War II, there were approximately 600 other American flyers who could say the same. Many of them, to this day, are as embroiled as I in a unique mission: to restore the glory of Mikhailovich which, long before the great war ended, was cloaked in undeserved ignominy by the fickle fortunes of international politics which placed the winning of the war above one man's honor. So we believe.

King Peter has twice bestowed coveted decorations on me, and has similarly honored some of the other Americans who still work to clear the name of their beloved Draja.

On Feb. 4, 1944, I won my wings and second lieutenant's commission. I picked up my 10-man crew at Westover' Field, Mass. and a shiny, new B-24 Liberator bomber at Mitchell Field, N.Y.

At Morrison Field, Fla., we received our sealed, secret orders to be opened after takeoff. Nervously, we tore them open the instant were outside the three-mile limit. "Aswe signment-98th Bombardment Group, 15th Air Force, Italy."

Trinidad, Brazil, Dakar, Marrakesch, Tunisia and, finally, Lecce, Italy.

We began to see what lay ahead of us our first night in Lecce. A buil session developed with the experienced crews . . . three crews lost that day, two the day before . 60 per cent crew turnover due to losses the previous two months . . . the neighboring "Fighting 100" completely wiped out.

We were not to remain rookies long. After a lone, brief orientation flight, our ship, which we had christened Never A Dull Moment, was thrown into Rumania, Germany, Yugoslavia, Northern Italy, Southern France, Austria and Hungary-23 missions in slightly more than one month!

We began to feel invincible, despite our share of fighter attacks, engine fires, emergency landings and other scrapes. After a mission to Munich, we counted 212 flak holes in our beloved ship.

Then came Ploesti.

The pre-dawn briefing officer was saying: "Gentlemen, our target for today is the Astro Romano oil refinery at Ploesti, Rumania . . . most heavily defended target in all of Europe . . . the German machine runs on oil; destroy his oil supplies and his entire system collapses . . . Ploesti supplies 80 per cent of the enemy's oil." Descriptions, photographs, number and location of enemy flak guns, enemy fighter bases pinpointed, where to expect our own fighter escort, etc.

And finally, a strange caution.

If we were forced to ball out over Yugoslavia, the briefing officer was saying, we were instructed to seek out "the guerrilla fighter with the Red Star on his hat."

That was our first word that Mikhailovich was no longer the guerrilla darling of the free world. The Red Stars meant Tito's men.

A new intelligence report had just come in from Yugoslavia, said the briefing officer, that Mikhailovich and his Chetnik guerrillas were "cutting off the ears" of downed Allied airmen and turning them over to the Nazis!

At 0513 hours we were off on Mission No. 24. It was a clear, sunny day as the silver ships soared over the deep blus Adriatic. The sky was full of airplanes, 250 of them, B-24s and B-17s. The coastline of Yugoslavia loomed up. We changed course to avert a flak area. Occasionally a plane would drop out of formation and head home with minor engine trouble, but the mighty air armada moved on.

At the Rumanian border, we picked up our fighter escort. To confuse ground tracking stations, we altered our course a few times. Everything was going very well.

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Suddenly, 10 minutes out from the target all hell broke loose! It seemed as if every one of Ploesti's 325 gun emplacements opened up as one. Bombers all around us were exploding er going down in black smoke. Me-109s were coming at us from every direction. The sky ahead was almost solidly black with flakburst.

"Dear Lord, we've got 10,000 pounds of dynamite on board . . . keep heading for the target and get unloaded . . . hit me later. Jerry, but not until I unload . . ." We drop the bombs. The plane jumps 100

feet higher with the emptying of the load. We rack over in the direction of home. We spot a single B-17 Flying Fortress in a lonely pattern and know it for what it is: one the Jerries captured intact and used to send up to fly formation with the Americana, who would think it one of theirs. It was calling off our altitude to Jerry's ground gun batteries.

Forty-five minutes later, there was a welcome lull in the fighting-but not for long. The Messerschmitte swarmed back and were all over us before we knew what had hap-pened. Never A Dull Moment lived up to her name as never before. She was riddled with 30-millimeter shells. Half our tall assembly was shot away. Our aileron controls were out. Our rudder was gone. Huge chunks were torn from the left wing and the fuselage. The interphone was kaput and, for a crowning blow, our gas tanks were punctured.

"ABANDON SHIP!"

From 18,000 feet, I jumped-my first bailput. The 'chute opened beautifully at the right time. I landed in an open field and made a move to get out of harness. It was only then I realized I had been hit and

couldn't move my leg. At that moment I was surrounded-by about 20 peasants, men, women and children. The bearded men kissed me. The women and children kept an awed distance. No red stars. Chetniks! Instinctively, the words of the briefing officer came to mind. I reached for my ears to protect them.

They didn't want my ears. They raised me on their shoulders and carried me about 500 yards to a group of three cabins and laid me comfortably in a small room.

More villagers came and filed by my bed. wearing friendly visages. They brought fruit, flowers and slivovitz, a Serblan 160-proof plum brandy. Music was played, children danced, toasts were drunk. Some slivovitz was poured over my wound and bandages were put on it.

An elderly pensant provided me with a crude crutch, clasped his hands as though saying grace and beckoned me to follow him. He led me to a small wooden structure near-by, which was the village chapel. We both knelt and prayed.

In the late afternoon, Col. Dragisha Vasich came to welcome me. A man of striking appearance, he was about 65 years old, was neatly dressed and had snow white hair and a trim goatee.

Before the war, he had been Belgrade's most noted editor-publisher. Soon after the invasion, he left his home and business and went into the hills. Mikhailovich had made him the Corps Commander of the area I was in. His wife, a former school teacher, spoke English and, for downed Americans, was an invaluable interpreter.

Vasich told me many things that day. How Chetniks cheered each time they saw American bombers overhead. How his people took to the hills in April, 1941. How Mikhallovich, as King Peter's Minister of War, had gath-ered a guerrilla force of more than 300,000 men. How they had wreaked havoc with the hated Nazi.

How Moscow-trained Tito suddenly was on - the scene, declaring himself the representative of the Yugoslav government. How Tito had been virtually unheard of in the overall

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war effort until the Big Three conference at Teheran in November, 1943.

Stalin, Vasich explained, seized on the opportunity created by the chaotic conditions of wartime occupation and an absent king, insisting the Allics withdraw their support from Mikhailovich and recognize his man Tito. The wily Russian leader already was planning the bloodiess addition of another country under his control after the war.

No official announcement was made, but gradually Allied support to Mikhailovich dropped off. Official communiques started to come out of Tito's headquarters and Mikbailovich was abandoned. But the Chetniks earried on.

Vasich explained the Germans were everywhere. There was a Nazi garrison of 500 troops just two miles away; another of 2,000 at 10 miles.

He assigned a bodyguard to me. I was to sleep at all times fully clothed, ready to move at a moment's notice. Chances of evacuation were virtually nil. Mikhallovich would keep in touch with my welfare at all times.

One by one, all but one of my crew members were found by the Chetniks and reunited with me. In each instance, the welcome was spectacular, with embraces, flowers, music, dancing, slivovitz.

We spent a month roaming the hills with different guerrilla bands. For security reasons, our crew never traveled more than three in the same group. We never stayed at one farmhouse of other location more than two nights consecutively. In that month, I must have covered well over 500 miles. And with me every mile was an indelible vision of my first days in the village.

About three days after we bailed out, Col. Vasich received an ultimatium from the mearest German garrison: turn over the 10 American fiyers they had seen ball out or the Germans would wipe out an entire village of 200 women and children.

Most of us wanted to give ourselves up, preferring that, with its promise of possible escape opportunities, to seeing 200 innocent persons annihilated. Chetnik leaders would not hear of it.

It was a proud Yugoslav heritage that life without freedom was worse than death. The sacrificial village would rather spare one American filer who could drop one bomb on the enemy than to be spared itself.

The next day, I watched the burning of the village

Vasich preferred that we Americans take no part in the Chetnik guerrilla activities but he could hardly hold us back.

One night Mihodrag, the personal bodyguard who never left my side, and I joined a group of six Chetniks and stole down to a railroad yard. A railway worker had brought us news that a supply train was due to leave fully loaded in the morning for Rumania.

While the rest of us stood guard, a 15-yearold Chetnik slipped aboard the coal car and added what looked like more hunks of coal. The additions actually were pieces of coal hollowed out and filled with TNT.

The young Chetnik buried them a certain depth among the pieces of real coal—just deep enough not to hit the locomotive's incinerator until it had crossed the border into Rumania. An explosion in Yugoslavia would have meant wholesale retallatory slaughter there.

Another method of sabotage we used was covering the axle gears of supply trucks, box cars and other vehicles with finely pulverized gravel. Many miles away and many days later, trucks and trains would "mysteriously" break down.

Meanwhile-always-we discussed y ns for evacuation.

We had no means of communication h the Ailies. Although Mikhailovich is shortwave transmitter, he no longer win preognized by the Ailies. And we had no pre-

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arranged code or frequency on which to transmit.

With an increasing Allied offensive, more and more Americans were parachuting into our midst, along with a smattering of Russian, Italian, French, Canadian and British personnel. A pow-wow of ranking American officers decided an evacuation should be attempted. We decided our only chance was to risk a transmission in the clear and in the blind to 15th Air Force Headquarters at Barl, Italy.

"S.O.S. . . . S.O.S. . . . 150 American crew members in need of rescue . . . many sick and wounded . . . advise . . . S.O.S. . . ."

If ever received, the message sent repeatedly for two days was ignored.

With Mikhailovich persona non grata with Allied headquarters, we had to devise a code that would be believed. We came up with one, extremely complicated—and a bit absurd. But it worked.

It involved such things as the third letter in the hometown of the bartender at the Lecce Officers Club for use of the letter A; for B, the fourth letter in the name on the photograph on the Intelligence officer's desk at Brindisl. God knows how it was ever figured out.

All I know is that three days later, a reply came through: "Standby for aircraft 31 July 2200 hours . . ." just two days away.

The next day, cries of "Draja" rose up from our ranks. Heads turned toward a man approaching, surrounded by scores of laughing children. He went with us to a grazing meadow which could serve, if crudely, as a rescue airstrip. There, 1,000 of his troops put on a review in our honor.

Afterwards, we assembled under a huge tree and Mikhailovich, through an interpreter, spoke to us. He sat on a rock and discussed the state of the war with more than 100 bearded, shabbily dressed soldiers of a foreign country.

He stared into space as he related the Yugoslav's love of freedom to that of the American's. Then he expressed his disappointment that the Ailled nations had abandoned him to favor Tito, a bitter irony of war which he saw as a deceitful power play by Stalin.

He was aware, he told us, of false reports Tito had broadcast about him. With moist eyes, he appealed to us "take back the truth to your homeland."

Quickly, then, he turned to the task at hand, getting us safely out of Yugoslavia. Within a day he would have more than 8,000 men surrounding the airstrip. If the enemy should discover the plan, his men could hold them off until all our planes were off the ground.

In parting. I insisted he accept my class ring, which he had previously admired. He took it and pressed upon me the ceremonial dagger he had so long carried^aat his side.

On Aug. 9, after much planning and many heartbreaking nights of waiting while rescuers tested and probed for a safe way to fly us out, evacuations began. It was a colossal success under the most trying circumstances.

In all, 243 Americans, plus an assortment of other Allied nationalities, were flown to Bari. Italy, in waves of C-47s with hordes of Mustang and Lightning fighter plane escorts.

The war in Europe ended in May, 1945. On March 25, 1946, Tito announced Mikhailovich had been captured and would be tried as a "war collaborator."

Collaborate with the Nazis? Fantastic! I still have in my possession on a poster I fipped from a tree while traveling through Tugoslavia. It was one of many found all around the countryside and in the villages of Tugoslavia. It says, in part:

Reward-100,000 reichmarks in gold will be awarded to the person bringing in. dead or alive, the leader of the bandits, Draja Mik-

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hallovich . . . By the Supreme Commander of the German troops.

I read anew of Tito's plans to try Mikhailovich as a war criminal and felt that someone had to take steps to clear his name, in behalf of the many Americans whose lives he helped to save and, indeed, in behalf of America itself whose engagement in war. I felt, was definitely shortened by the Chetniks' contributions to the frustration of the German war machine.

I went to every major newspaper plant in New York City, receiving dismissals sometimes curt, sometimes polite.

The Journal-American did not dismiss me. It told my story on page 1.

Immediately, letters of support poured in. Other airmen who had been saved by the forces of Mikhallovich volunteered their services. The Archbishop of the Serbian Orthodox Church in New York City wrote me: "It matters not whether Draja lives or dies... the important thing is to clear his name."

On April 3, I told my story over the National Broadcasting Company radio network. Soon afterwards, a few of my former buddles and I formed the Committee To Aid General Mikhailovich. In one week we received more than 300 deposits from airmen who had been with us in Yugoslavia.

On April 28, 1946, 20 of us, plus two Canadians, chartered a plane to Washington to plead not for blind amnesty for Mikhailovich but for a fair trial.

We specifically were not claiming to pass judgment on his guilt or innocence, a matter technically beyond our province: we merely wanted to offer the overwhelming evidence we had in his behalf to be presented at his trial.

The reception committee at the airport was impressive—a turnout of more than 2,000 people and a distinguished welcoming committee that included Senators Taft. La-Follette, Wiley, Revercomb and McClellan, along with Mrs. Alice Rooserelt Longworth and Maj. Gen. E. L. Oliver, father of one of the rescued airmen.

The following day we swarmed over Capitol Hill and pleaded our cause to Senators and representatives. An eloquent plea on the floor of the House of Representatives was made by Mrs. Bolton. Congresswoman from Ohio, and is recorded in the May 1, 1946, edition of the Congressional Record.

Although our request to see President Harry Truman was not granted, our efforts were not without results. Shortly thereafter, the State Department sent an official note to the Government of Yugoslavia.

"... A number of these individuals (U.S. alrmen) and others in the United States who were closely associated with General Mikhailovich possess firsthand evidence which 'cannot but have a bearing upon the charges of enemy collaboration which the Yugoslav authorities have indicated they will bring against General Mikhailovich.

"The United States Government, in these circ: mstances, is confident that in the interests of justice the Yugoslav Government will wish to make suitable arrangements whereby the evidence of any such persons who may so desire may be presented in the connection with the trial..."

Public indignation was rising. A group of prominent Americans took up the cause, forming the Committee For A Fair Triai for Draja Mikhailovich. Among its members were Summer Welles, Justice Ferdinand Pecora, William Phillip Simms, Dorothy Thompson, Clare Booth Luce, Norman Thomas, Justice Francis Rivers, Miriam Hopkins.

The list of signatories endorsing the cause included approximately two dozen governnors and Congressman. The executive chairman was Ray Brock, then New York Times ' foreign correspondent.

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The State Department sent a record note to Yugoslavia. A reply came back this time. Stonoej Simitch, Yugoslavian foreign minlater, advised that the second note and any subsequent notes "would be ignored." (At the time, Yugoslavia was receiving 90 per cent of her economic subsistence from the United States.)

The committee reacted quickly, forming a Commission Of Inquiry In The Case Of Draja Mikhailovich. To hold the inquiry, four of the most prominent jurists in America were appointed—Arthur Garfield Hayes, chairman; Adolph A. Berle, former Assistant Secretary of State; Charles Poletti, former lieutenant-governor of New York, and Theodore Klendl.

The Commission convened on May 17, 1946, at the County Lawyers Association Bidg., 14 Vesey St., New York. For a full week the Commission heard the evidence. Its full findings, together with almost 600 pages of testimony, were forwarded to the Government of Yugoslavia for precentation at the trial. The Commission's conclusion:

"We are convinced that the testimony given before us is material on the question of the guilt or innocence of General Mikhailovich as a war criminal and that under standards of justice which have been throughout the years, the exclusion of such testimony from the trial of the charges... would be so highly prejudicial as to prevent the possibility of his obtaining a fair trial." An editorial in the New York Times, May

An editorial in the New York Times. May 81, noted that the cause of a fair trial "probably is a lost cause... (the Tito government) intends to find (Mikhailovich) guilty of collaboration with the Germans and hang him or shoot him.

"This much has been done, however ... a record has been made for history. That will be small solace for Mikhalovich as he goes to his death. But it will serve to mitigate, if it does not entirely clear, his menory."

his death. But it will serve to mitigate, if it does not entirely clear, his memory." On July 10, 1946. Mikhailovich went under trial as a war collaborator and traitor in a courtroom in Belgrade.

Just before sentence was pronounced, Mikhallovich, looking untterably weary (and drugged, say some of his defenders), ctood before the bench and stated his last public words:

"I wanted nothing for myself . . . I never wanted the old Yugoslavia, but I had a diffcult legary . . I had against me a competitive organization, the Communist Party, which seeks its aims without compromise . . . I believed I was on the right road . . . But fate was merciless to me when it threw me into this maelstrom. I wanted much, I started much, but the gale of the world carried awsy me and my work."

On July 17, 1946, a Communist firing squad carried out the sontence of the court. Is that, then, the end of Oraja? Maybe. Maybe not.

True, the wartime quid pro quo between Tito and Roosevelt, Stalin, Churchill is still functioning.

But so is the Committee To Aid General Mikhailovich.

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In Grateful Memory



General Draza Mihailovich from more than 500 American airmen saved by him

To pay a debt of gratitude a movement is launched

Honorable Edward J. Derwinski House of Representatives Washington, D. C.

July 9, 1974

During World War II, some 500 American airmen were rescued by the forces of General Draja Mihailovich, Yugoslav resistance leader. They were given shelter and medical care and then evacuated with his help in dramatic air rescue operation from the heart of Nazi-occupied Europe.

The undersigned veterans of World War II were among these 500 rescued airmen. None of us have ever been able to understand the tragic allied abandonment of Mihailovich. Still less were we able to understand the blind ingratitude which denied Mihailovich any recognition, let alone any reward, for this very great service. We were heartened to learn, thanks to your efforts, that President Truman had awarded the Legion of Merit posthumously to General Mihailovich in 1947, in recognition of his services to the allied cause and in particular his services in rescuing American airmen. We cannot understand the logic which kept this award secret for 20 years, until you compelled the release of this information.

All the airmen rescued by General Mihailovich owe him and his Chetniks a debt of gratitude which they will never be able to repay. Somehow we must leave a recorded tribute to Mihailovich by way of discharging our debt of honor to this gallant man, at least in a very small measure. To do this, we plan to launch a movement for a National Memorial in Washington to "General Draja Mihailovich, savior of American airmen". We are certain that, as we locate them, all of the airmen rescued by General Mihailovich will sign the petition for enabling legislation.

To launch this movement, a group of us are planning to come to Washington on Wednesday, July 17, which is the anniversary of Mihailovich's execution. We are asking for permission to hold a simple memorial service on the steps of the Capitol, after which we hope to visit a number of Congressmen whose sympathy we believe we can count on. We hope you will be able to address our Memorial service in view of your own unremitting efforts to put an end to the blackout on General Mihailovich. Col. Robert H. McDowell, Chief of the last American mission to General Mihailovich, and some of the American officers involved in the air rescue operation have already indicated that they will be on hand to participate in the service with us. Lt. Colonel Charles L. Davis (USAF-RET) of Falls Church, is serving as Washington coordinator and will be in touch with you.

We earnestly hope that we shall be able to count on your cooperation.

(S) For the national Committee of American airmen rescued by General Mihailovich (In process of formation)

Major General Donald J. Smith

Chicago

Col. T. K. Oliver (USAF-Ret), Rapid City, S.D.

Lt. Col. Charles L. Davis (USAF-Ret Res.) Falls Church, Virginia

Lt. Col. John E. Scroggs (USAF-Ret. Res.) Kansas City, Kansas

Major Richard Felman (USAF-Ret), Tuscon, Arizona

Mike McKool, Dallas, Texas

Gus T. Brown, Luling, Texas

George Salapa, Ohio

Richard Hobby, Storrs, Conn.

Leland Porter, Lexington, Kentucky

Curtis Diles, Jr., Portmouth, Ohio

George Hurd Jr. Fort Worth, Texas

PETITION TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES FOR LEGISLATION PERMITTING THE ERECTION IN WASHINGTON OF A MONUMENT TO

"GENERAL DRAZA MIHAILOVICH, SAVIOUR OF AMERICAN AIRMEN".

The undersigned veterans of World War II are among the 500 or more American airmen who were shot down over Yugoslavia during the War and rescued by the forces of General Draza Mihailovich, and finally evacuated to Italy in a dramatic air rescue operation.

We were all pleased to learn that President Truman had specifically mentioned this great service to the Allied cause in posthumously awarding the Legion of Merit to General Mihailovich in 1948 although we were perplexed by the 20 year delay in revealing the fact of the award to the public. But the award of the Legion of Merit by the United States Government does not discharge the personal obligation which the undersigned airmen feel toward the man who saved their lives. This debt we can only discharge ourselves.

To say that General Mihailovich and his men saved our lives tells only a very small part of the story. Frequently, they had to fight off the Germans in order to rescue us. Because of Mihailovich's commitment to protect us at all costs, scores of innocent hostages were executed by the Nazis; the Nazis always knew when an American crew bailed out, and when they could find no trace of the crew, they assumed, quite correctly, that they were being sheltered by the Chetniks. Those of us who were wounded received the best medical attention available, sometimes in underground hospitals. Desperately short of supplies, Mihailovich's men frequently went hungry themselves in order to feed us.

All this we can never forget.

Our ranks have begun to thin with the passage of years. Eut the years have in no way diminished the admiration, affection and gratitude which we hold in our hearts for General Mihailovich and his gallant forces.

Having consulted with each other, and confident that we speak for all of the 500 airmen who were rescued by the forces of General Mihailovich, the undersigned airmen have decided that it would be proper to give enduring expression to this gratitude by erecting a monument in Washington, D.C. with funds contributed by ourselves and by members of the American public, to "General Mihailovich, Saviour of American Airmen." This concrete expression of gratitude, we feel, would also be in complete harmony with American tradition.

We respectfully petition the Congress of the United States to enact legislation permitting the erection of such a monument so that we may appropriately discharge what all of us regard as a sacred debt of honor -- a debt of honor all the more compelling because Mihailovich in his lifetime received no recognition and no reward for the many services to the Allied cause of which President Truman spoke in his citation.

So that the Congress will have a clear conception of the monument they would be approving through such legislation, it is our intention to make this a very simple memorial, bearing on one bronze plaque the text of President Truman's citation in conferring the Legion of Merit on General Mihailovich posthumously; and, on another plaque, the names of the airmen rescued by General Mihailovich, together with a brief statement of tribute and gratitude.

U.S. military personnel involved in the Air Crew Rescue Operation have joined in signing this petition, because they, too, were direct participants in this "magnificent secret" of World War II.

SIGNATURES

MRS. PRESTON ANGLEBERGER** Frederick, Maryland

DAVID LA BISSONIERE Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

GUS T. BROWN Luling, Texas

ANTHONY J. BUCKNER Johnstonw, Hew York

LT. COL. CHARLES L. DAVIS (USAF RET.) JOHN MILODRAGOVICH* Falls Church, Virginia

MIKE DEVJAK* Gary, Indiana

CURTIS DILES. JR. Portemouth, Ohio

MAJOR RICHARD L. FEIMAN (USAF RET.) Tucson, Arizona

CHARLES FLANAGAN Buffalo, New York

LT. COL. MILTON E. FRIEND (USAF RET.) THOMAS E. SAINSBURY McLean, Virginia

ROBERT D. FULKS Rushville, Illinois

RICHARD HOBBY Storrs, Connecticut

GEORGE R. HURD Fort Worth, Texas

LT. COL. JAMES M. INKS (USAF RET.) Llano, Texas

NEAL S. JANOSKY Milwaukee, Wisconsin

ARTHUR JIBELIAN* Tiffin, Ohio

ELLSWORTH R. KRAMER* Arlington, Virginia

*Members of Air Crew Rescue Mission **Widow of rescued airman

NICK LALICH* Baltimore, Maryland

PAUL F. MATO Butler, Pennsylvania

LT. COL. ROBERT H. MCDOWELL (USA RET.)* Clearwater, Florida

MIKE MCKOOL Dallas, Texas

Missoula, Montana

LT. COL. GEORGE MUSULIN (USA RET.)* McLean, Virginia

COLONEL T. K. OLIVER (USAF RET.) Rapid City, South Dakota

ANTHONY J. ORSINI Elizabeth, New Jersey

LELAND PORTER Lexington, Kentucky

Pawcatuck, Connecticut

GEORGE SALAPA North Royalton, Ohio

JOHN E. SCROGGS Kansas City, Missouri

MAJOR GENERAL DONALD J. SMITH Chicago, Illinois

HAL SOUTER Hopkins, Minnesota

GEORGE VUJNOVICH* Queens, New York

MAJOR MERRILL L. WALKER (USAF RET.) Long Beach, California

WARRANT OFFICER CARL J. WALPUSK (USA) Coraopolis, Pennsylvania

Washington Post-July 18, 1974





Gen. Mihajlovic, under arrow, taiks to U.S. airmen who were shot down over Yugoslavia in World War II.

GEN. DRAZA MIHAJLOVIC

Yugoslav General Who Rescued Fliers Hailed

By Megan Rosenfeld Washington Fost Staff Writer Thirty years ago a 23-year-old Air Force lieutenant bailed out of his damaged B-24 18,000 feet over Yugoslavia. He landed amid a group of guerrillas he had been told would cut off his ears and send them to the Nazis.

Instead, they carried him to a cabin, brought slivovitz (plum brandy) and food, tended his wounded leg and protected him from the Germans for the next month. The guerrillas, known as the Chetniks, belped initiate his rescue, and are now thought to have saved between 300 and 400 American airmen before the war ended.

Yesterday, the lieutenant, now a retired Air Force major, joined more than 300 persons on the steps of the Capitol to commemorate the death of the Chetniks' leader, Gen. Draza Mihajlovic, and to ask for a memorial in his honor. Mihajlovic was executed on July 17, 1946, after being convicted of collaborating with the Germans, a charge those who gathered here yesterday say is a lie.

"This is a great tragedy," said state Sen. Mike McKool of Texas, who was an Air Force sergeant during the war and one of those rescued by Gen. Mihajlovic. "It is pure nonsense to say Mihajlovic was a collaborator. He fought the Germans at every turn. They snatched us (American airmen) from the Germans and walked us for 100 miles to keep us away from them."

Flanked by six Serbian-Orthodox clergymen in long black robes and squared off hats, the speakers, who included Sen. Gale McGee (D-Wyo.) and several of the rescued airmen, spoke of Mihajlovic's heroism and dedication to the anti-Communist cause. "'Boyla grub negro rub' was one of the general's favorite sayings," retired Air Force Maj. Richard Felman reminded the crowd, which was composed largely of Serbian-Americans. Felman explained that the Serbian phrase meant, "Better a grave than a alave."

Felman, who abandoned his crippled bomber, named Never a Dull Moment, 30 years ago, recalled yesterday that his rescue, like many others carried out by Mihajlovic, was not easy.

Camped in the mountains, the Chetniks moved dally to avoid the enemy. The only communication with the outside world was Mihajlovic's shortwave transmitter.

The first messages, Felman said, were relayed by Chetnik representatives in Cairo to the Yugoslav ambassador in Washington.

However, they were ignored by the military here, Felman said, because Mihajlovic was no longer formally recongized by the U.S. government. Felman's parents received a telegram saying he was missing in action.

Nonetheless, Mihajlovic continued to broadcast to U.S. headquarters in Bari, Italy, saying that 150 airmen, including Felman and eight fellow members of the Never a Dull Moment crew, needed rescuing.

Finally it was decided to send a three-man team into the area to see if the messages were real. The first team was headed by George Musulin, now living in McLean, Va., a retired CIA employee of Serbian descent. By prearranged code, Musculin set into motion an evacuation mission, whereby the 150 airmen were picked up on a cow pasture serving as an airfield while fighter planes circled above to protect them.

See GENERAL, C5, Col. 1 OVER

Yugoslav General Honored

GENERAL, From C1

Gen. Mihajlovic was commander of the Yugoslav Army and the country's minlster of war under King Peter II. The Nazis invaded, and Mihajlovic went underground, heading an army estimated at 100,000 to 300,000 in press reports of the time. In 1942 he was reported to be battling the Germans in the Balkans, and was halled in foreign newspapers as "The Bolivar of the Balkans."

He was swarded a posthumous Legion of Merit by President Truman in 1948, but the news of the award was kept classified until 1967, according to Rep. Edward Derwinski (R-III.), who was the master of ceremonles yesterday. The United States classified the award for fear of offending the Yugoslav Communist government, he said.

For the Serbian-Americans who came from Chicago, Detroit, Cincinnati, and other cities to take part in yesterday's activities, Mihajlovich represents anticommunism, and the freedom they left Europe to find here.

"You Americans don't understand the meaning of the word freedom like these people," said one ex-Yugoslav, who now edits a Serbian language paper called Liberty in Chicago.

Ratko Stisevich stood on the Capitol steps yesterday holding a framed portrait of



By Bob Burchette-The Washington Post

Richard Feiman, one of the fliers Gen. Mihajlovie rescued, talks to the crowd.

a young Mihajlovich. Stisevich said he spent four years as a German prisoner of war; now he is a carpenter in suburban Chicago. He still doesn't speak English very well, but he knew why he had traveled to Washington with his picture to honor Mihajiovich. "For freedom," he said. "For anticonimunism."







John Chamberlain AUNUST 26, 1974 Time for justice to an old ally

FOR ONE REASON or another, governments are never very grateful. During the early days of World War II, the Western allies were dependent on the Yugoslav Gen. Draja Mihailovich and his Chetniks for pinning down Nazis on the Balkan front. The U. S. tended to favor Mihailovich over the Communist Tito and his Partisans.

Despite the U.S. preference, Winston Churchill, who had few qualms about walking his mile with the devil when it came to saving the British Empire, thought Tito was a better bet than Mihailovich as a "soft underbelly" helpinate in pushing the war in southeast Europe against Hitler.

With British help the Communists were permitted to get away with the big lie in propagating the idea Mihailovich was a "reactionary," indeed a Nazi collaborator. So the Chetnik movement, which would have saved Yugoslavia from Communism a. well as Nazism, was doomed.

After the war, the need to drive a wedge between the victorious Tito and the Stalinists in Moscow took preference in Washington over any policy of fairness to Mihailovich's memory. The "Truman Doctrine" would have been vastly imperiled in neighboring Greece if Tito had not broken with the Kremlin. But Harry Truman, despite his enforced commitment to a distasteful realpolitik, couldn't be totally ungrateful.

CHICAGO TODAY

IN 1917 TRUMAN awarded the Legion of Merit posthumously to Mihailovich for his help to the allied cause. He did so with the proviso that the award would remain a classified secret until such time as the "Truman Doctrine" would no longer be endangered by the revelation that the U.S. still stood by the memory of Mihailovich as a dedicated anti-Nazi who had had to be sacrificed to political expediency.

Truman's gratitude bud a specific as

well as a general reference. While the war was on, some 500 U.S. airmen had been rescued by Mihailovich's Chetniks when their planes crashed in Yugoslav territory.

The problem was how to get them back to Italy. The British, who were breaking with Mihailovich, were not in a position to be helpful; they were afraid, if there were a renewal of American representation at Mihailovich's headquarters, Tito would consider it an evidence of double-dealing.

To get around the diplomatic impasse, the U.S. 15th Air Force headquarters created their own "authority"-the Air 'Crew Rescue Unit. And so, without any formal blessing, the stage was set for the dispatch of three Americans by airdrop into Chetnikheld territory.

Led by George [Guv] Musulin, a 250cound ex-pro football player, the Americans made contact with the Chetniks and helped prepare a 775-yard-long airstrip on a natural plateau to bring in C-47 rescue planes. Three hundred peasants hauled the gravel for till, refusing to take a cent for their work.

Within a few hours some 250 American airmen, including 26 who were sick or wounded, had been lifted back to safety. Other rescue missions followed, forcing the Truists, as represented by Louis Adamic's South Slav Bulletin, to admit that "Nazi Chetniks" had been "forced" to release "some ' Allied aviators.

It took some 20 years for Rep. Edway J. Derwinski [R., III.] to compel the releas of news about 'Truman's bestowal of th posthumous Legion of Merit on Gen. Milual ovich. Said Richard Nixon, in a 20-year-af er testimonial, "Gen. Mihailovich was a p triot, a brave soldier and a gallant ally the United States."

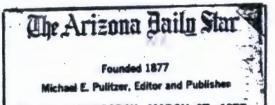
THE RESCUED airmen have not been co tent with a mere acknowledgement that despite Tito and our need to keep Mosco from invading, Yugoslavia as it invade Hungary and Czechoslovakia, Mihailovich now to be remembered as an ally. The have formed a National Committee American Airmen Rescued by General M hailovich, and they now propose to Laild National Memorial to the general in Was ington as the "savior of American airmen

A petition for enabling legislation is being drawn up, and a dozen of the rescued ai men have already signed it. One problem to locate the full number of airmen, wi are dispersed thruout the U.S. Those wi have not yet signed the petition are urge to get in touch with Rep. Derwinski's offion Capitol Hill.

The time for justice has come; aft some 30 years, there is no point to concea ing the skullduggery and ingratitude th marred our victory in World War II.

John Chamberlain also appears in Saturday editions of the Chicago Tribune.

CHICAGO TODAY AUG. 26 1974



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TUCSON, THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 1973

For 31 years, Dick Felman has been trying to repay a debt.

And sometimes, it seems that the closer Felman gets, the farther away he is.

The debt is for Felman's life. And the man he credits with saving him from a World War II prisoner of war camp was Yugoslavian Gen. Draza Mihailovich,

vertication of a partian underground band of guerrillas that eventually was credited with having helped 500 downed Allied airmen.

In 1944, Felman was a lieutenant and navigator aboard a B24 bomber nicknamed "Never A Dull Moment." The plane was grimly well-named, for it

was shot to pieces during one raid and the crew, Felman included, bailed out.

Eventually, Felman made his way to the Mihailovich camp and to safety. Mihailovich didn't fare as well; when Marshal Tito gained control of Yugoslavia, the partisan leader was hanged as a traitor, an expeditious way of dealing with political opposition to the Tito government.

In the ensuing years, Felman and others many belonging to a group called the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich — have persisted in their efforts to give some credit where they believe credit is long overdue. What they want is permission from Congress to build a statue in memory of Mihailovich in Washington. The cost of construction would be paid with donations, not public money.

Ken Burton

One might think that in these times of national austerity, Congress would leap to pass a measure that is devoid of cost to the taxpayers. Such has not been the case.

Rep. Edward Derwinski, R-III., did introduce such a measure last year. But the bill expired without a vote and must be reintroduced. So far, it hasn't come up a second time.

Derwinski is the congressman who previously uncovered the fact that a Legion of Merit was awarded to Mihailovich by President Truman in 1948 — an award that was kept secret because Tito was then regarded as a potential friend of the U.S.

But Tucsonan Felman and dozens of others are still trying.

"You know," said Felman, "when we were shot down and hiding with Mihailovich, the Germans announced that if we were not handed over, 200 Yugoslav villagers would be shot on the spot. I offered to go, but Mihailovich said no. He said his people had a motto, 'Better a grave than a slave.' The villagers were killed. You can't forget something like that."

Mihailovich, it would seem, has earned his statue.



Felman



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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Salem State College

Salem, Massachusetts 01970

Minor H. McLain Professor in History

Home Address;

139 Seweall Woods Road Melrose, Mass., 02176

- Date -- Sent August 4th 1925

Senator Edward W. Brooke Senate OfficePuilding Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator Prooke:

I am writing to respectfully request your support of S. 2135 which has been introduced by Senator Strom Thurmond and co-sponsored by Senator Earry Goldwater. This measure refers to the erection of a monument to the honour of General Draza Mihailovich of Yugoslavia. During the period of the Second World War General Mihailovich valiantly led the guerilla fighters of his country against the Mazi-Fascist armies of occupationani and thereby served the strategic interests of the Allied cause. Noteworthy among his contributions to our victory in World War II was the rescue by his forces of approximately five hundred American airmen from the danger of captureby by the Mazis. This achievement was recognized in 1948 by the posthumous award of the Legion of Kerit by President Truman while today these veterans of the Air Force are seeking, through S. 2135, to erect a permanent tribute to his greatness.

Once again I regest urge your support of this measure

Sincerely,

Minor H. McLain

Senator Edward M. Kennely Representative MacDonald

Same To



Volume 67, Number 19

University of Arizone, Tucson

Wednesday, September 17, 1975

UA student, 54, has spent last 25 years trying to clear name of guerrilla leader who saved him

By ROB WILSON

A 54-year-old University student has spent the last 25 years trying to clear the name of a man who helped keep him out of a German prisoner of war camp during the Second World War.

More than 30 years ago, toward the end of the war, Richard Felman bailed out of his crippled B-24 bomber 18,000 feet above Yugoslavia.

HE HAD BEEN told that Yugosslav guerrillas, "Chetniks," would cut off his ears and send them to the Nazis if they caught him, so he was understandably apprehensive when a group of 20 peasants surrounded him after he had landed.

But the Chetniks did not cut off his ears. Instead, they gave him food, hid him from the Germans and helped nurse a leg he had injured when the plane was shot down. Other members of the downed crew were found, and the Chetniks made plans for their evacuation.

For a month they roamed the countryside with different guerrilla bands, staying in farmhouses for involved Gen. Mihailovich. Marshal Tito, who had moved into



Felman

power in Yugoslavia during the war, had branded Mihailovich a traitor, and said he would be tried for collaborating with the Germans.

MIHAILOVICH AND his army did not agree with Tito's Communist policies, and this, Felman said, was Tito's way of dealing with

political opposition.

On July 17, 1946, Mihailovich was executed as a Nazi collaborator.

Felman, meanwhile, remained in the Air Force and was transferred to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson in 1950.

SINCE HE HAS been back in this country, Felman, now a retired major, has been working to clear the name of Gen. Mihailovich.

He and other American airmen evacuated by Mihailovich have banded together to form a committee working for erection of a statue in honor of Mihailovich in Washington, D.C.

A bill introduced by Rep. Edward Derlinski, R-Ill., to build the no more than two days at a time, running from the Germans.

THE GUERRILLA BANDS, which totaled about 300,000 men, were the private army of one man: Gen. Draja Mihailovich, who had been Secretary of War in the Yugoslavian government before the German occupation.

It was Mihailovich and his men who, through their efforts, evacuated Felman and an estimated 500 other American airmen from German-held territory. Mihailovich, a small man with a beard and round glasses, had fled to the mountains when the Germans came, so he could control his army from a place of safety.

BÉFORE LONG, as 8,000 of Mihailovich's men stood by to fight off the Germans, Felman and his crew were evacuated.

A few months later, the war was over and Felman found himself back in New York, where the first thing he did was pick up a newspaper.

One of the first articles he read statue died without a vote last year and has not been reintroduced.

PART OF THE problem, Felman said, is a reluctance by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger to strain United States relations with Tito by building the statue. Despite Kissinger's feelings, however, several senators, including Arizona Sens. Barry Goldwater and Paul Fannin, have agreed to co-sponsor the bill.

While he awaits Congressional action on the bill, Felman continues to work for a bachelor's degree in business administration, an education interrupted by the war more than 30 years ago. 106 WALTER E. FAUNTROY DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

> 326 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BULDING (202) 225-8050

DISTRICT OFFICE: GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE BUILDING 441 G STREET, N.W. SUITE 1002 WASMINGTON, D.C. 20548 (202) 275-0171

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

April 15, 1976

COMMITTEE ON DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA SUBCOMMITTEES:

JUDICIARY FISCAL AFFAIRS CHAIRMAN, GOVERNMENT OPENATIONS

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, CURRENCY AND HOUSING

SUBCOMMITTEES: HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CONSUMER AFFAIRS INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTIONS FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS SUPERVISION, REGULATION AND INSURANCE

Major Richard L. Felman, Chairman (USAF RET.) National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich 1232 Pennsylvania Building 425 - 13th Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20004

Dear Major Felman:

I appreciate your comments on the legislation introduced by Messrs Derwinski and Murphy to honor the late General Drazha Mihailovich for his contribution and efforts to rescue and aid many American Airmen during World War II.

Whatever are the issues that have been raised about General Mihailovich's role in the War should not be permitted to detract from the central question of whether or not he has been adequately thanked for helping American Airmen. Those of us who have read much of European history know that these were times when even the best and the bravest of men and women could not always resist every time the totalitarian regime of Nazism elected to seek some favor. Therefore, in my own mind, whatever may have been the momentary lapses--if there were indeed any--the essential fact of his efforts to aid Americans and the allied effort cannot be overlooked, ignored, or forgotten by those whom he helped and by the nations whose effort he aided.

You may be assured of my interest in this matter and of my concern that this man be adequately thanked for his contribution to this nation.

Sincerely yours,

WALTER E. FAUNTROY Member of Congress bcc: Maj. Gen.Donald J.Smith (USAF ANG), Hon. Chrm. UE DYE STATE SENATOR DISTRICT 12 THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

STATE CAPITOL, SENATE WING PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85007



COMMITTEES PINANCE, VICE CHAIRMAN APPROPRIATIONS EDUCATION

JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET

Arizona State Senate Phoenix. Arizona

June 24, 1976

President Carald R. Ford The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

As individuals concerned with insuring the future safety of American airmen in times of war or national emergency, we the undersigned, believe it is time the United States of America pay its debt of gratitude to Yugoslavian General Draza Mihailovich who, by his direct actions, was responsible for saving the lives of nearly 500 American airmen who had been shot down behind German lines during World War II.

We further believe that such a debt should be commemorated by allowing the construction of a simple concrete monument by the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich. Such a monument would contain the words of President Truman which were engraved on the Legion of Merit award which he presented posthumously to General Mihailovich in 1948 and would also contain the names of the nearly 500 Americans who are alive today because of General Mihailovich. Because such a memorial would not be constructed or maintained with public funds, we believe that it is appropriate for the United States of America to finally thank a World War II General who risked his life to save the lives of American servicemen.

Mr. President, we ask for your direct support to insure the passage of legislation now before Congress which would authorize the construction and maintenance of the General Draza Mihailovich Monument in Washington, District of Columbia. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Sincerely,

SUE DYE

Jones

Tom Moore

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/Stephen Davis

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SENATE ENGROSSED COPY

State of Arizona House of Representatives Thirty-second Legislature Second Regular Session

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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 2002

A JOINT MEMORIAL

URGING THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO OBJECT TO THE ADMISSION OF NORTH OR SOUTH VIETNAM TO THE UNITED NATIONS PENDING AN ACCOUNTING OF OUR PRISONERS OF WAR AND MISSING IN ACTION AND TO MAKE EVERY POSSIBLE EFFORT TO INSURE THE PASSAGE OF LEGISLATION AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE GENERAL DRAZA MIHAILOVICH MONUMENT IN WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

To the President and the Congress of the United States of America: Your memorialist respectfully represents:

Whereas, the Legislature and citizens of the State of Arizona are concerned for the lives, minds and well-being of its loved ones and citizens who are still carried as missing in action or prisoners of war; and

Whereas, the veterans of Arizona are also concerned for their comrades at arms that are still missing in action or prisoners of war in Southeast Asia; and

Whereas, the United States House of Representatives passed the Montgomery Resolution to carry out an investigation of the unanswered questions about the estimated two thousand four hundred American servicemen and civilians still "Missing in Action" or otherwise unaccounted for in Southeast Asia; and

Whereas, the dictates of humanity itself demand that the sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, wives, fathers and mothers learn of the fate of those they love and without whom their lives are shattered and empty; and

Whereas, there is strong evidence that the communist governments in Southeast Asia, as other communist nations have done in the past, are without any moral justification, illegally retaining prisoners of war in despite of their firm agreement to return all prisoners of war; and 109

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Whereas, these very same communist countries of North and South Vietnam are asking to be recognized and admitted to the United Nations; and

Whereas, objection by the United States to the admission of North or South Vietnam to the United Nations has thus far been based on the fact that the Republic of Korea has not been admitted but such objection should also be based on a further detailed accounting of our citizens still carried as missing in action or prisoners of war.

Wherefore your memorialist, the Legislature of the State of Arizona, prays:

1. That the President and the Congress of the United States take every possible step and make every possible effort to obtain a more detailed accounting of all Americans still carried as prisoners of war, missing in action or unaccounted for in Southeast Asia.

2. That it be publicly stated by Congressional Resolution and Presidential Decree that the United States through its ambassador to the United Nations will continue to veto any move to admit either North or South Vietnam to the United Nations, regardless of the status of the Republic of Korea, until there is forthcoming a more detailed accounting of all Americans still carried as prisoners of war, missing in action or unaccounted for in Southeast Asia.

That copies of this memorial be dispatched by certified mail. with a return receipt requested, to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Arizona Delegation to the United States Congress.

To the President and the Congress of the United States of America: Your memorialist respectfully represents:

Whereas, the Legislature and the citizens of the State of Arizona are aware that nearly five hundred American airmen owe their lives to the late General Draza Mihailovich of Yugoslavia; and

Whereas, General Draza Nihailovich, at the risk of his own life and the lives of his men, rescued these airmen from enemy territory and helped them get to American lines; and

Whereas, General Draza Mihailovich was awarded the Legion of Merit in 1948 by President Truman; and

Whereas, the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich has requested permission to construct a simple concrete monument to General Mihailovich; and

Whereas, such monument would be constructed and maintained at no public expense.

41 Wherefore your memorialist, the Legislature of the State of Arizona, 42 43 prays:

1. That the President and the Congress of the United States make 44 every possible effort to insure the passage of legislation authorizing 45 the construction and maintenance of the General Draza Mihailovich 46 Monument in Washington, District of Columbia. 47

2. That copies of this memorial be dispatched to the President 48 49 of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each 50 member of the Arizona Delegation to the United States Congress. 51

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS - THE AMERICAN LEGION 723 WEST POLK STREET - PHOENIX, ARIZONA

		DATE							
RESOLUTION	NO	SUBJECT	Memorial	to	General	Drasa	Mihailovich		
ACTION:			•						

(DO NOT WRITE ABOVE THESE LINES)

RESOLUTION (In triplicate)

WHEREAS, the Legislature and the citizens of the State of Arizona are aware that nearly five hundred American airmen owe their lives to the late General Draza Mihailovich of Yugoslavia; and

WHEREAS, General Draza Mihailovich, at the risk of his own life and the lives of his men, rescued these airmen from enemy territory and helped them get to American lines; and

WHEREAS, General Draza Hibailovich was awarded the Legion of Merit in 1948 by President Truman; and

WHEREAS, the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich has requested permission to construct a simple concrete monument to General Mihailovich; and

WHEREAS, such monument would be constructed and maintained at no public expense. BE IT RESOLVED, by The American Legion, Department of Arizona, in regular Convention assembled at Kingman, Arizona June 24, 25, 26 and 27, 1976, that we seek through the National Organization and the Congress of the United States to make every possible effort to insure the passage of legislation authorizing the construction and maintenance of the General Draza Mihailovica Monument in Washington D.C.



REVOLUTIO

United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

- AUG 6 - 1976

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Your Committee has requested the views of this Department on S. 2135 a bill "To authorize the construction and maintenance of the General Draza Mihailovich Monument in Washington, District of Columbia, in recognition of the role he played in saving the lives of approximately five hundred United States airmen in Yugoslavia during World War II."

We have no objection to enactment of S. 2135 if the bill is amended as described herein.

S. 2135 directs the Secretary of the Interior to permit the "National Committee of American Airmen rescued by General Mihailovich" to construct and maintain a monument to General Draza Mihailovich on public land within the District of Columbia. The bill further directs that the Secretary shall only permit the Committee to begin construction when he determines that the Committee has sufficient funds to complete it and to provide for maintenance, except that the Committee must have the necessary funds no later than two years after the date of enactment of the bill.

During World War II the United States and Great Britain initially supported the resistance movement in Yugoslavia, led by General Draza Mihailovich. Allegedly due to a tragic combination of errors and mistaken information, the allies withdrew their support from Mihailovich at the end of 1943 and threw their weight behind the communist resistance movement under the leadership of Marshall Tito. Despite his abandonment by the allies, and despite the war waged against him by both the communists and the Nazis during 1944, General Mihailovich and his forces, known as the Chetniks, succeeded in rescuing some 500 American airmen who were shot down over Yugoslavia. Most of these men were safely evacuated to Italy in a series of dramatic air rescue missions, which picked them up from the heart of Nazi occupied Yugoslavia and flew them to Italy. President Truman in 1948 posthumously awarded the Legion of Merit to General Mihailovich for his services in rescuing American airmen, and for his larger services to the Allied cause.

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In 1967, the text of President Truman's citation was made public. The reason that the British, with United States' support, supported Tito as opposed to Mihailovich was that it was believed that Mihailovich was collaborating with the Nazis. However, the case histories of the approximately 500 United States airmen who were shot down over Nazi occupied Yugoslavia indicate that Mihailovich and his forces, the Chetniks, saved their lives, often at the risk of their own and often at the risk of the killing of scores of hostages by the Germans in reprisal.

The Department of the Interior does not purport to answer the question of whether during 1943 and 1944 the revolutionary forces led by Tito or those led by Mihailovich in Yugoslavia should have been supported by the United States. There is no question, however, based on individual case histories of airmen who were shot down over that country, that Mihailovich and his men at high cost to themselves were responsible for saving the lives of approximately 500 American airmen. We believe it would be appropriate, therefore, to permit the rescued airmen to erect a simple monument to Mihailovich as a memorial to his humanitarian actions during this period of world hostility.

The National Capital Memorial Advisory Committee, which was established by the Secretary of the Interior to advise on proposed memorials in the District of Columbia, considered this subject on March 1, 1976 and recommended that the Department support this legislation. We concur in that recommendation.

The National Committee referred to in the bill to cur understanding is not yet formally organized as a legal association. We understand that the memorial to be erected and maintained by the Committee will consist of a simple structure bearing on one bronze plaque the text of President Truman's citation in conferring the Legion of Merit on General Mihailovich posthumously and on another plaque the names of the airmen rescued by General Mihailovich together with a brief statement of tribute and gratitude. The Committee intends to raise the necessary funds entirely by private contributions. We have no estimate of the cost of the memorial nor have we reviewed a proposed design. In this connection the bill requires that the momment to be erected be located according to plans approved by the National Capital Planning Commission, the Fine Arts Commission, and the Secretary of the Interior. We recommend that

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years after the date of enactment of this Act.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I am leased to rise in support of S. 2135, my bill to authorize the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by Gen. Draza Mihailovich to erect a monument in Washington, D.C.

The monument is to be erected by funds solicited from the general public and will not cost American taxpayers one penny.

During World War II, the United States and Great Britain initially supported the nationalist resistance movement in Yugoslavia, led by Gen. Draza Mihailovich. Due to a tragic combination of errors and mistaken information, the Allies withdrew their support from Mihailovich at the end of 1943 and threw their weight behind the Communist resistance movement under the leadership of Marshal Tito.

Despite his abandonment by the Allies, and despite the merciless war waged against him by both the Communists and the Nazis during 1944, General Mihailovich and his forces, known as the Chetniks, succeeded in rescuing some 500 American airmen who were shot down over Yugoslavia. Most of these men were safely evacuated to Italy in a series of dramatic air rescue missions, which picked them up from the heart of Nazioccupied Yugoslavia and flew them to Italy.

President Harry S. Truman in 1948 posthumously awarded the Legion of Merit to General Mihailovich for his services in rescuing American airmen. and for his larger services to the Allied cause. Unfortunately, the State Department kept the award to Mihailovich classified "secret" for almost 20 years, for fear of offending the sensitivities of the Yugoslavia Communist Government.

Now, more than 30 years after their rescue, a group of American airmen have organized themselves into a National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich and have launched a movement to build a memorial in Washington, D.C., dedicated in gratitude to the man who saved their lives.

It is my understanding that the monument will be a simple one, bearing on one side a plaque listing the names of 500 American airmen rescued by General Mihailovich, and on the other side the text of President Truman's citation in awarding the Legion of Merit to General Mihailovich.

I want to pay particular tribute to a former colleague who has shown special interest in General Mihailovich, my good friend, former Senator Frank J. Lausche of Ohio, a son of Yugoslavian immigrant parents.

Mr. President, Senator Lausche wrote a foreword to a recent book about General Mihailovich, and I ask unanimous consent to include it in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks, as it sets into historical perspective the great debt we owe General Mihailovich.

Mr. President, I also want to thank the cosponsors of this bill: Senators CANNON, HUGH SCOTT, HATHAWAY. DOMENICI, STEVENS, FANNIN, and GOLD-WATER. I also want to pay particular tribute to the distinguished chairman of the Rules Committee (Mr. CANNON), who was of great assistance in moving this matter through committee.

Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to support this most worthy piece of legislation.

There being no objection, the foreword was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

POREWORD

(By the Honorable Frank J. Lausche)

(Norr .- The Honorable Frank J. Lausche. the son of a Slovenian immigrant, has been a man of almost legendary stature in modern American politics. His qualities of leadership and statesmanship are reflected in his record as an elected representative of the people of Ohio for over 36 years.

(As a judge, he served 9 years in the mu-nicipal court of the City of Cleveland, and in Cuyahoga County Court (1932-41). He then rved two terms as Mayor of Cleveland, from 1941 to 1944.

(Elected Governor of Ohio in 1945, he served through five terms in this office. This remarkable record of public trust in an elected office was unexampled in the history of Ohio-since the founding of the Republic no other governor has served more than three terms. When General Mihailovich was captured in March 1946, Frank J. Lausche, as Governor of Ohio, not only joined the Com-mittee For a Fair Trial to Draza Mihailovich, but, at his own request, for the purpose of displaying his concern and indignation, he served on the Board of Directors of the Committee

(Elected to the United States Senate in 1956, Senator Lausche served with distinction for 12 years, making a mighty mark both in the Senate chamber and in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, of which he was a member. Sometimes described as a maverick. Senator Lausche has been a man who absolute independence and integrity has commanded the respect of his foes as well as his friends. When he left the Senate in 1969, one of his many friends in the Senate said that it was "as though a mighty oak has fallen.")

In bringing together this historical documentation on General Draza Mihallovich, I believe the Serbian National Committee is serving the cause of history, the cause of America, and the larger cause of world freedom, as well as the cause of the Serbian people.

I was, therefore, honored by the invitation to write a brief foreword to the record that appears in the following pages.

I write this foreword out of a sense both of duty and of shame.

As an American, I bow my head in shame whenever I think of the terribly mistaken policy which isd the Allied leaders in World War II to abandon General Draza Mihailovich and throw their support instead to the communist cohorts of Marshal Josio Bros Tito. It was an unbelievable aberration of policy and of justice perpetrated by the Allie

Minailovich was the first insurgent in Europe. It was he, who first raised the flag of resistance to the Nazi occupier-and by his action he inspired the formation of resistance movements in all the subjugated countrie

He resisted the Namis at the time when the Soviet Union and the communists were still collaborating with them—and his early re-sistance, by slowing down the Nami timetable, was probably responsible for preventing the fall of Moscow.

The contributions of Mihailovich to the Allied cause were the subject of tributes by General Eisenhower, General De Gaulle, Field Marshall Lord Alexander, Admiral Harwood, Anthony Eden, President Truman, and, at later date, of President Richard Nixon. For

September 14, 1976

example. on August 16, 1942, three top rank-ing British officers, Admiral Harwood, General Auchinleck, and Air Marshal Tedder, sent the following joint wire to Minailovich With admiration we are following your directed operations which are of inestimable value to the Allied cause."

Today no informed person takes seriously the communist charges that Mihailovich collaborated with the Germans, or the processings of the communist show trial in Belgrade which resulted in his execution. The communists made the nature of their justice clear when they announced, in advance of the trial, that Mihailovich would be executed after a fair trial. And they also made it clear when they refused to take the evidence of the American officers who served with him or of the American airmen who were rescued by him

Colonel Robert H. McDowell, chief of the American mission to General Mihailovich, and perhaps the most experienced intelligence officer to serve with either side in Yugoslavia during World War II, took the time after the War to go through the German intelligence files on Yugoslavia. Not only did he find no evidence that Mihailovich collaborated with the Nazis, but he found numerous statements establishing that Hitler feared the Mihailovich movement far more that he did the Tito movement.

The communists also feared Mihailovich more than they did any other man. And that is why, when they end cuted him, they disposed of his shattered body in a secret burial place, so that those who followed him and revered him would not be able to come at night to drop tears and flowers on his grave and tenderly offer a few words of prayer in gratitude to General Mihailovich for his heroism and sacrifica.

But despite all of the abuse and all the precautions of the communists, the truth productions on the communities, the proper-about Mihailovich—how grown to the proper-tions of a legend—still persists among the Serbian people. Evidence of this is the re-markable article on Mihailovich which Mihaljo Mihajlov wrote for The New Leader, just before Tito's courts sentenced him to seven years at hard labor in early March of this year.

I think that it is fitting that we in the free world who are sware of the truth should also do everything in our power to set the record straight and to bring about the ultimate vindication before the bar of history

of one of the noblest figures of World War II. Draza Mihailovich, in addition to being an outstanding soldier and a great national leader was a man who stood for everything that we in America believe in, He was a true believer in the rights enshrined in our own Declaration of Independence-the right to think and speak and pray in accordance with one's own religious, political, economic and social beliefs, without government restraint or repression.

The publication of this historical docu mentation is a first step in the direction of historical vindication. The next logical step and one which, it seems to me, is dictated by simple decency—is that the United States Congress should accede to the petition of the American airmen that they have been suthorized to erect in Washington, with public-ly subscribed funds, a monument which they would dedicate, in gratitude, to "General Draza Mihallovich, Savior of American Airmen

Beyond this, there is still a larger debt which the free world owns to the memory of General Dram Mihailovich. It is my hope that this debt will some day be repayed in full through the liberation of his people from communist tyranny.

The amendment was agreed to. The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

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Calendar No. 275

REPORT

No. 95-297

95TH CONGRESS 1st Session SENATE

AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE GENERAL DRAZA MIHAILOVICH MONUMENT IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

JUNE 24 (legislative day, MAY 18), 1977 .- Ordered to be printed

Mr. CANNON, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 244]

The Committee on Rules and Administration, to which was referred the bill (S. 244) to authorize the construction and maintenance of the General Draza Mihailovich Monument in Washington, District of Columbia, in recognition of the role he played in saving the lives of approximately 500 U.S. airmen in Yugoslavia during World War II, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment and recommends that the bill as amended do pass.

PURPOSE

S. 244 as referred would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to permit the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich to construct and maintain a monument to General Draza Mihailovich, in recognition of the role he played in saving the lives of approximately 500 U.S. airmen in Yugoslavia during World War II, as described in that committee's petition to Congress concerning the authorization of such monument. The monument would be located on public land within the District of Columbia, in accordance with plans approved by the National Capitol Planning Commission, the Fine Arts Commission, and the Secretary of the Interior.

The National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich would accept private funds which would be the sole source for the construction and maintenance of the monument. The Secretary of the Interior would authorize the committee to begin the construction of such monument only after he determines that it has sufficient funds

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to compete the construction and to provide for its maintenance, except that the committee would have to have such funds in hand no later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this act.

As envisioned by the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich, the memorial would be a very simple one, bearing on one bronze plaque the text of President Truman's citation in conferring the Legion of Merit on General Mihailovich posthumously, and on another plaque the names of the airmen rescued by General Mihailovich together with a brief statement of tribute and gratitude.

Additional information explaining the reasons for this legislation. excerpted from a petition to the Congress by the national committee. is as follows:

The undersigned veterans of World War II are among the 500 or more American airmen who were shot down over Yugoslavia during the war and rescued by the forces of General Draza Mihailovich, and finally evacuated to Italy, in a dramatic air rescue operation.

We were all pleased to learn that President Truman had specifically mentioned this great service to the Allied cause in posthumously awarding the Legion of Merit to General Mihailovich in 1948 although we were perplexed by the 20year delay in revealing the fact of the award to the public. But the award of the Legion of Merit by the U.S. Government does not discharge the personal obligation which the undersigned airmen feel toward the man who saved their lives. This debt we can only discharge ourselves. To say that General Mihailovich and his men saved our

To say that General Mihailovich and his men saved our lives tells only a very small part of the story. Frequently, they had to fight off the Germans in order to rescue us. Because of Mihailovich's commitment to protect us at all costs, scores of innocent hostages were executed by the Nazis; the Nazis always knew when an American crew bailed out, and when they could find no trace of the crew, they assumed, quite correctly, that they were being sheltered by the Chetniks. Those of us who were wounded received the best medical attention available, sometimes in underground hospitals. Desperately short of supplies, Mihailovich's men frequently went hungry themselves in order to feed us.

All this we can never forget.

Our ranks have begun to thin with the passage of years. But the years have in no way diminished the admiration, affection and gratitude which we hold in our hearts for General Mihailovich and his gallant forces.

Having consulted with each other, and confident that we speak for all of the 500 airmen who were rescued by the forces of General Mihailovich, the undersigned airmen have decided that it would be proper to give enduring expression to this gratitude by erecting a monument in Washington, D.C. with funds contributed by ourselves and by members of the American public, to "General Mihailovich, Saviour of American

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Airmen." This concrete expression of gratitude, we feel, would also be in complete harmony with American tradition.

We respectfully petition the Congress of the United States to enact legislation permitting the erection of such a monument so that we may appropriately discharge what all of us regard as a sacred debt of honor—a debt of honor all the more compelling because Mihailovich in his lifetime received no recognition and no reward for the many services to the Allied cause of which President Truman spoke in his citation.

BACKGROUND

During the 94th Congress, Senator Thurmond (for himself and 10 cosponsors) introduced S. 2135, an identical bill, which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration. On September 8, 1976, the Rules Committee reported S. 2135 favorably to the Senate with an amendment (S. Rept. 94–1210), and the Senate passed the bill, as amended, on September 14, 1976. The bill was referred to the Committee on House Administration on September 15, 1976, but that committee did not act on the measure.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Upon the recommendation of the Department of the Interior, the Committee on Rules and Administration is reporting S. 244 with an amendment which would clarify (1) that the monument would be located on Federal public land in the District of Columbia or environs, and (2) that not only the location of the monument but also its design would be subject to approval by the National Capital Planning Commission, the Fine Arts Commission, and the Secretary of the Interior.

A joint letter in support of the bill last Congress, addressed to Senator Howard W. Cannon, chairman of the Committee on Rules and Administration, by Senator Strom Thurmond, sponsor, and Senator William D. Hathaway, a co-sponsor, is as follows:

U.S. SENATE, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, Washington, D.C., July 28, 1976.

Senator Howard W. CANNON,

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Chairman, Senate Rules and Administration Committee, Washington, D.C.

DEAR HOWARD: On July 17, 1975, we were pleased to introduce S. 2135, a bill to authorize the construction and maintenance of the Gen. Drazha Mihailovich Monument in Washington.

During World War II, the United States and Great Britain initially supported the nationalist resistance movement in Yugoslavia. led by General Drazha Mihailovich. Due to a tragic combination of errors and mistaken information, the Allies withdrew their support from Mihailovich at the end of 1943 and threw their weight behind the Communist resistance movement under the leadership of Marshal Tito. Despite his abandonment by the Allies, and despite the merciless

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war waged against him by both the Communists and the Nazis during 1944, General Mihailovich and his forces, known as the Chetniks, succeeded in rescuing some 500 American airmen who were shot down over Yugoslavia. Most of these men were safely evacuated to Italy in a series of dramatic air rescue missions, which picked them up from the heart of Nazi-occupied Yugoslavia and flew them to Italy.

President Harry S. Truman in 1948 posthumously awarded the Legion of Merit to General Mihailovich for his services in rescuing American airmen, and for his larger services to the Allied cause. Unfortunately, the State Department kept the award to Mihailovich classified "secret" for almost 20 years for fear of offending the sensitivities of the Yugoslavia Communist government.

Now, more than 30 years after this rescue, a group of American airmen have organized themselves into a National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich and have launched a movement to build a memorial in Washington, D.C., dedicated to him.

The construction and maintenance of the monument would be of no cost to the Government, since the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich would accept private funds for the monument.

Other co-sponsors of the bill are yourself. Senators Hugh Scott, Domenici, Stevens, Fannin, Buckley, and Beall.

We hope the committee can act on this matter at any early date, so plans for constructions can get underway.

With kindest regards and best wishes.

Very truly,

WILLIAM D. HATHAWAY. STROM THURMOND.

A letter in support of the bill last Congress. addressed to Senator Howard W. Cannon, chairman of the Committee on Rules and Administration, by John Kyl, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, is as follows:

> U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY. Washington, D.C., August 6, 1976.

Hon. HOWARD W. CANNON.

Chairman, Committee on Rules and Administration, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Your committee has requested the views of this Department on S. 2135 a bill to authorize the construction and maintenance of the Gen. Draza Mihailovich Monument in Washington. District of Columbia. in recognition of the role he played in saving the lives of approximately 500 U.S. airmen in Yugoslavia during World War II.

We have no objection to enactment of S. 2135 if the bill is amended as described herein.

S. 2135 directs the Secretary of the Interior to permit the "National Committee of American Airmen rescued by General Mihailovich" to construct and maintain a monument to Gen. Draza Mihailovich on

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public land within the District of Columbia. The bill further directs that the Secretary shall only permit the committee to begin construction when he determines that the committee has sufficient funds to complete it and to provide for maintenance, except that the committee must have the necessary funds no later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the bill.

During World War II the United States and Great Britain initially supported the resistance movement in Yugoslavia, led by Gen. Draza Mihailovich. Allegedly due to a tragic combination of errors and mistaken information, the allies withdrew their support from Mihailovich at the end of 1943 and threw their weight behind the Communist resistance movement under the leadership of Marshall Tito. Despite his abandonment by the allies, and despite the war waged against him by both the communists and the Nazis during 1944, General Mihailovich and his forces, known as the Chetniks, succeeded in rescuing some 500 American airmen who were shot down over Yugoslavia. Most of these men were safely evacuated to Italy in a series of dramatic air rescue missions, which picked them up from the heart of Nazi occupied Yugoslavia and flew them to Italy. President Truman in 1945 posthumously awarded the Legion of Merit to General Mihailovich for his services in rescuing American airmen, and for his larger services to the Allied cause.

In 1976, the text of President Truman's citation was made public. The reason that the British, with United States' support, supported Tito as opposed to Mihailovich was that it was believed that Mihailovich was collaborating with the Nazis. However, the case histories of the approximately 500 U.S. airmen who were shot down over Nazi occupied Yugoslavia indicate that Mihailovich and his forces, the Chetniks, saved their lives, often at the risk of their own and often at the risk of the killing of scores of hostages by the Germans in reprisal.

The Department of the Interior does not purport to answer the question of whether during 1943 and 1944 the revolutionary forces led by Tito or those led by Mihailovich in Yugoslavia should have been supported by the United States. There is no question, however, based on individual case histories of airmen who were shot down over that country, that Mihailovich and his men at high cost to themselves were responsible for saving the lives of approximately 500 American airmon. We believe it would be appropriate, therefore, to permit the rescued airmen to erect a simple monument to Mihailovich as a memorial to his humanitarian actions during this period of world hostility.

The National Capital Memorial Advisery Committee, which was established by the Secretary of the Interior to advise on proposed memorials in the District of Columbia, considered this subject on March 1, 1976 and recommended that the Department support this legislation. We concur in that recommendation.

The National Committee referred to in the bill to our understanding is not yet formally organized as a legal association. We understand that the memorial to be erected and maintained by the committee will consist of a simple structure bearing on one bronze plaque the text of President Truman's citation in conferring the Legion of Merit on General Mihailovich posthumously and on another plaque the names

of the airmen rescued by General Mihailovich together with a brief statement of tribute and gratitude. The committee intends to raise the necessary funds entirely by private contributions. We have no estimate of the cost of the memorial nor have we reviewed a proposed design. In this connection the bill requires that the monument to be erected be located according to plans approved by the National Capital Planning Commission, the Fine Arts Commission, and the Secretary of the Interior. We recommend that the bill be amended to require such approval of the design of the monument as well. We also recommend that S. 2135 be amended to clarify that the location of the monument on "public land within the District of Columbia" means land owned by the Federal Government. We understand that the District of Columbia supports such an amendment.

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The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the administration's program.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN KTL, Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

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Vol. 123

of America

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 1977

No. 113

Senate

Mibailovich Monument: Senate passed with committee amendment and sent to the House S. 244, authorizing the construction in Washington, D.C., of a monument to General Draza Mihailovich of Yugoslavia.

Pages 511088-511089

GEN. DRAZA MIHAILOVICH MONUMENT

Mr. ROBERT C. BYRD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar Order No. 275, S. 244.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill will be stated by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A bill (S. 244) to authorize the construction and maintenance of the General Draza Mihallovich Monument in Washington, District of Columbia, in recognition of the role he played in saving the lives of approximately five hundred United States airmen in Yugoslavia during World War II.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Rules and Administration with an amendment on page 2, line 3, strike out:

Such monument shall be located on public land within the District of Columbia, to be located according to plans approved by the National Capital Planning Commission, the Fine Arts Commission, and the Secretary of the Interior.

and insert in lieu thereof:

Such monument shall be of appropriate design and shall be located on Federal public land within the District of Columbia or environs. The design and location of the monument shall be subject to approval by the National Capital Planning Commission, the Fine Arts Commission, and the Secretary of the Interior. So as to make the bill read:

Be it enacted by the Senate and Hours of Representatives of the United States of American in Congress assembled, That, pursuant to section 2 of this bill, the Secretary of the Interior shall permit the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich to construct and maintain a monument to General Draza Mihailovich. in recognition of the role he played in saving the lives of approximately five hundred United States airmen in Yugoslavia during World War II, as described in such committee's petition to Congress concerning the authorization of such monu-ment. Such monument shall be of appropriate design and shall be located on Federal public land within the District of Columbia or environs. The design and location of the monument shall be subject to approval by the National Capital Planning Commission, the Fine Arts Commission, and the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 2. The National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihaliovich shall accept private funds which shall be the sole source for the construction and maintenance of such monument. The Secretary of the Interior shall only permit such committee to begin the construction of such monument when he determines that such committee has sufficient funds to complete such construction and to provide for such maintenance; except that such committee must have such funds no later than two years after the date of enactment of this Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

The question is on agreeing to the committee amendment.

The committee amendment was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, shall the bill pass? The bill (S. 244) was passed. 123



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Honorary Chairman MAJ. GEN. DONALD J. SMITH Chicago, Illinois

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President •MAJOR RICHARD L. FELMAN* Tucson, Arizona

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Personnel involved in air crew rescue operation

COL. ROBERT H. McDOWELL* Clearwater. Fiorida MIKE DEVJAK Gary. Indiana ANTHUR JIBILIAN Tiffin, Ohio CAPT. NICK LALICH* Baltimore, Maryland LT. ELLSWORTH R. KRAMER* Arlington. Virginia CAPT. JOHN MILDORAGOVICH* Missoula. Montana •LT. COL. GEORGE MUSULIN* McLean, Virginia CAPT. GEORGE VUJNOVICH* Queens, New York

Directors
 "Retired
 ""Honorary Member
 (Widow or Mother)
 tRescued Canadian Airman
 Honorary Member

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

P.O. Box 661 • Falls Church, Virginia 22046 • (703) 534-6776

July 27, 1977

MRS. PRESTON ANGLEBERGER. Frederck, Maryland JAMES E. BECKER Yuma, Arizona GUST. BADOWN Luing. Texas Johnstown, New York Johnstown, New York CutHTE DUES, JR. Dayton, Ohio Rushville, Illinois LT. COL. ARTHUR HOODECHECK, JR. St. Petersburg, Florida GEORGE HURD, JR. Fort Work, Texas Rushville, Illinois LT. COL. AMES M. INKS: Luano, Texas Jans E. MECKER Yuma, Arizona On behalf of some 500 World War II American airmen who were nescued as missing in action in Yugoslavia, but who were rescued and returned to American control by the forces of General Draza Mihailovich, we ask for your assistance in helping us to express our gratitude in an appropriate manner to the man who saved our lives. In response to our petition to Congress, legislation (H. J. Res 374) has been introduced by Congressman Derwinski, with the support of 12 other Congressmen, that would authorize the rescued airmen, at no cost to the government, to st. Petersburg, Florida GEORGE HURD, JR. Fort Worth, Texas RotAMEM MeBSY Stors, Connectedt LT. COL. AMES M. INKS: Luano, Texas Jano Kasas J

> We call your attention to the fact that this legislation, when it was introduced during the last session, was approved by the inter-agency National Capital Memorial Advisory Committee, approved by the Department of the Interior, reported favorably by the Senate Rules Committee, and passed by the Senate without dissent just before the close of the session. Regrettably, there was no time left last year to act on the companion legislation in the House. The Senate again approved this legislation without dissent on June 29, 1977. We hope that the House will join the Senate in approving this legislation during the current session of Congress. (A copy of the Senate Rules Committee Report is enclosed for your information). The paragraphs that follow briefly summarize the essential facts.

> Over a period of several months, beginning August 10, 1944, General Mihailovich, the nationalist resistance leader in Yugoslavia during World War II, arranged for the evacuation to Italy of 432 American airmen who had been rescued by his forces, frequently after bitter battles with the Germans. This was by far the most massive and dramatic air rescue of American airmen conducted anywhere in Axis-occupied Europe during the whole of World War II. General Mihailovich was instrumental in returning over 100 additional American airmen to Allied control in Italy -some of them before the evacuation flights which commenced on August 10, some of them afterwards.

> > COPY OF COMMITTEE LETTER MAILED TO MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Abandoned by his allies through an aberration of policy we are still unable to understand, Mihailovich in his lifetime received no reward of any kind -- not even a simple letter of thanks -- for the role played by his forces in saving the lives of so many hundreds of American airmen. In March, 1948, however, President Truman posthumously conferred the Legion of Merit on General Mihailovich, with the following citation:

General Dragoljub Mihailovich distinguished himself in an outstanding manner as Commander-in-Chief of the Yugoslavian Armed Forces and later as Minister of War by organizing and leading important resistance forces against the enemy which occupied Yugoslavia from December 1941 to December 1944. Through the undaunted efforts of his troops, many United States airmen were rescued and returned safely to friendly control. General Mihailovich and his forces, though lacking adequate supplies, contributed materially to the Allied cause, and were instrumental in obtaining a final Allied victory.

We again wish to emphasize that it is our desire to avoid all political polemics: all we want to do is express our gratitude to the man who saved our lives. However, we cannot ignore the fact that, since this legislation was first introduced in 1975, Senators and Congressmen have received letters from certain sources charging that General Mihailovich was a collaborator. This we know from our personal experience was not true. He was a consistent and courageous opponent of the Nazis and he and his followers lived under conditions of unbelievable hardship. They frequently risked -- and lost -- their own lives in saving our lives. An effective reply to these charges is to be found in the brief report issued by the four nationally eminent American jurists (Arthur Garfield Hays, Adolph A. Berle, Jr., Charles Poletti, and Theodore Kiendl) who in 1946 gave a week of their time to take the testimony of all the American officers who had been attached to Mihailovich and of the airmen who had been rescued by him. In essence, their report gave General Mihailovich a clean bill of health. If any more proof were needed, it is to be found in the citation by President Truman which we have already quoted.

We hope that we will be able to count on your support for this undertaking, and that you will join in sponsoring H J Resolution 374 or H.R. 1009.

Sincerely yours,

MAJ. GEN. DONALD J. SMITH (USAF ANG) Honorary Chairman

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LT. COL. CHARLES L. DAVIS (USAF RES RET) Chairman

MAJOR RICHARD L. FELMAN (USAF RET) President AS OF AUGUST 15, 1977

Annunzio, Frank (Ill.) Beard, Robin L. (Tenn.) Benjamin, Adam Jr. (Ind.) Burgener, Clair W. (Calif.) Burke, J. Herbert (Fla.) Collins, James M. (Tex.) Crane, Philip M. (Ill.) Daniel, Dan (Va.) Dodd, Christopher J. (Conn.) Derwinski, Edward J. (Ill.) Fary, John G. (Ill.) Holt, Marjorie S. (Md.) Hyde, Henry J. (Ill.) McClory, Robert (Ill.) McDonald, Larry (Ga.) Milford, Dale (Tex.) Mitchell, Donald J. (N.Y.) Murphy, John M. (N.Y.) Murphy, Morgan F. (Ill.) Udall, Morris K. (Ariz.) Waggonner, Joseph D., Jr. (La. Wilson, Charles (Tex.)

RESOLUTION

- To support the intent of the legislation introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives to authorize construction of a Memorial to General Draza Mihailovich, a World War II Resistance leader.
- Whereas nearly 500 American airmen were rescued by General Draza Mihailovich during World War II; and
- Whereas General Mihailovich at the risk of his own life and the lives of his men, rescued these missing-in-action American airmen from enemy territory and was instrumental in returning these airmen to allied control; and
- Whereas these almost 500 airmen were returned to military duty and thus were able to continue to contribute to the military effort of the United States until the end of World War II; and
- Whereas General Mihailovich and his troops lacked adequate supplies and fought under conditions of extreme hardship; and
- Whereas when General Mihailovich was captured by Marshal Tito's communist government in 1946, the National Executive Committee of the American Legion on June 11, 1946 passed a resolution (that was mailed to the Secretary of State, Washington, D.C.) urging that the American Legion petition the United States government to exert its influence by every possible means to insure a fair and impartial trial for General Mihailovich in return for the generous aid and assistance accorded American airmen; and
- Whereas the members of <u>American Legion Post</u> 827, Department of <u>California</u> honored General Mihailovich by naming the Post the "General Draza Mihailovich Post No. 827"; and
- Whereas President Harry S. Truman in 1948 posthumously awarded the Legion of Merit in the Degree of Chief Commander to General Draza Mihailovich in recognition of his efforts on the behalf of such airmen and of his other services to the Allied cause; and
- Whereas the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich, Inc. has petitioned the Congress for permission to construct and maintain a memorial to General Draza Mihailovich in the District of Columbia or environs; and
- Whereas such monument will express the gratitude of the rescued airmen to General Draza Mihailovich for his role in saving their lives; and

Whereas the construction and maintenance of such monument will not involve the expenditure of any Federal funds; and

- Whereas legislation to authorize the construction of such a memorial was introduced in the United States Senate (S. 244) and has been approved by the Interagency National Capital Memorial Advisory Committee, approved by the U.S. Department of Interior, reported favorably by the Senate Rules Committee and passed by the Senate without dissent on June 29, 1977; and
- Whereas similar legislation has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by Congressman Edward Derwinski of Illinois and thirteen other members (H.J.Res. 374) including Congressman Dan Daniel of Virginia, a Past National Commander of the American Legion, and by Congressman Murphy of New York (H.R. 1009): Now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the American Legion in convention assembled at Denver, Colorado on August 22 through 24, 1977 does hereby support the intent of

the legislation pending in the U.S. House of Representatives for the purpose of authorizing construction of a Memorial to General Draza Mihailovich as a lasting expression of gratitude by these almost 500 American airmen.

Curson Dany Unizen

Asa Bushnell

Recognition comes late for World War II hero

Citizen Editorial Page Editor

At long last, the U.S. Congress may be on the verge of duly recognizing the valiant deeds of an extraordinary, near-forgotten Yugoslavian patriot.

And, if it happens, a dream will come true for a dedicated group representing some 500 American fliers and their families. For more than three decades, the group has fought to restore and glorify the good name of the patriot, Draja Mihailovich.

I say "may" and "if" because positive congressional action could be stymied in a House committee, as it was last year. The full Senate cooperated in 1976, and again supported a joint resolution on June 29, 1977, but apparently some of our squeamish representatives have strange misgivings.

(Happily, Arizona Congressman Mo Udail, a backer of the resolution, is not among the squeamish.)

I admit I wouldn't be aware of the Mihailovich matter, except that it was brought to my attention by Dick Felman, a retired U.S. Air Force major and a Tucson resident since 1950. A tireless campaigner, he has pushed the drive for recognition since World War II and now, with complete success in sight, he thinks the Tucson Citizen deserves credit for a "big assist."

A friend and former Citizen colleague, Jay Hall, was responsible for this newspaper's participation. On May 16, 1970, in Ole magazine, Hall related Felman's incredible wartime story — a story involving Mihailovich's pro-American heroics.

The Hall article was reprinted in the Congressional Record and, according to Felman, that did the trick with a host of Washington skeptics.

In a stirring account, Hall told about Felman and his B24 bomber crew being shot down behind the German lines in Yugoslavia in 1944. It was a more than usually harrowing experience for the U.S. airmen, who had been warned not to fall



Draja Mihailovich

A Tucsonian sings his praises

into the hands of Mihailovich, the war's first genuine guerrilla leader.

Supposedly, Mihailovich and his Chetniks ---by then branded Nazi collaborators by Marshal Tito --- delighted in chopping off the ears of any Allied troops who crossed paths with them.

Felman and more than 500 downed American companions, whose rescue was facilitated by the life-risking Chetniks, learned the truth about Mihailovich. The bearded, benevolent guerrilla leader made possible their return to the free world.

While being befriended by the Yugoslav guerrillas, Felman developed an enduring fondness for Mihailovich. As a parting gesture, the Tucsonian gave his high school ring to the foreign patriot. Mihailovich matched the show of affection by presenting a cherished ceremonial dagger to Felman.

Actually, the Chetnik movement, a constant thorn in the Nazis' side, might have proved similarly damaging to the Communists. But Tito took no chances — and these "reactionary" guerrillas were doomed.

Tito's Partisans tried Mihailovich for treason after the war, conveniently ignoring the organized protests of the American servicemen he had aided, plus a number of other concerned citizens. On July 17, 1946, a firing squad executed the falsely charged former commander-in-chief of the Yugoslav armed forces.

Jay Hall called Draja Mihailovich a victim of "the fickle fortunes of international politics."

Official Washington at the time refused to salute Mihailovich's memory. Our strategists were busy trying to encourage a split between Tito and the Stalinists in Moscow — a split that occurred in 1948 as Yugoslavia bolted the Comintern.

As a practical matter, the Truman Doctrine would have been endangered in neighboring Greece if Communist Tito had not decided against the kind of communism dictated from the Kremlin.

Curiously, in the same year, 1948, President Truman awarded the Legion of Merit posthumously to Mihailovich for his contributions to the Allied cause. But HST insisted the award would remain a classified secret until its revelation no longer could harm the effectiveness of the doctrine.

As a result, it took about 20 years for Rep. Ed

Derwinski, R-III., goaded by the likes of Dick Felman, to force the release of public information regarding Truman's bestowal of the honor on Mihailovich.

That, understandably, wasn't enough for those who remembered the valor of the man who saved so many lives. Three years ago, they formed a National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich, with the energetic Felman as chairman.

Working through Derwinski's office, the committee petitioned for the enabling legislation that has been introduced in Congress for the past two years. Once the joint resolution has been approved by both chambers, the committee would be authorized to erect a suitable monument in Mihailovich's memory on federal public land within the District of Columbia.

Why shouldn't the Senate-passed measure now breeze through the House?

Well, for one thing, as Evans & Novak pointed out Tuesday in a provocative column on the Citizen's Perspective page, the Soviets suddenly are wooing the 85-year-old Tito. For another, the Commie boss of Yugoslavia went from his kissand-make-up meetings in Moscow to Pelding, where Red China provided the most turnultuous welcome ever accorded a visiting chief of state.

In the wake of these two events, and in view of our present precarious standing with both Russia and China, some of our congressmen could balk at the idea of slapping Tito in the face by eulogizing his old nemesis, Mihailovich. They — and no doubt our diplomats in Belgrade might prefer to let sleeping dogs lie.

Personally, I don't believe such congressional action would influence future decisions by the opportunistic Tito. He'll always be more persuaded by a checkbook than a monument.

Our squeamish representatives should get off the dime and fully recognize a deserving hero. After all, history cannot be changed, even though dictators often think they've managed it by firing squad.

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ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA

425 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE - CHICAGO, ILLINCIS 60611

Editorial Offices

October 28, 1977

Major Richard L. Felman P. O. Box 17478 Tucson, Arizona 85731

Dear Major Felman:

We are sorry for our delay in replying to your letter to Mr. Preece, who retired some time ago as Editor of Britannica.

The biography of General Mihailovich has recently been revised in light of his historical role. It will appear in a future printing. We appreciate your comments and enclosures and will forward them to the appropriate editor for consideration.

The comments of our readers are always welcome. Thank you for writing.

Sincerely yours,

any Jane Acholo

Mary Jane Nichols Editorial Assistant

MJN/cc

Telex: 224-287/Cable Address: Grolier New York/PLaza 1-3600





Grolier Building 575 Lexington Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10022

28 October 1977

Major Richard L. Felman Post Office Box 17478 Tucson, Arizona 85731

Dear Major Felman:

We have read with great interest the material you sent us on General Mihailovich. With your permission, we should like to retain them to refer to when we revise the biography of Mihailovich. We appreciate your sending us these very complete records.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

re (cho)

Bernard S. Cayne Editor in Chief The Encyclopedia Americana

WASHINOTON OFFICE 1401 LONGWORTH BALDING WASHINOTON, D.C. 20318 (202) 225-3561

DISTRICT OFFICE: 12236 SOUTH HARLEN AVENUE PALOS HEIGHTS, ILLINDIS 60463 (312) 445-2500 Congress of the United States House of Representatives Tashington, D.C. 20515 May 17, 1978

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COMMISSION ON CONGREESIONAL HAILING GTANDARDS

INTERPARLIAMENTARY UNION

TREAFURER-U.L. GROUP MEMBER-IPU COUNCIL

Dear Colleague:

Please join us in sponsoring legislation which would permit erection of a memorial in Washington to General Draza Mihailovich. Such a measure has already passed the Senate and has the strong endorsement of the American Legion and other patriotic groups.

The American airmen rescued by General Mihailovich petitioned Congress three years ago for permission to erect a memorial as an expression of their gratitude to the man who saved their lives. The monument would be erected with publicly subscribed funds, costing the Federal Government nothing, and the airmen have no political motivation in seeking to honor General Mihailovich.

During World War II the forces of General Mihailovich, who was leader of the nationalist resistance movement in Yugoslavia, rescued over 500 American airmen who had bailed out over Yugoslavia and arranged for their evacuation in a dramatic airlift operation. In recognition of this, and his other services to the Allied cause, President Truman posthumously awarded General Mihailovich the Legion of Merit in the Degree of Supreme Commander in 1948.

General Mihailovich's commitment to rescuing the American airmen resulted in innocent hostages being shot by the Nazis and Mihailovich's men making many sacrifices for the Americans. The airmen have said: "We have a debt of honor all the more compelling because Mihailovich in his lifetime received no recognition and no reward for the many services to the Allied cause of which President Truman spoke in his citation."

The resolution has 44 cosponsors, and we ask you to join us in support of the Committee of Airmen, some of whom are your constituents, who will be pleased and proud to have your support of this move to correct a historic oversight. If you wish to cosponsor, please call Susan Clark, ext. 53961.

Sincerely yoursy ,

Edward J. Derwinski, M.C.

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Personnel involved in air crew rescue operation

COL. ROBERT H. McDOWELL Cleanwater. Fornda MIKE DEVANK Gary Indiana ARTHUR JIBILIAN Tifan. Ohio CAPT. NICK LALICH Batumore, Maryland LT. ELLSWORTH R. KRAMER* Artington, Virginia CAPT. JOHN MILDORAGOVICH* Missoula, Montana +LT. COL. GEORGE MUSULIN* McLean, Virginia CAPT. GEDRGE VUJNOVICH*

+Directors

*Nonorary Member (Widow or Mother) *Rescued Canadian Arman Honprary Member

Queens, New York

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

P.O. Box 661 • Falls Church, Virginia 22046 • (703) 534-6776

Honorable U. S. House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman

On may 17 Congressmen Edward J. Derwinski and Morris K. Udall wrote to you, asking you to join 44 other members of the House in co-sponsoring legislation to permit the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich to erect a monument in Washington to General Mihailovich - as an enduring expression of gratitude to the man who saved the lives of more than 500 American airmen and arranged their safe return to active duty.

By way of informing you more fully about the project, we enclose a copy of the report put out by the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration in June of 1977. As this report indicates, the measure, before being passed by the Senate, was approved by the seven agency National Capital Memorial Advisory Committee, by the Secretary of the Interior, and by the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration.

Please help us to get this legislation through the House. Our ranks are getting thin with the passage of years, and we would like to erect this monument while there are still enough of us around to complete this endeavor.

Sincerely yours,

Charles L. Davis Chairman Donald J. Smith Honorary Chairman Richard L. Felman President Honorary Chairman MAJ. GEN. DONALD J. SMITH Chicago, Illinois

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•Directors *Retired **Honorary Member (Widow or Mother) rRescued Canadian Arman Honorary Member

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

P.O. Box 661 • Falls Church, Virginia 22046 • (703) 534-6776

July 5th, 1978

The Honorable Lucien N. Nedzi Fourteenth District, Michigan House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Nedzi:

I devoted most of the Fourth of July holiday to soul-searching for the right decision on the Mihailovich Memorial Bill now before your Committee.

Although I am personally involved in its outcome, the important significance of the day in our Nation's history compelled me to lay aside my subjectivity and, as a responsible American citizen, stop to analyze the basic issues involved and why legislation that has the likely backing of 220 million Americans has failed to get out of Committee in the 93rd, 94th and 95th Congresses.

As we sometimes tend to forget exactly who we are and what we, as a Nation and as individuals, stand for, I dusted off my "American Government" textbook and re-read our Declaration of Independence, Constitution, Monroe Doctrine, Gettysburg Address, etc. These most fundamental expressions of American principles gave me my answer.

I consider myself an average, law-abiding citizen. I am descended from European immigrants to this Land. Except for 2 traffic tickets, I have never broken the law in 57 years. I pay my taxes, fought in 2 of our Nation's wars and shed my blood.From a clinical standpoint, "I" am the raison d'etre for our government; and my unalienable rights are protected by and my reasonable requests met by my elected officials.

Page Two July 5th, 1978

Four years ago, 500 other "raison d'etres" and I petitioned our elected representatives in Congress for permission to allow us, at no government expense, to honor the man who saved our lives while we were fighting a war in our Nation's defense. (At that time, our country displayed its gratitude by withdrawing its support from him). Ever since our safe return to this country in 1944 we have vainly tried to repay our debt of honor but have always been denied because of the fear that the truth would offend a foreign nation.

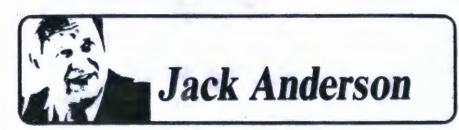
Reviewing all that I had read, by the end of the day I had it all boiled down in my mind to the two conflicting issues: The will of 500 American veterans trying to act in the highest American tradition as being opposed by the request of a foreign nation to suppress the Truth.

I pray you have as little difficulty in making your decision as I had in making mine.

Respect fally sabmitted. urad Richard L. Felman American

Post Office Box 17478 Tucson, Arizona 85731





Tucson Citizen

A Gannett Newspaper

SATURDAY, JULY 15, 1978

Tito's revenge

Congress wants to erect a monument to a Yugoslavian general who saved the lives of American soldiers during World War II. But the old communist curmudgeon, Marshal Tito, has objected thunderously to any tribute to his old war rival. The flap is turning into an international incident.

In 1944, Tito's top rival in Yugoslavia, Draja Mihailovich, kept more than 500 American flyers alive and then airlifted them to freedom from 40 miles behind Nazi lines. After the war, however, Tito triumphed over Mihailovich in an internal civil war and shot him as a Nazi sympathizer.

Now, three decades later, as a bill to let the airmen honor the general was breezing through Congress, Tito decided that any statue honoring his old enemy would be a personal affront. Tito's foreign ministry summoned



Mihailovich

American Ambassador Lawrence Eagleburger and issued a "most energetic protest" against the monument. Eagleburger told Rep. Clement Zablocki, D-Wis., in a private letter that "the monument has been the subject of vociferous complaint during each of my courtesy calls on senior Yugoslav officials."

The State Department, concluding that a live dictator is more valuable to U.S. interests than a dead hero, has warned Congress of "the extreme umbrage ... (the) Yugoslav government and President Tito personally could be expected to take" if the monument is built.

(Longtime Tucsonian Dick Felman, a retired U.S. Air Force major, remains confident that the enabling legislation eventually will be passed. Felman has been pushing for due recognition for the Yugoslav hero since World War II and, as chairman of the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich, has been banging vigorously on Congress' door for the past four years.)

Jack Anderson is one of America's foremost investigative reporters.

E 3251

ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF GENERAL MIHAILOVICH

HON. EDWARD J. DERWINSKI

' IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

• Mr. DERWINSKI. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, July 17, marked the anniversary of the execution by the Yugoslav Communists of Gen. Draza Mihailovich, leader of the nationalist resistance forces in Yugoslavia during World War II.

On this occasion, I think it appropriate to remind the House:

That General Mihailovich rescued over 500 American airmen during the course of 1944 and arranged for their safe evacuation by air to Italy:

That for this and other services to the Allied caunse Mihailovich was posthumously awarded the Legion of Merit in the Degree of Supreme Sommander by President Truman:

That the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich 3 years ago petitioned Congress for permission to erect a memorial to Mihailovich as an enduring expression of their gratitude to the man who saved their lives;

That this monument is to be erected with publicly subscribed funds, that is, at no expense to the Government:

That this project has been strongly endorsed by the American Legion at its last annual convention;

That authorizing legislation has twice been passed by the Senate, without dissenting vote;

And that parallel legislation, sponsored by almost 50 Members of the House, has been pending in the Subcommittee on Libraries and Monuments since January of last year.

It is my earnest hope that the subcommittee will move expeditiously to report this legislation out so that the House will have an opportunity to vote on it before the close of the session.

I would like to say a few more words of tribute to Mihailovich.

The Communist Government of Yugoslavia executed General Mihallovich as a traitor. But it was Mihallovich who raised the banner of continuing resistance to the Nazis at a time when the Communists were still collaborating with them. Mihallovich's early resistance may very well have been instrumental in saving Moscow by slowing down the Nazi advance—indeed, at the time of his execution, the New York Times suggested a statue in Red Square dedicated to Mihallovich, savior of Moscow.

Hitler himself offered 100,000 gold marks for Mihailovich, dead or alive. Many thousands of Mihailovich supporters paid with their lives for their commitment to freedom.

I ask unanimous consent to insert into the RECORD at the concluson of my

remarks the text of an article entitled "The Mihailovich Tragedy," written by the famed Yugoslav dissident, Mihailo Mihailov, who is now in the United States. This article appeared in the respected American weekly, The New Leader, on February 3, 1975. Almost immediately thereafter Mihajlov was sentenced to 7 years at hard labor. I call attention to the fact that Mihajlov in this article states that, after examining he entire record of the Mihailovich trial, he concluded that "Mihailovich was guilty of only one crime: fighting the Communists."

[From the New Leader, Feb. 3, 1975] DISENTANGLING HISTORY: THE MIHAJLOVICH TRAGEDY

(By Mihajlo Mihajlov)

Novi Sab-Last October 23, Djuro Djurovich, 74 years old and alling, was sentenced to five years in prison by a Belgrade court on charges of writing hostile articles for foreign publications. Djurovich had his first brush with Yugoslav law in 1945, while secretary of the National Committee formed by General Draja Mihajlovich---chief rival to Marshai Josip Broz Tito during World War II. Having subsequently served 17 years of a 20-year sentence, he recently wrote a book about his incarceration and sent part of the manuscript to friends in Paris. Although none of it has been published so far, he was convicted under Article 109 of the Criminal Oode, covaring actions that "aim at overthrowing the existing order." The Djurovich trial has again focused pub-

The Djurovich trial has again focused public attention here on one of the most painful questions facing the Yugoslav Communists: their attitude toward the Mihajlovich movement. The General was shot in 1946, yet articles, books and films designed to show that he was essentially not an adversary of the Nazi conquerors have continued to appear every year. His opponents contend that from the very begining he was a German collaborator, but this claim is substantiated mainly by the fact that he also fought against the Communists.

arainst the Communists. Ironically, the more the official propa-ganda tries to villify Mihajlovich, the more it provokes reservations among unprejudiced observers. A mere comparison of the present complete myth with the history of the Yugoslav internal struggle, as described by the very same Communist press immediately after the War, casts doubt upon everthing the regime is attempting to prove. In addition, many secret documents from the British, American and German government archives now available in the West have ahed new light on the relations of both the Allies and the Axis to the competing Tito and Mihajlovich movements. A pattern has emerged, in fact, that explains why Tito won, though some important causes of Mihajlovich's defeat remain hidden.

To comprehend the full complexity of the bitter contest between the two men, waged during the Fascist occupation, one must go back briefly to the formation of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia. It was created in 1918 by a merger of the Kingdom of Serbia, the Kingdom of Montenegro ——— and Croatia and Slovenia, previously parts of Austro-Hungary. The new state of Southarn Slavs was burdened with many national, social and political problems from the outset. The most serious was the antagonism between the two biggest nationalities, the Eastern Orthodox Serbs and the Catholic Croats, who speak the same language yet have a different historical past and different social mores.

It would have been difficult to resolve the existing social-political contradictions even in a state with well-established democratic traditions, let alone under the semiauthoritarian regime of the Karadjordjevich 138

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD - Extensions of Remarks

July 18, 1978

Serbian royal dynasty. But the fatal mistake of the rulers was their unwise attitude toward the Communists—and it must be admitted, regretfully, that the Russian emigrés in the country played no small part in the development of that attitude.

The Communist movement in Tugoslavia, as well as in the rest of Europe, experienced a great upsurge right after World War I. Had it been left alone to exist in a framework of democratic laws, it would never have become the iron-disciplined organization it became the moment the party was outlawed and Communist activity was persecuted in many ways, including long prison terms that only encouraged Communist fanaticism and underground activity.

Many of the Russian emigrés in Yugoslavia, who were fully accepted by the government and people, repaid the kindness by raising the level of theater, opera and ballet in the country, and by helping consider-ably to advance the teaching of science in the universities. At the same time, there were extreme Rightist elements among the emigrés who had a harmful influence on the policies of the Yugoslav Kingdom toward the Communists. (After the Axis overran Yugoslavia, those authoritarian Russian emigrés formed a voluntary military movement of 10,000 men to fight the Bolsheviks on the Eastern Front. Instead, they were used by the German High Command in German uniforms to fight as a so-called "Russian Guard Corps" throughout World War II against Tito's Partisans, and they lost three-quarters of their number in battle.)

In short, because the King lacked wide popular support, the two-week-long campaign of Hitler and Mussolini against Yugoslavia in April 1941 ended with the shameful capitulation of the Yugoslav Army, the flight of the government to the West, and the total partition of the country by German, Italian, Hungarian, Bulgarian, and Albanian oc-Hungarian, Bulgarian, and Albanian oc-cupiers. Two puppet states were set up: a formally independent Croatia, where power was seized by the Croatian fascists, the "Ustashis," and Serbia, which was occupied by the Germany Army and found itself in the same position as Pétain's France. The Communist party took a detached stand and thanks to the alliance then in force be-twean Hitler and Stalin, it embraced the tween Hitler and Stalin, it embraced the slogan, "We should not participate in an imperialist war."

It was in these circumstances that Draja Mihajlovich, a colonel of the Army's General Staff and a professor at the Higher Military Academy, decided not to be taken as a prisoner of war by the Germans and with a group of his officers took off for the mountains to organize a resistance. Within only a few months the lines were drawn between his forces and the Germans and Ustashis. Except for England, from April-July 1941 Hitler was resisted only by Mihajlovich, who was properly named the first rebel of Europe.

Then, after Hitler attacked the Soviet Union, the Communist party of Yugoslavia quickly changed its line and started to or-ganize a resistance too. By the fail of 1941 both Mihajlovich's and Tito's detachments were fighting the German occupiers. The leaders of the two movements met personally three times from September to November to negotiate a possible unification of their mili-- tary units, but they did not arrive at any agreement and soon started an internecine war.

Since the Croatian national movement had tied its destiny to the German Reich, it was clear that the struggle for power in the country following the expected defeat of Germany would be between Tito and Mihajlovich. Moreover, Ustashi atrocities served to replenish the bloodied ranks of the two men, with most of the Serbs joining Mihajlovich and the Croatian anti-Fascists joining Tito.

The German and Italian occupiers tried

to interfere as little as possible, knowing that the internecine struggle would totally paralyze the anti-Hitler movements and hoping that an opportune moment they would thus succeed in crushing both leaders. Documents available now, though, prove that Hitler regarded Mihajlovich as the more dangerous enemy than Tito, because it was Mihajlovich whom the majority of the Serbian people supported during almost all of the War and they made up approximately

50 per cent of this multinational country. Mihajlovich (who was promoted to the rank of general and named minister of war by the departing royal government) received full Allied support during the first years of the War, and the British BBC was a mouthpiece of his movement. For its part, the Soviet Union opened Radio Free Tugoslavia in Thilisi to serve as the mouthpiece for Tito. At the end of 1943 the Communists formed a new Yugoslav government, the Anti-Fascist Assembly, and three months later the Mihajlovich movement created its National Committee. The Committee was supported by leaders from almost all of prewar Yugoslavia's political parties, including the Socialist and Democratic parties. Djuro Djurovich, a long-time correspondent for the Yugoslav press from London and Paris (where he earned his PhD), a lawyer by training and a prominent Democratic party politician by profession, was elected secretary.

In the interval between the creation of the Communist Assembly and the Committee, however, an event occurred that decided the future direction of Yugoslavia-an event whose underlying causes still have not been fully uncovered because the explanation for it given by all involved could merely have been the immediate reason for what hap-pened. In any case, in December 1943 Prime Minister Winston Churchill of Great Britain sharply altered his policies toward the Yugoslav insurgents and, under the pretext that Tito's Partisans were doing more damage to the Germans than Mihajlovich's forces, shifted the full weight of his support to Tito.

That step could not have been a concession to Stalin, for the Teheran conference was then under way and Churchill's decision provoked Stalin's strongest suspicions. He even proposed that Churchill and President Franklin D. Roosevelt continuing helping both movements, evidently having little hope that Tito would ultimately prevail. Churchill not only persisted in his plan, but he resolutely prevented the Americans from continuing to send aid to Mihajlovich (the Balkans comprised England's political zone of interest), although American communications officers remained in Mihajlovich's headquarters until the end of 1944.

This basically sealed the fate of the Yugoslav civil war. Mihajlovich stopped receiving any help from the Allies, while the aid for Tito's Partisans—arms, uniforms, strong air support, medical supplies, transportation of the wounded by military ships to Italy, and so on-grew from day to day. BBC broad-casts ceased mentioning Milballovich and sometimes even attrbuted his military suc-cess during the last battle with the Germans to the Partisans. In the middle of 1944, as the result of strong pressure from Churchill, the King's government-in-exile in London signed a pact with Tito and disociated it-self from Mihajlovich. Nevertheless, until the arrival of the Red Army under Marshal Fyodor Ivanovich Tolbukhin, Mihajlovich's forces in eastern Tugoslavia far exceeded the Communist forces.

At the beginning of 1945, threatened by Tito's detachments and the Red Army, part of Mihajlovich's movement followed the re-treating German armies into Italy. The Gen-eral himself declined the Allies' offer to evacuate him and his entire general staff to

Malta, and with 10,000 men decided to continue the struggle in the mountains of Yugoslavia. In the near future, he felt, the Communists' forcible collectivization would surely arouse sharp resistance from the peasantry (which did indeed occur, but three years later after Tito's 1948 clash with Stalin).

In March 1946 the Communist secret police succeeded in trapping Mihajlovich. Four months later he was shot, marking the end of the Tugoslav civil war.

One can only guess at Churchill's motives. Undoubtedly, the fact that Tito was inflict-ing greater damage on the Germans than Minajlovich played a significant role. In their struggle for power the Partisans did not spare either themselves or others, and they never paid the least attention to the outrages committed by the German's in returnthe shooting of 100 hostages for each German soldier lost, and the burning of entire villages. On the contrary, this seemed to gladden the Communists, for it reinforced the flight of the population to the ranks of the insurgents. Mihajlovich's detachments acted more cautiously in this respect, refus-ing to purposely incite German reprisals against the peaceful population. They rec-ognized that until the Allies arrived, an open. aggressive war with the German occupying armies could not bring anything but enormous casualties.

Still, at the time that Churchill shifted his full support to Tito few people doubted the Nazis' defeat, and Churchill had to realize that his policy change would do more to bring about the Communists' victory in Yugoslavia than to harm the Germans. In all probability, the British Prime Minister. decided that no matter who the Allies helped, Tito would win the civil war, and therefore it was necessary to establish the best rela-tions possible beforehand. To be sure, the Mihajlovich movement suf-

fered from the weaknesses characteristic of all anti-Communist movements, without ex-ception, throughout history. To begin with, lacked a positive philosophy for building a new society and failed to understand that the Communist idea cannot be fought by the communist tasa cannot be longat by force of arms alone. Furthermore, the patri-otic notion of a "united and indivisible" Yugoslavia and the worshipping of tradi-tional national-Serbian Orthodox values clearly provided an inadequate ideological platform for a multinational country. The absence of a political organization and the impossibility of disciplining the whole movement exclusively by military means under conditions of guerrilla warfare and inadequate communications was another weak-

The last led some commanders in different parts of the country to become virtual local autocrats, who often compromised the whole movement by slaughtering Communist sym-pathizers and Muslims. And General Mihaj-lovich himself, despite his great personal valor, was better suited for the role of a "patriarch" (as his entourage jokingly re-ferred to him) then a stern insurgent leader. Nevertheless, Mihajlovich was brought down not only by his shortcomings, but to an equal degree by the attitude of the democracies toward one of the two most pro-Western, anti-Hitler resistance movements (the other being the Polish national movement of Generals Anders and Bor-Komarovsky).

Once, after he had already left office Churchill said his stake on Tito was his big-gest mistake during the War. Yet it is hard to believe the sincerity of that statement because of the existing proof that he ver well knew what a Partisan victory would lead to. By no means did he believe Titor constant, solemn promises not to introduce one-party dictatorship in Yugoslavia, al-though he was forever convincing the Brit ish Parliament of their sincerity.

Brigadier Fitzroy McLean, who represented the British Army at Tito's headquarters, de

July 18, 1978

SHAMPING .

scribes in his memoirs an extremely interesting conversation between himself and Churchill following the Prime Minister's decision to stop supporting Mihallovich. In briefing Churchill, McLean expressed his conviction that a Partisan victory would bring a Communist system to Yugoslavia no different from the Soviet one. Churchill looked at him coldy and asked:

"'LicLean, do you intend to live in Yugoslavis after the War?'

"'No sir.'

" 'Neither do I'."

In the summer of 1946 in Belgrade, three months after a cage secret police maneuver has resulted in Mihajlovich's capture, a Moscow-style demonstration trial was hastily arranged. The role of the general prosecutor was played by the present foreign minister. Milosh Minish. General Mihajlovich behaved in a way that made one wonder about what he had been subjected to in prison: He answared questions irrelevantly, did not understand many of them, and once even fell asleep during the court examination.

The court did not want to hear out the witnesses, presented by two brave defense counsels (who later paid for their bravery), and the special hand-picked audience was raging. Yet, even after reading the official and obviously doctored stenographic record of the trial—in which there was no piace for the remarks and full speeches of the defense, or the defendant's statement—it becomes perfectly clear that Mihajlovich was guilty of only one crime: fighting the Communists.

Everything else, like the charges of collaboration and of intensifying the fratricidal war, was either untenable and pure fiction, or could just as well have been brought against the Communists. But, of course, what we have here is a double standard: When the Partisans conducted negotiations with the Germans and Italians that was a military ruse, and when Mihajlovich did the same thing it was collaboration; when the Partisans attacked the General's detachments that was war with quislings, and when the General attacked the Partisans that was intensifying the fratricidal war.

The most curious charge against the General was that he had negotiated with the Germans in the fall of 1944. As was widely known, those negotiations were carried on in the presence of the United States representative, Colonel McDowell, and the German High Command in Yugoslavia offered to surrender to the Western Allies represented by Mihajlovich. The British and Americans declined this one-sided offer, unsuccessfully demanding a full German surrender to Tito and the Red Army, too. Apparently the court wanted to show that the Western Allies were making agreements with the Germans behind the back of the Soviet Union. ...

The General was shot. The same fate was shared by thousands of active fighters in his movement, and tens of thousands of others were subjected to severe persecutions that threaten his sympathizers to this day. It cannot be said that Western public opinion was very indignant over these events; it was the first year, the "honeymoon year," after the War. Most of the protests came from hundreds of American filers who had been shot down above Tugoslavia and saved by Mihajlovich's forces. Many of them recalled the farewell speech the General gave to a group of 250 Americans who were returning home in the summer of 1944:

"Your leaders will soon realize what a grave mistake they have made. The Germans are already on their deathbed, and after they are defeated. Stalln and his servants won't need you my longer. You have armed them and strengthened them for your own misfortune, because they will turn all their strength against you. One cannot be under any delusion: Communism and democracy cannot coexist. The day has not yet arrived

when a lamb can sleep safely near a wolf... both Stalin and Tito are going to be against you. I will no longer be able to see with my own eyes how right I was... but it is your destiny to comprehend how blind you have been. When you realize all this, it might be too late."

The honeymoon year went quickly and governments in the West, albeit somewhat belatedly, began to remember the General. In 1948 President Harry S Truman posthumously awarded Mihajlovich an honored American decoration for "high merit in the Allied struggle for victory over the enemy." General de Gaulle also spoke well of him in his memoirs.

The young generations in Yugoslavia, naturally, know very little about the true history of the civil war. And it is possible to sustain the sugary myth-Partisans fought heroically against the tremendous number of German divisions and numerous quisilings, among whom the bearded followers of General Mihaflovich figured prominently (in accordance with national tradition, many of the men vowed not to shave until the country was free)—conly under a complete ban on all unofficial statements. A reintroduction of freedom of the press would undoubtedly lead immediately to reevaluating the civil war and particularly Mihajlovich's role.

All doubt about this was removed three years ago, during the peak of the so-called "liberalism" here, when Yugoslavia's best weekly, Nin, published a strange article in connection with the 30th anniversary of the armed uprising, entitled. "Forgive us, history!" Notwithstanding the official story that the entire anti-German revolt began after an appeal in July 1941, the article said, big and bloody battles were already being fought in June against the Ustashis and the Italian Army in Herzegovina, involving artillery, planes and large Army formations. But this was somehow "overlooked," the article continued, because the leaders of this initial, spontaneous uprising later became outstanding commanders in Mihajlovich's detachments. Alas, not overlooked was the firing of the editor of Nin during the subsequent crushing of "liberalism."

Any regime after Tito's that does not at least partly rehabilitate Mihaflovich and his movement will merely be prolonging a dictatorship that prevents the healing of the civil war wounds....

It is not only the quiet debate stimulated by the trial of Djuro Djurovich that led me to set down my thoughts about the Milhajlovich movement. I first met Djurovich under strange circumstances. In November 1966, a day before I was to start a one-year prison term given to me by the court in Zadar, I stopped to say goodbys to an elderly lawyer who is an acquaintance of mine. He had with him a tall, thin, gray-haired man who kept silent all the time, and to whom I did not pay much attention, missing his name altogether.

The next day I entered the prison in the town of Focharevac, and after 10 days I was transferred suddenly to the central prison in Belgrade for reinvestigation. I had been formally convicted not because my articles had appeared in the Western press, but because of my attempt to establish an independent journal, which is not punishable under the Yugoslav laws. The arrested members of the editorial board of our journal were already awaiting me. They had previously prepared the first issue and had been continuing publication work, refusing to be intimidated by the fact that I had actually been convicted.

During the new investigation the interrogator insisted throughout that I confess about the person I had contracted from the high leadership of Mihajlovich's movement. Since up to that time they had been trying to accuse me of nonerlistent connections with the Groation nationalists. I just chuckled, assuming that this was simply an attempt to create a Serbo-Croation "balance." But the interrogator reminded me of the encounter with the gray-haired old man in the house of my lawyer acquaintance (I was followed day and night), and only then did I really learn who I had met. At the new trial in Belgrade, where I was sentenced to three and one half years in prison, they did not bring up the encounter.

Last year I again met Djurovich by accident in a friend's house in Belgrade, and I told him about the attempt to link me with him. It was news to him. He invited me then to stop by sometime. I went to visit him briefly in December 1973 and found him bedridden with rheumatism. A week later he was arrested and taken off to prison; last October, almost a year afterward, he finally received his day in court—and five-year prison sentence.

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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

	RECUTIVE COUNCIL		15
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815 SIXTEENTH STREET. N W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

(202) 637-5000

July 19, 1978

Dear Congressman Nedzi:

It has come to my attention that you are considering legislation in the Subcommittee on Monuments and Libraries which may approve the erection of a monument to the late General Mihailovich of Yugoslavia.

Having reviewed the history of his very great and heroic deeds which contributed to the Allied cause of World War II, and to the safety of American airmen who now wish to honor the memory of this partisan for freedom, it is my hope that you and the members of your Subcommittee will now approve this privately sponsored project.

With every good wish,

Sincerely yours, GEORGE MEANY

President

The Honorable Lucien Nedzi, Chairman Subcommittee on Monuments and Libraries U. S. House of Representatives Washington, D. C.

89th Year

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Phoenix, Arizona, Monday, July 24, 1978

Editorials

Tito's Tantrum

SINCE the closing days of World War II, the name of Draja Mihailovich has been treated in official American quarters as some despicable family scandal. It simply isn't mentioned if anyone can help it.

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But just as assiduously, a small and dwindling group of World War II fliers has been trying to elevate Mihailovich's name to heroic public proportions.

No one denies Mihailovich deserves hero recognition. But international diplomacy has gotten involved, and everyone knows that the politics of diplomacy frequently ignore logic or justice.

Mihailovich was the World War II Yugoslav patriot who took to isolated mountain hideaways, and tied up thousands of Nazi soldiers with guerrilla raids on occupied Axis territory.

While in the mountains, Mihailovich and his Chetnik followers hid more than 500 American fliers who had been shot down behind Nazi lines. Most of them were airlifted to safety by the Chetniks.

But if Mihailovich hated Nazis, he also hated an old Yugolsav political foe worse — Josip Tito.

Unfortunately for Mihailovich, the Allies sided with Tito after the war, and presided over his installation as Yugoslavia's leader.

Mihailovich was arrested by Tito in 1948, tried for treason — a euphemism for opposing Tito and shot.

Enter the ex-fliers who owe their lives to Mihailovich.

For years, they've been trying to move Congress into approving

and the second second

a monument for the executed Mihailovich.

What has happened every year is precisely what is happening this year, as another bill honoring Mihailovich bogs down in Congress.

Tito objects to the United States honoring the old nemesis whose fame he tried to wipe out with the firing squad.

As Washington columnist Jack Anderson reported recently, American Ambassador Lawrence Eagleburger was ushered to the Yugoslav foreign ministry, and handed an "energetic protest" about Congress creating a posthumous honor to Mihailovich.

The State Department also has joined in the hand-wringing, speculating that a monument to the Chetnik patriot would create "extreme umbrage" on the part of the Tito regime.

Such nonsense.

The United States should tell Tito where to get off.

Congress is not proposing that it honor the politics of Mihailovich. It is honoring the memory of a man, regardless of his Yugoslav politics, who risked his life to save the lives of hundreds of Americans.

The honor should be established, and let Tito vent his rage.

More to the point, there is a dramatic irony involved in this issue.

The American government is cowering in fear over the "extreme umbrage" that might be expressed if it honors a man who defied fear to save others.

Carlos and the

NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF AMERICAN AIRMEN RESCUED BY GENERAL MIHAILOVICH

[in process of formation]

1232 Pennsylvania Building • 425 13th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004 • (212) 737-8167

Henerery Chairmon MAJ, GEN, DONALD J, SMITH Chicago, Itlinois Chairman

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Secretary GEDRGE SALAPA North Revalton, Ohio

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crew rescue operation COL. ROBERT H. McDOWELL* Clearwater, Florida MIKE DEVJAK Gary, Indiana ARTHUR JIBILIAN Tiffin, Ohio CAPT. NICK LALICH. Baltimore, Maryland LT. ELLSWORTH & KRAMER* Arlington, Virginia CAPT. JOHN MILDORAGOVICH* Missoula, Montana LT. COL. GEORGE MUSULIN" McLeen, Virginia CAPT. GEORGE VUJNOVICH® Queens, New York 80. 1.1

August 8, 1978

Honorable Lucien Nedzi Chairman, Sub-Committee on Libraries and Memorials U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Nedzi:

Like the rest of my fellow Airmen, who owe so much to General Mihailovich; I am deeply disappointed with Congressional action on H.J. Resolution 374, and related bills which are now pending a hearing and review by your committee. I understand that your current schedule is such that you do not plan a hearing on this resolution until September. I implore you to schedule this hearing as early in September as possible so that it can reach the full house for consideration prior to adjournment.

I was forced to bail out of my crippled Liberator over Ugoslavia on July 28, 1944 on return from a bombing mission to Ploesti. I spent eleven months with the Chetnics and saw first hand their activities in behalf of the Allied cause. These activities are documented in a diary that I kept while in Ugoslavia. This diary was classified by the Defense Department as top secret. Subsequent to its' declassification, I published it in book form under the title of "Eight Bailed Out". If it would be of any assistance in your review of H.J. Resolution 374, I will be happy to make the original diary available.

I can assure you that Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt made a grave mistake in their decision to withdraw support from General Mihailovich and give it to Tito. A mistake probably based on erronious information supplied by Stalin or just backing down from him. A habit that seems common these days. This mistake guaranteed the post-war delivery of Ugoslavia to the Communist camp and issued a death warrant for thousands of brave men and women that fought in our behalf and risked their lives to save mine and many other Americans.

I understand that Tito has objected to the memorial to General Mihailovich and that the State Department is once again buckling under to a Communist dictator. What in the devil is happening to our country? Why is it that over five hundred Americans, who ove their lives to a man who lost his as partial result of saving theirs, have such difficulty in the erection of this memorial? page 2 Congressman Nedzi August 8, 1978

A memorial that will not cost the tax payers one dime. Are memories so short in Washington that they can't recall that Tito and his cohorts told us to mind our own business before, during and after the mockery of a trial given Mihailovich? That they denied me and many others like me the right to testify at this trial? Or that the same Communist regime that we were responsible for installing in Ugoslavia shot down one of our C-47's shortly after the war and then denied us the right to retrieve our own dead from the wreckage? There are many other instances of this nature that are adequately documented, but the simple fact is that they should have no bearing on whether or not we should be allowed to erect this memorial. It is simply a petition to their government by a group of grateful Americans to honor a man to whom we owe our lives. We feel we are entitled to an answer to this petition based upon its merit and not because it would create "extreme umbrage" for the Communist leader of a foreign country.

Congressman Nedzi, I again ask that you move this resolution through your committee rapidly and that you place it on your agenda as soon as possible. If I can be helpful in your hearings, I will be happy to make myself available.

Sincerely,

Jim Inks Lt. Col.USAF (Ret.) JI/ss 143



1 September 1978

The Honorable Phillip Crane House of Representatives Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Crane:

I write this letter to you purely as a citizen concerned for justice on a national debt long overdue. A debt of honor that cannot be ignored by those of us in whose cause this debt was incurred. The debt I address has to do with proper recognition of a man who through his personal direct intervention saved the lives of possible 500 American airmen during World War II that may have otherwise died from injuries, exposure, starvation or capture by the enemy force then occupying Yugoslavia. I speak of H. J. Res. 374 now pending in the House of Representatives pertaining to the memorial to General Mihailovich, leader of the Chetnik freedom fighters of Yugoslavia who was also the recipient of our Nations Legion of Merit Award. General Mihailovich and his followers during the early years of World War II were given full military and political support directly by the United States.

I now ask, not as a constituent or a military commander, but purely as one of those airmen who owes his life and that of his entire aircrew directly to General Mihailovich, that you support H. J. Res. 374.

I ask this on the basis of my first hand witnessing of the personal efforts of General Mihailovich in making it possible for over Three-Hundred American airmen to escape back to allied control in Italy in August of 1944. I was part of that group.

Best personal regards,

ITH, Maj Gen, IL ANG Command

Headquarters Illinois Air National Guard P. O. Box 66486 - O'Hare Field Chicago, Illinois 60666

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Statement of

The American Legion

1608 K STREET, N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006 (202) 393-4811

BY

E. PHILIP RIGGIN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION to the SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIBRARIES AND MEMORIALS HOUSE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

October 4, 1978

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Subcommittee:

I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to present to you the views of The American Legion in support of erecting the Mihailovich monument. We believe the monument to be a modest, but fitting tribute to a man whose actions during World War II epitomized the entire Allied effort to save Europe from Nazism.

The contributions of General Mihailovich to the Allied cause were significant. His treatment of American airmen shot down behind enemy lines is particularly inspirational to the millions of veterans in this country who can still recall with vivid detail their participation in the struggle against the Axis powers.

It is indeed tragic that his actions have never received the recognition they deserved, that the post-war political scene in Eastern Europe has made it more diplomatically expedient to ignore the man than to honor him. Now is the time for you and your colleagues in the House to voice your dissatisfaction with the political entanglements that have delayed this simple act of gratitude for so many years. Approval of a monument to General Mihailovich for saving 500 American lives is not an endorsement of his political philosophy or a condemnation of Marshal Tito's. There is absolutely no reason why an action of this sort should have any legitimate impact on U. S. efforts to continue to improve diplomatic communications with the Yugoslavian regime. Surely, Marshal Tito cannot feel threatened by posthumous recognition of a political foe who has been dead for 30 years.

The American Legion's appreciation for General Mihailovich dates back to before his death in 1946. At that time our organization insisted upon U. S. intervention to insure that General Mihailovich received a fair hearing while being tried for "treason" by the Tito government. Our official position on the matter was embodied in the following Resolution:

"Whereas, General Draza Mihailovich was personally responsible for saving the lives of approximately 600 American airmen forced down during the war over territory in which men under his command were operating, and,

"Whereas, General Mihailovich's aid and assistance to such American airmen, at considerable risk to himself and members of his command, is prima facie evidence that he was not a collaborationist, and,

"Whereas, it is apparent that the Communist government of Marshal Tito is intent upon giving General Mihailovich a summary and unfair trial of the kind which characterizes Soviet justice,

'Therefore, be it resolved that the American Legion petition the United States government to exert its influence by every possible means to insure a fair and impartial trial for General Mihailovich in return for the generous aid and assistance accorded American airmen, and

"Be it further resolved, that the American Legion further petition the United States government to withhold all financial aid, UNRRA supplies and other assistance from Tito's government and all persons and territories within Marshal Tito's command and/or control until such time as a fair and impartial trial by an inter-allied tribunal is guaranteed General Mihailovich."

The American Legion has maintained an interest in the Mihailovich matter throughout the past 30 years and has been particularly supportive of actions to honor him posthumously. Our current position derives from Resolution No. 312 adopted in August 1977, a copy of which is attached to this statement. You will note in reading the resolution that we perceive the monument to Mihailovich to be simply an expression of gratitude by 500 American airmen.

These 500 airmen, represented by the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich, have agreed to fund the construction and maintenance of the monument. There is absolutely no commitment of federal appropriations. The Airmen Committee is merely seeking Congressional permission to erect the monument on federal property in the District of Columbia.

It appears to us that a visible memorial located here in Washington, D. C. where millions of Americans visit every year will provide the maximum benefit to the greatest possible number of our citizens by exposing them to the Mihailovich story; yet, those same people will not be burdened by its cost.

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The American Legion has examined the Mihailovich issue very closely over the past several years, assisted by the decided advantage of 30 years of hindsight. We believe our position in 1946 to have been a valid one and no international political development during the intervening years is seen as a sufficient reason to prohibit 500 soldiers from publicly thanking a man for saving their lives.

Mr. Chairman, I again extend my appreciation for the opportunity to present the views of The American Legion.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HEARINGS

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

on

HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

(Subcommittee on Libraries and Memorials)

H. R. 1009 and related bills

-78107-1

Washington, D. C.

Wednesday, October 4, 1978

Official Reporters to Committees

NAME: HHA277040

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14	Mr. Nedzi. The subcommittee will come to order.
15	This morning we are holding a hearing on H.R. 1009 and
16	related hills to authorize the construction and maintenance
17	agenda of a General Draza Mihailovich Monument.
18	We are fortunate to have three Members of Congress present
19	who testify in behalf of the legislation, as well as
20	representatives of the National Committee of American Airmen
21	and a representative of the State Department.
22	Our first witness this morning will be the Honorable Larry
23	McDonald, Member of Congress from Georgia.
24	We are pleased to have you.
25	
26	STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE LARRY P. McDONALD, A
27	REPRESENTATIVE IN THE CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF GEORGIA
28	
2 <u>9</u>	Mr. McDonald. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
30	Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to appear here
31	today and to testify in support of H.R. 1009 and related
32	bills to authorize the construction and maintenance of a

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NAME: HHA277040 PAGE 3 33 General Draza Mihallovich Monument in Washington, D.C. In my view the reasons for this measure have increased 34 35 over the years rather than diminished. 36 Cpposition to Mihailovich always centered about his so-37 called collaboration with the Germans and Italians. Tito and 38 the partisons, by contrast, were supposed to have waged a 39 war of purity against the fascists. However, recently it 40 was learned that this is not true. In 1974 Walter Roberts published some of the archival 41 42 material available to our government showing Tito sent a 43 three-man delegation to negotiate an exchange of prisoners 44 and to discuss calling a truce with the Germans in a book 45 entitled 'Tito, Mihailovich and the Allies, 1941-1944.' In addition, the Yugoslav dissident, and one of Tito's 46 47 World War II comrades in arms. Milovan Djilas, has confirmed 48 this in his memoirs. 49 However, the main reason for commemorating Mihailovich is 50 his rescue of our airmen. Our airmen were so appreciative 51 of their benefactors that when the planes left, they took

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52	off their jackets, shoes and even some left their socks and
53	shirts.
54	They felt ashamed we were not doing more for Mihailovich's
55	men. In return for the rescue of our airmen, we did leave
56	one and one-half tons of medical supplies for the Chetniks.
57	Subsequent planes picking up prisoners, however, carried
58	munitions for Tito's partisans as part of their cargo.
59	Ironically, we had cut off Mihailovich's supply of
60	ammunition the previous year so Mihailovich, the only anti-
61	Communist leader in Yugoslavia, was left to fight Tito's
62	partisons and the invading Red Army as well as the
63	retreating Axis armies with no means of supplies whatsoever.
64	His defeat was a foregone conclusion.
65	In my view, we can do no less than send this legislation
66	to the Floor for debate and passage in memory of this brave
67	man who was tried and executed by Tito's Eangaroo court as
68	one of the earliest victims of the cold war and also as a
69	reminder of a mistaken policy that caused us to abandon a
70	friend and permits a dictator to still rule that land.

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE ADAM BENJAMIN, JR., U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, 1ST DISTRICT, INDIANA, BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION'S SUBCOMMITT ON LIBRARIES AND MEMORIALS ON H.J. RES 374, OCTOBER 5,

MR. CHAIRMAN. I wish to thank you and the Members of the Subcommittee on Libraries and Memorials for allowing me to address the Subcommittee. As a cosponsor of H. J. Res. 374, I wish to emphasize my support for the resolution being considered to authorize the construction of the General Draza Mihailovich Monument in memory of one of America's greatest and truest friends.

Born in the last decade of the 19th Century near Belgrade, Draza Mihailovich entered the Serbian Military Academy at 15. In 1917 he commanded a machine gun company in the first Yugoslav division of volunteers from the United States, Canada and South America. Thereafter, he continued a distinguished military career ultimately leading to a position on the Army's General Staff as a Colonel and professor at the Higher Military Academy. These were the positions held by Colonel Mihailovich in April, 1941, when the Nazi struck.

As the royal government departed it promoted Colonel Mihailovich to General and anmed him Minister of War. Within months, the General and his Chetniks organized the only resistance to Hitler except for England.

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Benjamin Page 2 October 5, 1978

For the next four years, this "First Rebel of Europe" and his army of patriots, although lacking supplies and existing under the most extreme hardships, "contributed materially to the allied cause and were instrumental in obtaining a final allied victory." While making this contribution and fighting the invaders of his beloved land, Draza Mihailovich saved the lives of more than 500 allied airmen who were downed by the enemy.

Pagebb

General Mihailovich was more than a fighter. He was one who was personally sensitive to the welfare of those in his charge. He was a person to insure that scarce food be shared with all. He was the antithesis of those he fought. Recognizing this, Hitler offered 100,000 gold marks for Mihailovich.

Those who knew him stressed his "incorruptible loyalty. Those who have known of his life and exploits will always refer to him as one who was faithful to freedom. General Draza Mihailovich was a man of courage and selfless giving.

The time has come to give lasting tribute to General Mihailovich. The Senate has already acted on a similar resolution which provides, as does the House resolution, that private contributions be the sole source of funds for the construction and maintenance of the monument. Benjamin Page 3 October 5, 1978

I urge your support on behalf of the American Airmen whose lives General Mihailovich saved and who are represented by the National Committee of American Air-Men chaired by General Donald Smith and Colonel Carl Davis.

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I also urge your support on behalf of the many thousands of Chetniks who are now loyal American citizens and whose wartime support of the allied cause will never be forgotten.

Finally, I urge your support on behalf of the United States and its need to vindicate the wartime injustice and correct the bizarre events of history which led to the murder of Draza Mihailovich.

As a Legion of Merit honoree and friend of America in need, General Mihailovich should be commerated and your favorable report of this resolution would finally express the gratitude and appreciation of America for the bravery and gallantry of General Mihailovich and the

Chetniks.

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119	monument in memory of the late Draza Mihailovich.
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120	Thirdly, I believe we owe it to the Chetnik Americans wh
	W W.
121	served with Draza Mihailovich during the second World War
-4	
122	who have formed an important part of America and contributed
123	to our cause and to our liberties, not only in their
124	previous service in terms of service during the Second World
144	previous service in terms of service during the second world
125	War, but more importantly as good Americans.
1.20	
126	Finally, I believe we owe it to the American people to
127	show that we do have a solemn appreciation for the work that
128	Draza Mihailovich did on behalf of Americans, the allied
129	cause and, of course, the successful conclusion of the
130	Second World War.
131	I would ask for the favorable consideration of this
132	resolution by this committee.
133	Mr. Nedzi. Thank you very much, sir.
· ·	
134	Mr. Pattison, any questions?
135	Mr. Pattison. No, I have no questions.
	Ma Madad Ma Marana 10
136	Mr. Nedzi. Mr. Frenzel?
137	Mr. Frenzel. Mr. Chairman, I thank our good colleague f

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10 10 10 STATEMENT OF HON. EDWARD J. DERWINSKI BEFORE SUBCONMUTTEE ON LIBRARIES AND MEMORIALS COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION Page 100

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October 4, 1979

Mr. Chairman, I appear before you as the chief sponsor of H.R. 13206 and related bills which now have 45 cosponsors in support of this measure which would permit the construction of a monument in honor of General Draza Mihailovich.

The National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich has petitioned Congress for the last three years for permission to erect a memorial to Mihailovich as an enduring expression of their gratitude to the man who saved their lives.

General Mihailovich rescued over 500 American airmen during the course of 1944 and arranged for their safe evacuation by air to Italy.

The monument would be erected with publicy subscribed funds and be no expense to the government.

It is my earnest hope that the subcommittee will move expeditiously to report this legislation out so that the House will have an opportunity to vote on it before the close of the session.

I would like to say a few more words of tribue to General. Mihailovich.

The Communist Government of Yugoslavia executed General Mihailovich as a traitor. But it was Mihailovich who raised the banner of continuing resistance to the Nazis at a time when the Communists were still collaborating with them. Mihailovich's early resistance may very well have been instrumental in saving Moscow by slowing down the Naži advance -- indeed, at the time of his execution, the <u>Mew York Times</u> suggested a statue in Red Square dedicated to Mihailovich, savior of Moscov.

In addition, Mr. Chairman, I request permission to insert into the record additional detailed material.

However, I am here to introduce the American airmen rescued by General Mihailovich and his forces who can give much more eloquent testimony than I can to the righteousness of their request. These men feel a debt of gratitude to General Mihailovich, and it is through their inspiration, persistence, and efforts that we have reached this point in the legislative process. REMARKS OF REP. MORRIS K. UDALL ON H.J.RES.374, BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIBRARIES AND MEMORIALS, COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION, OCTOBER 4, 1978

Mr. Chairman, as a cosponsor of H.J.Res.374, I am pleased to have this opportunity to endorse the move to grant permission to build, at no expense to the taxpayer, a monument in honor of the memory of a Yugoslavian patriot, Draja Mihailovich.

In no small way, I am indebted to one of my Arizona constituents, a retired Air Force major named Richard Felman, for keeping me abreast of developments in this long and intriguing case.

Mr. Felman was among the allied airmen who were spirited to safety by Mihailovich and his men, during World War II. Felman and the crew of his B24 landed behind German lines after their plane was shot down over Yugoslavia.

I am fully familiar with the story of this benevolent guerrila. It seems to me that to honor his memory is a just and a decent thing to do. He was a good man who helped good men.

We should remember him fondly, and well.

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Although World War II ended over 33 years ago, unsavory secrets are still emerging. Only relatively recently has the darkest secret

Only relatively recently has the darkest secret of the Allied war effort become known — the forced repatriation of millions of refugees, Russian prisoners of war, and even Russians who'd left in Tsarist times.

Books like Operation Keelhaul by historian Julius Epstein, The Last Secret by historian-journalist Nicholas Bethel, and finally, last year, the definitive indictment, Victims of Yalta by Nikolai Tolstoy, all document the British policy, forged by Anthony Eden, of turning over Russians in the West to the NKVD in hopes of appeasing Stalin and showing goodwill. Thousands chose suicide rather than return to death and torture.

Forced repatriation has been called the most shameful deed ever committed by Britian. Churchill purged mention of it from his memoirs, and all references have been censored from British records. Officially it never happened. And yet it did. There are still survivors who remember.

Now another unpleasant "truth" is emerging about the war. When the Germans invaded Yugoslavia in April, 1941, two main resistance movements started — the royalists, or non-Communists, led by War Minister Draja Mihailovich, comprised mainly of Serbians and known as "Chetniks"; and the "Partisans," or Communists, led by then-Stalinist disciple, Josep Broz, better known as Tito, who appealed to Croatians.

For close to 35 years it's become accepted that Mihailovich, who had most of the British support at first, didn't fight with the vigor he might have, and even collaborated with the Germans. By the war's end Britain and America shifted support from Mihailovich to Tito, whose Partisans were believed to be fighting harder.

After the war Tito captured Mihailovich and executed him along with many Serbian followers. Tito became a hero in the West (especially after his break with Stalin) and Mihailovich was relegated to a historical footnote. Over the years the anguished protests of Serbians were ignored those who insisted that not only is the conventional version false, but that the opposite is closer to truth — that Tito was actually doing less than Mihailovich and was busy eliminating Chetniks and anti-Communists at the same time as he was fighting Hitler. The West was bemused at Balkan passions and sided with the winner.

Now comes a book which sheds new light on the controversy — Patriot or Traitor, by David Martin and published by the Hoover Institute at Stanford, California. Canadian-born Martin was a staff analyst for U.S. Senate judiciary committees and has long been interested in Yugosiavia.

He has unearthed documents and quoted from the transcripts of the New York-based Committee for a Fair Trial for Daja Mihailovich which was convened 30 years ago when Tito was putting the Chetniks on trial. Martin has Interviewed British and American liaison officers who served with both Chetniks and Partisans. He has investigated the matter for years and has come up with a powerful indictment of the British command in Cairo which was the Allies' link with the Yugoslavian guerrilla war. It turns out that reports were systematically distorted, records and details' withheld.and that there was a bias so pronounced in Tito's favor that some Brits sought to have Mihailovich destroyed. WORTHINGTON

British Foreign Office section in charge of Yugoslavian affairs, saw Martin's evidence he declared "astonishment" and wrote that "If the information contained in your work had been available to us at the time, our whole policy might, and probably would, have been very different."

In fact logs of British and Americans with the Chetniks show that throughout the war Mihailovich was doing more fighting than Tito, and that Tito's Partisans were often more eager to annihilate Chetniks than Germans.

Why did the Allies switch to Tito? What apparently happened is that at the Cairo headquarters of SOE — Special Operations Executive where information from Yugoslavia was relayed to London, British Communists were in positions of influence and selected and chose what would be transmitted. They also chose the liaison officers and gave preferential treatment to Tito.

One of the sorry truths is that even after he was abandoned. Mihailovich kept rescuing downed American airmen and evacuating them - while the Partisans were claiming that Chetniks were turning them over to the Germans or killing them. Some 600 U.S. airmen were rescued by Mihailovich, and many were witnesses at his mock trial in New York. None was present at his real trial.

In his book, Long Row of Candles, the New York Times' C.L. Sulzberger drops hints that Tito was not as pure as propaganda pretended — nor Mihailovich as villainous. British and Americans who served with Mihailovich were distraught and bewildered at the lack of support. Their complaints were never answered — and in fact never reached London or Washington. In some cases phoney anti-Chetnik messages were sent.

Martin lays most of the blame on three men attached to SOE: Basil Davidson, a British liaison officer and an uncritical admirer of Tito; James Klugman on the SOE's Yugoslav desk, who had been an executive in the British Communist party and was in charge of communications in Cairo; and a Canadian-Croation interpreter who was a Communist and who worked for Bill Deakin (later Sir William), the liaison officer who briefed Churchill. Deakin was captive of the Communist line without realizing it. In fact the junior level was filled with fellow-travellers and Communists helping their Yugoslavian comrades.

The evidence today indicates that while both Partisans and Chetniks committed mayhem and butchery on each other, certainly Draja Mihailovich has been unfairly maligned by history and seems a victim of ideological conspiracy and British chicanery.

Mihailovich turns out - to answer the question of the book's title - more patriot than traitor, and Serbians who've been trying to clear his name all these years are more right than wrong.

. It is another blight on the record of our leaders who betrayed a man who seems to have been a gallant ally and a brave patriot - whose sin and death warrant was that he wasn't a Communist.

Friday, February 23, 1979

William F. Buckley

Tito's touch of megalomania

There is much speculation in Europe over the future of Yugoslavia, catalyzed by the death of Tito's heir apparent Edvard Kardelj. The one subject absolutely taboo in Yugoslavia is speculation on the matter of The Successor. This is not unusual. No more could one discuss the question in. Kenya during the last years of Kenyatta. The disease was labeled years ago by Professor Karl Wittfogel as "the megalomania of the aging despot."

Tito is fiercely proud and fiercely self-contained. It is probably safe to say at this moment that he is the world's leading narcissist, though I suppose one should always leave a little room for Emperor Bokassa. Tito has been known to spend whole days and weeks poring over the largest collection of sycophantic materials in the world. Indeed they'd fill an entire library.

That library would not include an extraordinary book recently published, "Patriot or Traitor — The Case of General Mihailovich," by David Martin (Hoover Institute Press). That book destroys the myth that Mihailovich, who was Tito's competitor in the resistance, was actually a Nazi collaborator. For this he was arraigned and executed by Tito in one of those trials his then-hero Joseph Stalin had taught the Communist community to stage.

Many shrewd western observers knew it was a phony trial, but there appeared to be damaging evidence. Moreover, there was a strange absence of countervailing evidence testifying to the heroism of Mihailovich's anti-Nazi exertions. David Martin explains why. What happened is that critically situated pro-Communists received information from Yugoslavia and distorted it in communications to London for the purpose of aiding Tito the Communist achieve postwar pre-eminence over Draja Mihailovich the anti-Communist.

Most of the action was during 1943 and 1944. Martin traces the dispatches that went to London which influenced Winston Churchill to tilt towards Tito. Now these dispatches, which began by reports on the successful anti-Nazi guerrilla operations of Mihailovich's Chetniks, were certainly rewritten, mostly in Cairo, to suggest that Mihailovich was collaborating with the Nazis. Conversely, reports that Tito was collusively in touch with the Nazis in order to form an anti-Mihailovich entente were suppressed.

The principal British official at the special operations executive desk in Cairo turns out to have been one James Klugman. Klugman died on Sept. 9, 1977 in London. The Times obituary read: "His commitment was to the international working class movement and the Communist Party which he joined in 1933 and remained in until his death. He was the main architect and organizer of the left-wing student movement of the 30s... After the war he devoted himself to historical, theoretical and educational work for the Communist Party..."

Sir Douglas Howard, the British diplomat on the Yugoslav desk, surveying Martin's material, wrote to him "with astonishment. I can only say . . . that if the information contained in your work had been available to use at the time, our whole policy might, and probably would, have been very different."

A few years ago (I am informed by someone I trust) Tito confided to an old friend highly placed in Western Europe that he had in fact become disillusioned with Marxism. "All my life I fought for the workingman," he is quoted as saying, "but it is too late now to renounce that faith even though I have come to recognize that communism is not the friend of the workingman."

All of which is very reassuring. Tito presumably always had a pragmatic sense. Back when he collaborated with the Naxis on a specific objective, later when he renounced Stalin, recognizing that the satellization of Yugoslavia would mean the eclipse of Tito.

The last thing the West needs at the moment is one more destablization in the area. But notwithstanding that. Tito has left Yugoslavia with a flourishing middle class, here is nubile territory for the assertion of the Brezhnev Doctrine enunciated in 1968, arrogating to the Soviet Union the authority to quell disruptions in the socialist world. We are reminded by David Martin that we should inspect carefully the cables that come in, advising us of such matters as the stability of the regime of the shah, and the minimal influence of the left in Islam.

William F. Buckley Jr., the "lion of conservatism," is a nationally noted author and TV moderator.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

By His Excellency

EDWARD J. KING

Governor

PROCLAMATION

1979

WHEREAS :

In May of 1941, when the war power of Hitler's Germany appeared invincible to the faint-hearted, Colonel and later General Drazha Mihailovich and his brave followers launched a campaign of guerilla warfare against the Nazi, Fascist and collaborationist forces in occupation of his native Yugoslavia; and

WHEREAS :

General Drazha Mihailovich as a leading underground fighter provided inspiration and hope for the liberation of Europe from Nazi tyranny and also drew such emnity from the Third Reich that a Nazi reward offer of 100,000 gold Reichsmarks was placed on his head; and

WHEREAS :

General Drazha Mihailovich effected the rescue of hundreds of American airmen that had been forced down in Yugoslavia and for this was posthumously honored by President Harry S. Truman in the award of the Legion of Merit decoration; and

It is hoped that the true story of General Drazha Mihailovich will be genuinely understood by the people for whom he fought

WHEREAS :

so bravely; NOW, THEREFORE, I, EDWARD J. KING, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachu-

setts, do hereby proclaim July 17, 1979, as

GENERAL DRAZHA MIHAILOVICH MEMORIAL DAY

and urge the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and to participate fittingly in its observance.

> Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this eleventh day of June, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and seventy-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and third.

CONNOLL Secretary of the Commonwealth

By His Excellency the Governor

GOD SAVE THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

RON PAUL

WABHINGTON OFFICE: ROOM 1234 SWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WABHINGTON, D.C. 20515 (202) 225-3651

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Mashington, D.C. 20515

DISTRICT OPPICES: 1110 NASA ROAD 1 SUITE 406 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77058 (713) 333-2566

HOUSTON CONGRESSIONAL HOT LINE (713) 237-1850

101 OVSTER CREEK DRIVE LAKE JACKSON, TEXAS 7/566 (713) 297-3961 (713) 383-1895

LAKE JACKSON CONGRESSIONAL MOT LINE (713) 297-0202

September 20, 1979

Mike Sujdovic Sujdovic Realty P. O. Box 27408 Escondido, Ca. 92026

Thanks so much for your letter about the monument for General Mihailovich.

I agree that his role in fighting the Nazis and the Communists has been too often forgotten, as has been his role in helping downed American airmen. And when his role has been remembered, all too often it's been distorted.

I would like to see a monument to him in Washington, and I find it admirable that the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich has made clear their intention, as stated in Mr. Derwinski's bill, that private funds "shall be the sole source for the construction and maintenance of such monument."

Sincerely,

Par. Carl

Ron Paul Member of Congress

RP/1r

BILL ROYER

COMMITTEES; PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Mashington, D.C. 20515

October 1, 1979

WASHINGTON OFFICE 1022 LONGWONTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515 (202) 225-3531

DISTRICT OFFICE: BAY VIEW PLAZA 2121 BOUTH EL CAMINO REAL, SUITE 410 SAN MATEO, CALIFORNIA \$4403 (415) 345-1978

Mr. Mike Sujdovic Post Office Box 27408 Escondido, California 92026

Dear Mr. Sujdovic,

I have your letter concerning H.R. 262, a bill to permit a suitable memorial to General Draza Mihailovich in Washington, D.C. In your letter you state that you have written two previous letters on the matter to which you have not received a response. You request that I not refer this letter to the Congressman who represents your district inasmuch as you have already contacted him. As you have probably discerned, because of the press of business, I, as a matter of policy generally refer letters from outside my district to the Congressman who represents the same. However, because of your perserverance, I have examined, not only your letter, but the bill which is attached thereto.

I am pleased to inform you that upon due consideration of the same, I have determined, that I will, in fact, co-sponsor the measure. Thank you very much for bringing the matter to my attention. Your dedication to this cause is certainly admirable.

Yours very truly,

BILL ROYER Member of Congress

BR/sye

spent \$65,000 on a computer run to gerrymander the 11th District of Indiana roughly (very roughly if they look at the lines) into the form of a gas chamber for my candidacy in 1972. Since in Indianapolis there are not only straight party levers, but voters are mandated to pull one or another straight party lever in order to vote at all, my party's difficulty in the Presidential contest of 1972 managed narrowly to defeat me in that election.

Fact: Despite the mandatory straight party levers, there was approximately a 70,000, vote spread between the unfortunate showing of my party's Presidential nominee and the votes that were cast for me.

I am grateful for this opportunity to set the record straight.

WILLIAM G. RUHL, AMERICAN LEGION POST 572 "MAN OF THE YEAR"

HON. RONALD M. MOTTL

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, October 9, 1979

• Mr. MOTTL. Mr. Speaker, on November 1, 1979, the American Legion will honor Second Vice Commander William G. Ruhl as its 1979, American Legion Post 572 "Man of the Year."

Vice Commander Ruhl, a relative newcomer to the ranks of the highly esteemed American Legion, joined the legion in 1974, a short 5 years past. Within this short period, Vice Commander Ruhl has distinguished himself in many areas and quickly was recognized by his fellow Legionnaires as an individual who possessed leadership qualities and one who unselfishly gave of himself, his talents, his expertise, along with a determined desire to serve his fellow man.

Prior to being elected to the office of second vice commander, Mr. Ruhl has actively served on numerous working committees; committees whose members inherit the thankless task of expending their energies for the betterment of Post 572.

Not to be outdone in other areas. Vice Commander Ruhl through his efforts has proven himself to be a spirited primemoving force of enthusiasm as well as a front runner in raising funds so vital to the successful operation of the American Legion.

A member of the American Legion color guard unit and one of the unit's strongest supporters, Mr. Ruhl more often than not can be seen proudly carrying the colors of our country at formal legion functions, community parades, and at numerous amateur and professional athletic events.

Mr. Ruhl served our country honorably as a member of the U.S. Army, attaining the rank of corporal. He spent a portion of his military service time with the occupational forces in Japan immediately following the end of World War II.

Mr. Ruhl, age 51, has resided for the

past 20 years in the city of Parma, Ohio. and is the father of William, Linda, and Laurie. A carpenter by trade; he has been steadily employed for the past 24 years by the E. F. Dinley & Sons Co.

Congratulations to William G. Ruhl. American Legion Post 572 "Man of the Year."●

RECOVERING OUR NATIONAL HONOR: CONGRESSMAN DERWIN-SKI'S CALIFORNIA ADDRESS ON GEN. DRAZA MIHAILOVICH

HON. ROBERT K. DORNAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, October 9, 1979

• Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, I have long believed that honor is never totally lost, that the wells of moral regeneration are infinitely deep, and that no stain on our national history is indelible. I was recently strengthened in these convictions by the beautiful and moving speech of my good friend and colleague, Congressman Edward DERWINSKI of Illinois. the distinguished ranking minority member of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. Congressman DERWINSKI delivered an address in Los Angeles on September 8, 1979, to the California Citizens Committee To Commemorate Gen. Draza Mihailovich. The organization supports the efforts of World War II veterans, American airmen, to establish a monument in memory of this Yugoslavian nationalist leader who was instrumental in securing the allied victory.

Congressman DERWINSKI is fighting, in effect, to recover our national honor. The distinguished ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee has sponsored H.R. 262, a bill authorizing the construction and maintenance of a General Mihailovich Monument in Washington, D.C., in recognition of the role the general played in saving the lives of approximately 500 U.S. airmen in Yugoslavia during World War II. The necessity of this measure rests in the fact that the official policy of the U.S. Government, through certain military and diplomatic actions, amounted to a betrayal of this valorous ally of the United States. I am pleased to note that Congressman DER-WINSKI's bill has gained 42 cosponsors in this House.

General Mihailovich was at one a heroic and a tragic figure. One of the outstanding combat commanders of World War II, he fought desperately in defense of his homeland against Hitler's invading legions. Raising the battle flag of the Balkan resistance, he also rescued approximately 500 American airmen downed in combat with the German air and ground forces. His guerrilla war against the Nazi invader was spectacular, and contributed greatly to the success of the Allied effort in the Southern European theater. But no sooner was he engaged in a valiant struggle against Hitler's brutal occupation, when he found himself in an equally bitter com-

bat against a domestic totalitarian enemy, the Yugoslavian Communists under Tito. Though fighting on two fronts, he was well aware that he was fighting against the same kind of enemy totalitarianism.

October 9, 1979

In a sense, the tragedy of Mihailovich was a microcosm of the tragedy of our own foreign policy during World War II. While fighting a desperate struggle against the forces of fascism, we too easily accommodated ourselves to the relentless political demands of the Communists. While General Mihailovich was rescuing American pilots shot down over Yugoslavia, American planes were actually dropping supplies to the Communist forces warring against him. Whatever the official interpretation of these actions, the brutal and undeniable fact remains that the United States and Great Britain betrayed General Mihailovich and the true cause of Yugoslavian nationism. The Communists, under Tito, were finally victorious, and Mihailovich was captured, tried and executed by the new Yugoslavian Communist Government.

Even after his death, the betrayal continued. In 1948, according to Congressman DERWINSKI'S account, President Truman recognized the valor and the brave contribution of General Mihallovich and awarded him the Legion of Merit. Unfortunately, the posthumous granting of this award was classified. Why? Because the relevation that we had honored this brave man would have offended the Communist government of Yugoslavia. When Congressman Derwinski pressed for the erection of the proposed monument here in Washington, D.C., commemorating the General's actions, the State Department officials testified against it. Why? Once again, because the erection of such a monument would offend the Communist regime. It was incredible that the United States, the premiere republic of the Western World, would shrink from publicly honoring a brave friend and ally on the grounds that to do so would offend the dictatorship of a totalitarian regime.

No such policy, I am sure, would ever be approved by the people of this Nation. Honor is not lost among our people. But honor, it seems, is a virtue rarely esteemed among the practitioners of a pragmatic statecraft, an element that seems to be disproportionately represented in the upper echelons of the State Department.

Well, Mr. Speaker, I have been offended. Congressman DERWINSKI has been offended. The 500 airmen rescued by General Mihailovich have been offended deeply. It would do well for the officialdom of the State Department to ponder the consequences of offending the American people by accommodating the peculiar sensitivities of Communist regimes. Mr. Speaker, the distinguished gentleman from Illinois, Congressman DERWINSKI, is to be commended for his efforts to revive the memory of the late General Mihailovich, a true friend and ally of the United States. I sincerely hope that this House will act favorably on H.R. 262, and embody our sincere gratitude to General Mihailovich in finely cut stone.

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I would ask the Members of the House to take time from their hectic schedules and read Mr, DERWINSKT'S superb call to justice and honor.

ADDRESSED BY CONGRESSMAN EDWARD J. DERWINSKI

Congressman Dornan, Bishop Iriney, my friends the American airmen rescued by General Mihallovich, distinguished guests:

The letter of invitation of this dinner described the event as one which "involves the honor of our country". "Honor demands," it said, "that we never forget those who fought bravely on our side and who risked and gave up their own lives to save the lives of Amerlean servicemen".

I wholeheartedly subscribe to this statement. And I am very happy to join you in this tribute to the rescued American airmen who have worked with such dedication to pay what they regard as a scared debt of honor.

I always had the feeling that our abandonment of General Mihallovich was one of the saddest and most dishonorable episodes of World War II, but the whole situation was shrouded in diplomatic mystery.

Despite the mystery, I knew that General Draza Mihailovich was the first insurgent in Europe, and that it was he who first raised the flag of resistance to the Nazi occupier--and by his action he inspired resistance

movements in all the subjugated countries. He resisted the Nazis when the Soviet Union and the Communists were still collaborating with them—and his early resistance, by slowing down the Nazi timetable, was probably responsible for preventing the fall of Moscow.

Since then, I have learned a lot more about the rescue of the American airmen and the tragedy of General Mihailovich, on the one hand, from the American airmen themselves, on the other hand, from my good friend David Martin.

David Martin's book confirms, with hundreds of quotations from the dispatches of 30 British and American officers attached to Mihallovich, that his forces struck very heavy blows against the Axis even when they were being accused of doing nothing by those in British and American intelligence who were trying to put over Tito.

It confirms the great hatred and fear that the Nazis had of the Mihallovich movement and the merciless mass reprisals they took against his followers.

It is something to ponder that the many hundreds of American airmen who were rescued by the Mihailovich forces over the course of 1944, were rescued when he had already been abandoned by Britain and America and at a time when we were sending massive quantities of arms to the communist forces which were then attacking Mihailovich.

General Mihallovich at the time received no expression of gratitude for the heavy sacrifices his people made in rescuing and protecting and ultimately returning to active duty over 500 American airmen. Indeed, instead of gratitude, the same American planes that fiew into Yugoslavia to evacuate the American airmen, on their way in dropped arms and ammunition to the communist units that-were then attacking the Mihailovich forces.

In carly 1967, I heard from a very respected source that President Truman, in March of 1948, had posthumously awarded the Legion of Merit to General Mihailovich, but that the State Department had immediately classified the award for fear of offending the Yugoslav Communist government. I began writing letters to the Army and to the Department of State.

My first letter asked for a list of all foreign nationals who had received the Legion of Merit. I received the list—but General Mihallovich's name was not on it. I wrote again, letting them know that I had had information of the award to General Mihallovich. Finally, on July 13, 1967 I received a letter from the Department of State. This is what the letter said in part:

An award of the Legion of Merit, in the degree of Chief Commander, was made posthumously to General Mihailovich on March 29, 1948 under an order of the Secretary of the Army dated January 23, 1948. General Mihailovich was executed in Yugoslavia in June 1946. The citation accompanying the award, signed by President Truman, reads as follows:

"General Dragoljub Mihallovich distinguished himself in an outstanding manner as Commander-in-Chief of the Yugoslavian Army Forces and later as Minister of War by organizing and leading important resistance forces against the enemy which occupied Yugoslavia, from December 1941 to December 1944. Through the undaunted efforts of his troops, many United States airmen were rescued and returned safely to friendly control. General Mihailovich and his forces, although lacking adequate supplies, and fighting under extreme hardships, contributed materially to the Allied cause, and were instrumental in obtaining a final Allied Victory."

The letter added that the proposal for the award appears to have arisen from the interest in General Mihallovich expressed by a group of American aviators whom he had rescued during the war and who, despite his death in 1946, desired this recognition of his services to the Allied cause.

The award has never been presented because of the practical unavailability of any heir of General Mihailovich to whom, in view of the official attitude of the Yugoslav Government toward General Mihailovich and the sensitive international diplomatic considerations involved, presentation could appropriately be made. The medal and citation therefore are being retained in the Department of State until such time as proper arrangements can be made for their disposal.

In my reply to the State Department I asked further questions about the reasons for classifying the award. I suggested that the Legion of Merit be presented to King Peter of Yugoslavia, then living in exile, as the sovereign under whom Mihailovich had served as Minister of War. I do not think you will be surprised to hear that this proposal was ignored.

Five years ago the rescued American airmen reconstituted their organization and established contact with me. They addressed a petition to Congress asking for legialative permission to erect a memorial to General Mihailovich, in recognition of the fact that he had saved the lives of over 500 American airmen. In support of their petition, the airmen organized a memorial service on the steps of the United States Capitol on July 17, 1975, the anniversary of Mihailovich's execution. There were over 2,000 people present.

Responding to the airmen's petition, I introduced legislation in the House, and Senator Thurmond introduced legislation in the Senate. In the Senate the legislation has been twice approved, on the House side, unfortunately, the pressure of the State Department has so far kept the legislation from being reported by committee so that the House could work its will—this, despite the fact that we have had the sponsorship of over 60 congressmen in the 94th and 95th Congress as well as in the present Congress.

We have had a hearing before the National Capital Parks Committee. The committee strongly endorsed the proposed leg-

islation after taking the testimony of General Smith, Charlie Davis, Dick Felman, John Scroggs and a number of other airmen who could not be with us tonight. When the hearing was over, the chairman of the committee told the airmen that their testimony was the most moving and persuasive their committee had ever heard in support of legislation to authorize the erection of a monument. The airmen also testified last year before the Subcommittee on Libraries and Memorials of the House Administration Committee. I know that the congressmen who participated in this hearing were deeply moved—it was impossible not to be moved because the airmen spoke with such deep feeling. But the State Department testified against the legislation on the ground that the Governmnet of Marshal Tito would be offended if the legislation were enacted.

I consider the attitude of the State Department absolutely shameless. Since when does the Government of the United States permit a foreign dictatorship to determine what monuments can or cannot be built in Washington? Since when does the view of a Communist dictator weigh more heavily with the United States Government than the petition of 500 American airmen who served their country in World War II a petition which has been endorsed by the American Legion, the AFL-CIO, and other national organizations?

Congress has not only been lobbled by the State Department in an effort to prevent the enactment of this legislation, but it has also been lobbled by the Yugoslav Embassy. In fact, the Yugoslav ambassador personally visited my office to try to persuade me that the legislation should be withdrawn. In a very diplomatic manner, I told him I wasn't going to withdraw it.

These are some of the obstacles we are up against. But I remain hopeful that we can persuade Congress to take affirmative action on the legislation. The thing that makes me most hopeful is the evidence of a widespread grass-roots movement in this country to redeem our own honor, even at this late date, by recognizing the great debt of gratitude which our country owes to General Draza Mitheilovich.

As you know, the American Legion, the AFL-CIO and other organizations have endorsed the Mihailovich monument legislation. Two years ago, the Arizona State Senate voted to endorse the legislation, while two months ago Governor Ring of Massachusetts issued a proclamation calling for the observance of the week beginning last July 17th as "General Draza Mihailovich, Week".

Your dinner here tonight is another manifestation of this grass-roots movement.

When Mihallovich was executed on July 18, 1946, the New York Times wrote:

"The fingers of history, rusting through the pages of the Second World War, may provide an ironic postscript to the scene that took place at dawn yesterday somewhere in the vicinity of Belgrade when General Drasha Mihailovich crumpled before the bullets of a Yugoslav firing squad. . . "History may decide that it is not Tito—

"History may decide that it is not Titowho was in safety while Mihailovich was fighting in the hills in those early daysbut the executed Chetnik leader whose statue should stand in Red Square in Moscow. But Mihailovich fell yesterday in Belgrade."

Moscow, of course, will never build a monument to General Draza Mihailovich, even though I agree with the New York Times that they owe him one. We in the United States certainly owe a great debt to General Mihailovich. By permitting the airmen to erect the memorial for which they have petitioned—at no cost to the United States Government—we will not only be

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helping to redeem the honor of Mihailovich—we will be redeeming our own honor. I thank you all for coming tonight to express your Thoral support for the airmen's memorial to General Draza Mihailovich, and for the legislation which I have had the honor to sponger.

THE SHAMEFUL ROOTS OF MINOR-ITY UNEMPLOYMENT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Tuesday, October 9, 1979

• Mr. PAUL Mr. Speaker, the October 1979 issue of Reader's Digest carried an excellent article on minority unemployment by Temple University economist Walter Williams. Professor Williams points out the baneful effects of minimum wage laws and the Davis-Bacon Act on young people who are seeking jobs. I urge all my colleagues to attend to the analysis effered by this perceptive economist.

The article follows:

THE SHAMEFUL ROOTS OF MINORITY UNEMPLOYMENT

(By Walter E. Williams)

A black teen-ager applied for a job at a carwash where his buddy had worked last year. The black owner shook his head. "I'd like to help," he said, "but I can't afford you kids anymore."

A young Indian watched roofers working on a new house. He wanted to become a carpenter. What better place to get his training than this Indian Housing Authority project on his own reservation? But he had already been turned down. Most of the construction workers were from a city miles away.

A Puerto Rican youth had waited outside the contractor's trailer for hours, hoping to get hired as a laborer on the new construction site. "Sorry, kid, you gotta be in the union," the foreman told him. "I'll join," said the youth. "You don't understand," said the foreman. "You gotta be in the union already."

What keeps these minority teenagers out of the productive mainstream of the economy? What makes it impossible for them to get that first job-the important first step on the ladder to self-sufficiency?

Bociologists posit theories about "poor role models," "disenchantment" and racial prejudice. But I am convinced that the source of most problems facing minorities in the American marketplace today is the federal government, acting in behalf of powerful interest groups, particularly organized labor. The brutal fact is that government, through supposedly "progressive" laws, has written the rules of the game against minorities. Day in, day out, these laws keep many minorities from making progress in employment and, worst of all, prevent them from even getting into the job market.

Minimum Wage—Minimum Employment. One great handicap to the young worker, especially the young minority worker, is the federal minimum-wage law. Originally enacted by Congress in 1938, it has been extolled as a "moral" effort to assure every worker a "decent wage." In reality, it prices many low-skilled workers out of the labor market.

All the egalitarian rhetoric will not change the simple fact that some workers are less experienced, less productive—and therefore worth less (in wages) than others. This is especially true of the new worker. Forced by law to pay a wage that may be more than the new worker is worth, the druggist hires one stockboy instead of two; the garage owner hires two workers, not four-and hires the highest-skilled ones he can find.

Following the minimum-wage increase to \$2.90 per hour in January 1978, the National Restaurant Association surveyed 2,000 member businesses and found that, as a result of the new wage, 78 percent reduced worker hours, 63 percent laid off workers and more than 50 percent resorted to the use of mechanical devices as a substitute for labor. What these statistics do not show are the numbers of minority young people who hoped to get jobs at those restaurants—as busboy, waitress, diahwasher—that would have started them on their way.

Still, politicians, including minority politicians, push for higher minimum wages while decrying minority unemployment. They may try to explain the high rate of minorityyouth unemployment (40 percent) relative to that of white-youth (16 percent) by claiming racial bias. But until 1954, employment of minority youths exceeded that of white youths. Have employers become more racist since the early 1950e? No. The culprit is the minimum wage. Minority youth bear a greater burden of the minimum-wage law. Because of poor schooling and other factors, they are disproportionately represented among the low skilled. Instead of being employed at \$2.90 an hour.

Finis Weich, economics professor, at U.C.L.A. and leading authority on minimum wage and its effects, says, "The law that employment reductions accompany mandated wage increases is as basic as the law of gravity." Then why the persistent upgrading of the law over the years? Who supports minimum wage so indefatigably? The answer is the labor unions. Because the higher the minimum wage, the higher the "floor" from which unions can bargain for their members' wages.

And there is another aspect: job security. Suppose a fence can be built either by a high-skilled worker or by two low-skilled workers. If the wage of the high-skilled worker is \$29 per day and that of the lowskilled worker is \$15, an employer would hire the high-skilled worker because the cost would be less (\$29 versus \$30). The highskilled worker soon realizes that one way to protect his job and increase his income is to advocate a minimum wage of, say, \$20 per day. His arguments to gain political support deal with "raising the standard of living," preventing "worker exploitation," etc. His real motives are probably less altruistic: if the \$20 minimum is enacted, he can then demand \$39 and still retain his job.

Davis-Bacon Barrier. After years of lobbying by organized labor, the Davis-Bacon Act became law in 1931. Its purpose was supposedly to prevent itinerant labor from undercutting local wage rates on federally funded construction projects. The act simply says that, on any federal construction project, contractors and subcontractors must pay a "prevailing wage" calculated by the Department of Labor. Almost invariably this wage level turns out to be the union scale, even in areas where most construction work is non-union.

In Vermont, for instance, where a publichousing development was planned, roofers were making about \$4 an hour and electriclans 66. But the Labor Department set Davis-Bacon "requirements" for the project at \$9.35 an hour for roofers and \$8.35 an hour for electricians. The basis for these infiated "prevailing" rates? Wage scales in highly unionized Albany, N.Y., 125 miles away. Similar procedures for determining rates are used on foderal projects all over the country. The General Accounting Office estimates that they add about \$700 million to federal construction costs annually.

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Equally important. Davis-Bacon means that the Hon's share of federal construction goes to unionized construction firms, where minority workers are often excluded. Nonunion contractors who hire many minority workers are reluctant to bid on jobs where they will be forced to pay wage rates far above the norm.

Those who do bid tend to handle the contract by hiring only the highest-skilled people they can find. This is because, under Davis-Bacon, the trading of new workers is discouraged since they must be paid at the full union apprentice rate. A roofing contractor on a government job near Lesvenworth, Kan., says, "We can't be competitive and pay a green kid full roofer's wages. This tends to limit our growth ability, since we are discouraged from hiring new young men willing to learn the trade."

A further quirk of the Davis-Bacon Act mandates that when union rates are paid on a job, union work rules hust also prevall. When a group of young Puerto Ricans sought to rehabilitate a tenement in Manhattan with the help of federal money, they were stunned by the work rules springing from the powerful New York construction unions. If one of them worked as an apprentice plumber, they were told they had to hire 12 union plumbers; for each additional apprentice plumber, they were required to hire 14 union plumbers! It has been estimated that Davis-Bacon

It has been estimated that Davis-Bacon restrictions have led to the abandonment of more than 5000 self-help projects all over the United States. These generally involved minority-group job training. The unseen resuit: thousands of people with potentially marketable skills are never able to develop them.

Private Club. Organised labor's unhealthy sway in the economic affairs of minority groups results from the National Labor Relations Act of 1935, and from a mase of federally sanctioned work ruies—hiring-hall arrangements, union "referrals," union training programs, etc. These all give labor power to choose who will gain entry into the highwage union "club." Thus, the minority member seeking a job in a specific industry may find that the union has the first opportunity to fill any vacancies. In addition, he may find that union membership is granted only to workers employed in that industry before a certain date. Or he may find that job preference is given to graduates of union-controlled training programs.

For years now, the government has been wasting money and time trying to "solve" minority unemployment with one hand while causing it with the other. What minorities need are not additional handouts but boid legislative changes that will improve their economic opportunity. The improvement will come not through more laws but through fewer.

"All good intent aside," says Sen. Jake Garn (R., Utah), "the patent failure of much so-called 'progressive legislation' makes it imperative that we seek useful changes to these laws." We might begin with excepting youth from the full requirements of the minimum-wage law. Congress in 1977 fell one vote short of doing just this. Then get rid of Davis-Bacon, and strike down the provisions of the National Labor Relations Act which give organized labor the power to determine who can and who cannot work in many fields.

Clear away such barriers to opportunity and we will see that the "minority problem" is, in fact, largely an economic problem. And the solution will come when we peel away the thick layers of anti-competitive law in which government and the special interestsparticularly organized labor-have so securcly and smugly wrapped themselves. CHARLES PASHAYAN, JR. 17TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

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CIVIL SERVICE

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

October 10, 1979

Mr. Mike Sujdovic Sujdovic Realty P.O. Box 27408 Escondido, California 92026

Dear Sujdovic:

Thank you for your recent letter urging my support of H.R. 262, a bill to honor the valor of General Draza Mihailovich in rescuing over 500 American airmen during World War II.

I have contacted Congressman Ed Derwinski to offer my active support and cosponsorship of the measure. I do appreciate your bringing this matter to my attention, and I look forward to the expedient passage of this resolution.

Sincerely yours Reslega

WASHINGTON OFFICE

PLEASE REPLY TO:

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

P.O. Box 661 • Falls Church, Virginia 22046 • (703) 534-6776

October 21st, 1979

The Honorable Lucien N. Nedzi, Chairman Subcommittee on Libraries and Memorials 2418 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Nedzi:

The extreme urgency of our position compels me to implore you, respectfully but in the strongest possible terms, to take action as soon as possible on our Committee's petition before you to erect a memorial to General Mihailovich (H.R.262).

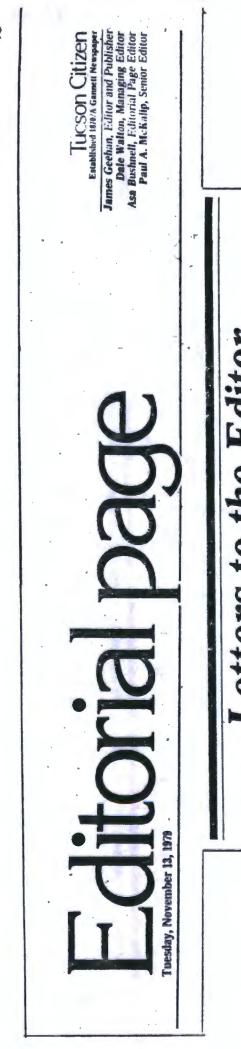
It is now 35 years since General Mihailovich saved our lives. We have fought desparately every inch of the way to pay him proper tribute - only to meet with the agonizing frustration of repeated denials by our very own government.

We are no longer the "hot-shot flyboys" we were during World War II. Our average age is now 60 years old - and we need at least another 5 years, after passage, to draw up and submit plans, get Department of interior approval, solicit private contributions, erect the memorial and provide for its maintenance. Last year our beloved Secretary, George Salapa, passed away. A few months before that our Vice President, Lt.Col. George Musulin, suffered a paralyzing stroke and had both legs amputated. Heaven only knows how much longer our remaining members will have the strength to carry on.

As military men we have fought for our Nation's honor both during and after the war. It would be tragic indeed if, after all these years, we were to be "shot down" once again - only more so this time as it will be by our own country.

Respectfully submitted, lind Major Kichard L. Felman USAF (Ret) President

P.C.Box 17478 Tucson, Arizona 85731



Rescued airmen's group

During World War II, more than 500 American airmen who had been shot down over Yugoslavia were rescued by the forces of General Draza Mihailovich, leader of the democratic anti-Nazi resistance movement in Yugoslavia, and returned to active duty. The airmen were evacuated from a series of makeshift airfields in the heart of Nazi-occupied Yugoslavia in what was unquestionably the most dramatic airlift of its kind of the entire war.

For his role in rescuing the American airmen and for his other services to the Allied cause, Mihailovich in 1948 was posthumously awarded the Legion of Merit by President Harry S. Truman, acting on the recommendation of General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The rescued airmen will never be able to forget the sacrifice and generosity of which they were the beneficiaries. Frequently the Mihailovich forces had to fight off German patrols that raced up to meet the descending parachutes. In a number of cases, the Nazis burned Serbian villages and executed hostages because the villagers refused to provide any information about the airmen who had parachuted into their vicinity. Always the American airmen were fed first, even though this often meant their rescuers had to go without food.

At the time of Mihailovich's trial and execution by the Yugoslav communist government in the summer of 1946, several hundred of the rescued American airmen moved heaven and earth to be permitted to testify on Mihailovich's behalf in Belgrade. Their petition was refused.

Now we have organized the "National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich" for the purpose of obtaining authorization from the U.S. Congress so that we can, with privately contributed funds, erect a national memorial expressing our gratitude to the man who saved our lives. Enabling legislation has been introduced in both the House and the Senate, and it is our hope that, with the sanction of Congress, we will be able to discharge what all of us regard as a sacred debt of honor.

If this letter comes to the attention of any World War II airmen who shared the experience of being rescued by General Mihailovich and his brave Chetnik forces, we would ask these airmen to establish contact with us.

CHARLES L. DAVIS (Lt. Col, USAF ret.) Chairman. National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich P.O. Box 661 Falls Church, VA 22046

(COPY OF LETTER SENT TO OVER 200 NEWSPAPE

MAJ. GEN DONALD J SMITH

+LT COL CHARLES L DAVIS"

-MAJOR RICHARD L. FELMAN"

y ng Shessannes PLT. COLL GEORGE MUSULIN Mouern ungene DAVID LE BISSONIERE Marke MecDOL

Dallas Taxas LT. COL. JOHN E. SCROGGS* Kansas City, Missouri

Secretary •GEORGE SALAPA North Revairon, Ohio

VERSION *LT. COL. MILTON E. FRENO* Mileon virginia

MRS. PRESTON ANGLEBERGER** JAMES E SECKER Yuma, Anzona BUS T. BROWN LUNG, Texas ANTHONY J. BUCKNER DONALD CLARK CURTIS DILES. JR. ROBERT EAGAN Dan JAB Genes ROBERT D. FULKS* WILL HAYDEN GRIFFIN STEPHEN J. HANICH Harnsburg, Pennsylvanie LT. COL, ARTHUR HOODECHECK, JR.* 31 Petersourg, Ponde GEORGE HURB, JR. RICHARD HOSEY LT. COL. JAMES M. INKS" NEAL S. JANOSKY PAUL F. MATO ante a R. MATULIC MAS. INENE F O'GRADY" LT. COL. T. K. OLIVER" ANTHONY J. ORSINI LELAND PORTER THOMAS E SAINSBURY HAL SOUTER RICHARD STILLMAN MAJ. MERRILL L. WALKER* W-O CARL J WALPUSK AOBERT L WILSON NORMAN L. REID IRCAFT THOMAS R. BRADSHAW IRCAFIT

Пото тако процедон ди. Почковори среда оп

COL ROBERT H. McDOWELL' MIKE DEVJAK ARTHUR JIBILIAR CAPT NICK LALSCH" LT. ELLSWORTH R. KRAMER" CAPT. JOHN MILOORAGOVICH" "LT COL GEORGE MUJUNVICH"

- 1993 - 1993

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

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P.O. Box 661 • Falls Church, Virginia 22046 • (703) 534-6776

November 13th, 1979

The Honorable Lucien N. Nedzi, Chairman Subcommittee on Libraries and Memorials 2418 Rayburn House office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

1 TT 7 7 F

Dear Congressman Nedzi:

My sincere appreciation to you for taking the time out of your busy schedule to reply (November 2nd) to my appeal regarding H.R.262, the bill authorizing the construction of a memorial to General Draza Mihailovich.

While I truly understand your heavy legislative schedule once again delays early consideration of this bill, this can in no way absolve our responsibility to do everything possible to seek passage during the 96th Congress of a matter we firmly believe reflects more on our National Honor than on our own individual involvement. To do anything less, would make mockery of the testimony our very lives represent.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter that appeared in this evening's Tucson newspaper. It is similar to one we have sent to over 200 newspapers throughout the country in an attempt to add to our already enormous support (i.e., The 94th and 95th United States Senate, 60 bipartisan members of the 96th United States House of Representatives, The Arizona State Senate, The Governor of Massachusetts, The American Legion, The AFL-CIO, numerous newspapers, etc.). If it were possible to put this matter to a popular vote of the American people, I am certain, beyond any semblance of doubt whatsoever, it would receive the unqualified support of 220 million Americans. Would that all legislative bills before you be as simple and clear-cut as H.R.262.

I am also enclosing, relative to this issue, a copy of the stirring remarks of Congressmen Robert K. Dornan (California) and Edward J. Derwinski (Illinois) as they appeared in the Congressional Record (10/9/79).

May I once again thank you for the many courtesies and considerations you have always shown us on this matter during the current Congress and also during our hearings before the 95th Congress. (. Respectfully,

ulai

P.O.Box 17478 Tucson, Ariz. 85731 \Major Richard L. Felman USAF(Ret) President EDWARD J. DERWINSKI

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Congress of the United States Douse of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

November 23, 19/9

COMMITTEES:

BITERIATIONAL ORGANIZATIONE

EX OFFICIE MEMBER OF ALL OTHER • BURGOWINITTEES

COMMISSION ON COMBRIDENONAL MAILING STANDARDS

INTERPARLIAMENTARY UNION THEASUND-U.L. BROUP

Dear Colleague:

Will you please join us and 54 other Members of the House as a cosponsor of legislation which, we believe, touches on the honor of America and which, for a change, involves no expenditure of public funds (see H.R. 262 attached).

The National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich has petitioned Congress three times for legislation to permit them to erect in Washington, with publicly subscribed funds, a memorial to General Mihailovich. Mihailovich was the first anti-Nazi resistance leader in Europe during World War II. The airmen regard it as a sacred debt of honor to show their gratitude to Mihailovich for saving their lives and over 500 of their comrades. Their ranks are diminishing with every passing year. They cannot wait another 20 years for Congress to act.

.Here are some of the facts:

* In 1948, President Truman, on the recommendation of General Eisenhower, posthumously conferred on General Mihailovich the Legion of Merit in the Degree of Supreme Commander in recognition of his "great services to the Allied cause, including the rescue of the 500 American airmen.

* The legislation has been endorsed by the American Legion, by George Meany, and by many major ethnic organizations. It has also been endorsed by the Arizona State Senate. More recently, Governor King of Massachusetts proclaimed July 17, 1979, as "General Draza Mihailovich Memorial Day." In California, a statewide distinguished citizens committee has been organized, calling itself the California Citizens Committee to Commemorate General Draza Mihailovich.

* In the past three sessions of Congress, the legislation has been approved by the Department of Interior; approved, after a public hearing, by the eight-agency National Capital Parks Advisory Committee on Monuments; spproved by the Senate Rules Committee; and twice pessed by the Senate without dissenting vote. In the House, we managed to get a public hearing before the close of the last session, but we have not yet been able to get it to the floor for a vote.

Your cosponsorship can help us to get this bill reported out by the committee so that Congress can work its will. Call Susan Clark (x53961) to cosponsor.

CAM Signed the

Sincerely yours,

Morris K. Udall, M.C.

Edward J. Derwinski, M.C.

Adam Benjamin, Jr., M.C.

Christopher J. Dodd, M.C.

Levrence Coughlin. M.C.

Henry J. Hyde, M.C.

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dissidents on the roof. You should not open the hatch."

Dirie 16: "Now they're beating on the vault door. We don't have much time." There was a huge bang.

Dixie 14: "There's lots of smoke, gas, and they're using some heavy object to batter the doors. Do yeu have any hope for us?"

There was more heavy banging, and then someone unlocked the door and our Marines crowded in; more tear gas came in with them. The radio now turned bad. Dixis 14: "The foor in the wault is getting

Dixis 14: "The floor in the wault is getting warm. There are fires underneath us. We need to evacuate to the roof. Can you tell us. is the clear?" No answer.

At 5:30 came a frightening call from the back of the room: "Fire in the vauit!" Amazingly, no one panicked. One official carried the fire extinguisher over to where the carpet had begun to burn. Two blasts put out the flames.

The steel shell of the vault was now so hot from the fires raging below that the tiles laid over it were beginning to crack and buckle. We were all dranched in sweat. We were breathing through wet paper towers, very slowly and shellowly, trying to save oxygen. The emoke was getting heavy, making it hard to breathe. It was doubtful we could have lasted another 30 minutes in the vault. Dave Fields asked: "Are there some senior Pakistanis who would like to establish contact with the dissidents on the roof?" There were a number of volunteers.

"We will see if it's clear on the roof and we will go out very slowly, very orderly," said Pields. "I will say who goes."

Fields. "I will say who goes." Finally it was the Marines who led the way up the stairs to the hatch. The first Marine opened the hatch and stuck his head out into the darkness. He had no way of knowing what might be writing for him out there on the roof. It had gotten quiet; the shooting had stopped, the hammering and pounding had stopped. But it could well have been a trap. We didn't know. The only thing we had going for us was the darkness itself, and I guess the first too. That must have been what drove the rioters away.

With the Marines standing guard over the hatch, two groups of women went out onto the roof, then some men, then home more women. A burst of fresh air suddenly hit me; very cold, very fresh. There was a strange glow around the edges of the roof from the fire that was consuming the building benesth us. The Marines warned us in whispers: "Stay down! Stay down!" They could not be sure there were not still rioters somewhere on the roof.

As more people came up from the vault we gathered in knots for the move across the roof to a second ladder that went to the ground. The Marines led us over the side. "I'm sorry we have to take you through a little smoke here," one of them said to me This part of the building was blasing from both sides, and amoke hung over everything. I kept thinking that the roof had to collapse soon—any minute.

When we came down the last ladder, we looked across to the embassy gates. The Pakistani army that had been coming to our reacue since the assault began at 1 p.m. finally opened the gates and some soldiers ceremoniously marched over to the ladder and welcomed us to the ground.

When we finally reached safety. Ambassador Hummel praised us for "having dona more for ourselves than I could get the government of Pakistan to do." He was absoiutely right. I don't care what President Carter says. I don't care what Secretary Vance says. We came out all by ourselves. It was our Marine guards who saved us. Nobody else. GROWING NATIONAL RECOGNITION OF GEN. DRAZA MIHAILOVICH'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO ALLIED CAUSE IN WORLD WAR II

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DERWINSER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

• Mr. DERWINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I want to call the attention of my colleagues to the growing grassroots movement calling for recognition of the very great contributions made to the Allied cause in World War II by Gen. Draza Mihailovich, leader of the democratic resistance forces in Yugoslavia.

In August of 1967, after several exchanges with the Department of State, the Department confirmed to me that in March 1948, President Truman, acting on the recommendation of General Eisenhower, had conferred the Legion of Merit in the Degree of Supreme Commander on Cen. Drazz Mihailovich, leader of the democratic resistance forces in Yugoslavia during World War II. Apparently the fact of the award and the citation that went with it had been classified by the State Department immediately after President Truman signed it

One of the major contributions to the Allied cause mentioned in the citation was Mihailovich's rescue and evacuation of some 500 American airmen who had been forced to bail out over Yugoslavia during the course of 1944.

But despite the release of the Legion of Merit citation, the Mihailovich issue at that time appeared to be ancient history and aroused only limited interest.

Some 4 years ago, the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich, acting in the name of the 500 rescued airmen, petitioned Congress for permission to erect 8. memorial in Washington, with publicly subscribed funds, to the man who had saved the lives of so many American World War II airmen. Enabling legislation is now pending before the House and Senate. In the House alone we now have 76 cosponsors, Democratic and Republican. I want to point out that this legislation was twice approved by the U.S. Senate without dissenting vote, based on the prior approval of the Department of the Interior and the Senate Rules Committee. Regrettably we were unable to bring this legislation to vote in the House because the legislation was not reported by committee. I earnestly hope that the Subcommittee on Monuments and Libraries will report the legislation early enough in this session for the House of Representatives to work its will on it

But the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich are not the only ones who believe that it would be fitting and proper for the United States to pay this belated tribute to a faithful World War II allyan ally whom we shamelessly abandoned because we had agreed to blindly follow the British lead in Balkan policy. In recent years major ethnic and national

columnists organizations, syndicated and editors, and State legislators have spoken up on the issue. Just over 2 years ago the National Convention of the American Legion adopted a resolution strongly endorsing the legislation I had introduced in response to the petition of the rescued American airmen. The year previously, the Arizona State Senate had adopted a similar resolution. Last year, President George Meany of the AFL-CIO wrote a letter stressing his very strong support for the project. And on June 11 of this year Clov. Edward J. King of Massachusetts signed a statement proclaiming July 17, 1979-the anniversary of Mihailovich's execution by the Tito government-as "Gen. Drass Mihailovich Memorial Day." Let me here quote the text of this proclamation because I think it is characteristic of the widespread reevaluation that is taking place of the true role played by General Mihailovich during World War II in Yugoslavis:

December 4, 1979

Whereas: In May of 1941, when the war power of Hitler's Germany appeared invincible to the faint-hearted, Colonel and later General Drazha Mihallovich and his brave followers launched a campaign of guerilla warfare aganst the Nazi, Fascist and callaborationist forces in occupation of his native Yugoalavia; and

warfare against the Nazi, Fascist and callaboa leading underground fighter provided inspiration and hope for the liberation of Europe from Nazi tyranny and also drew such enmity from the Third Reich that a Nazi reward offer of 100,000 gold Reichsmarks was placed on his head; and

Whereas: General Drasha Mihailovich effected the rescue of hundreds of American airman that had been forced down in Yugoslavia and for this was posthumously homored by President Harry S. Truman in the award of the Legion of Mérit decoration; and

Whereas: It is hoped that the true story of General Drasha Mhailovich will be genuinely understood by the people for whom he fought so bravely;

Now, therefore, I. Edward J. King, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim July 17, 1979, as "General Drashs Mihailovich Memorial Day" and urge the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognisance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

I share Governor King's hope that "the true story of Gen. Drasha Mihailovich will be genuinely understood by the people for whom he fought so bravely." I also hope that Congress will respond to the petition of the rescued American airmen by permitting them to erect a memorial to the man who saved their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I insert into the RECORD at this point the following documents:

First. Text of statement signed by President Truman in conferring the Legion of Merit on General Mihallovich;

Second. Text of resolution adopted by American Legion Convention endorsing legislation to authorize a monument to General Mihailovich;

Third. Text of resolution adopted by Arizona State Senate endorsing Mihailovich monument legislation;

Fourth. Text of letter from Arizona State Senators to President Gerald R. Ford, dated June 24, 1976; December 4, 1979

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Fifth. Text of letter of President George Meany stating his support for Mihailovich monument legislation; and Sixth. Articles by syndicated colum-

nists William F. Buckley, Jr. and John Chamberlein supporting the petition of the rescued airmen to Congress.

NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN

To support the intent of the legislation introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives to authorize construction of a Memorial to General Drashs Mihailovich, a World War II Resistance leader.

Whereas nearly 500 American airmen were rescued by General Drasha Mihailovich during World War II; and Whereas General Mihailovich at the risk

Whereas General Mihailovich at the risk of his own life and the lives of his men, rescued these missing-in-action American airmen from enemy territory and was instrumental in returning these airmen to allied control; and

. Whereas these almost 500 airmen were returned to military duty and thus were able to continue to contribute to the military affort of the United States until the end of World War II; and

Whereas General Mihailovich and his troops lacked adequate supplies and fought under conditions of extreme hardship; and

Whereas when General Mihailovich was esptured by Marahai Tito's communist government in 1946, the National Executive Committee of the American Legion on June 11, 1946 passed a resolution (that was mailed to the Secretary of State, Washington, D.C.) urging that the American Legion petition the United States government to exert its influence by every possible means to insure a fair and impartial trial for General Mihailovich in return for the generous aid and as issance secorded American aimen; and

Whereas the members of American Legion Post 827, Department of California honored General Mihailovich by naming the Post the "Ceneral Dranks Mihailovich Post No. 827"; and

Whereas President Harry S. Truman in 1948 posthumously awarded the Legion of Merit in the Degree of Chief Commander to General Drass Mihailovich in recognition of his sforts on the behalf of such airmen and of his other services to the Allide cause; and

Whereas the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich, Inc. has petitioned the Congress for permission to construct and maintain a memorial to General Draza Mihailovich in the District of Columbia or environs; and

Whereas such monument will express the gratitude of the rescued airman to General Draze Mihailovich for his role in saving their lives: and

Whereas the construction and maintenance of such monument will not involve the expenditure of any Federal funds; and

Whereas legislation to authorize the construction of such a memorial was introduced in the United States Senate (S. 244) and has been approved by the Interagency National Capital Memorial Advisory Committee, approved by the U.S. Department of Interior, reported favorably by the Senate Rules Committee and passed by the Senate without dissent on June 29, 1977; and

Whereas similar legislation has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by Congressman Edward Derwinski of Illinois and thirteen other members (H.J. Res. 374) including Congressman Dan Daniel of Virginia. a Past National Commander of the American Legion, and by Congressman Murphy of New York (H.R. 1009): Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the American Lewion in convention assembled at Denver, Colorado on August 22 through 24, 1977 does hereby sup-

port the intent of the legislation pending in the U.S. House of Representatives for the purpose of authorizing construction of a Memorial to General Drazs Mihailovich as a lasting expression of gratitude by these almost 500 American airmen.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 2002

To the President and the Congress of the United States of America: Your memorialists respectfully represents:

Whereas, the Legislature and citizens of the State of Arizons are concerned for the lives, minds and well-being of its loved ones and citizens who are still carried as missing in action or prisoners of war; and

Whereas, the veterans of Arisons are also concerned for their comredes at arms that are still missing in action or prisoners of war in Southeast Asis; and

Whereas, the United States House of Representatives passed the Montgomery Resolution to carry out an investigation of the unanswered questions about the etaimated two thousand four hundred American servicemen and civilians still "Missing in Action" or otherwise unaccounted for in Boutheast Asia; and ...

Whereas, the dictates of humanity itself demand that the sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, wives, fathers and mothers learn of the fate of those they love and without whom their lives are shattered and empty; and

Whereas, there is strong evidence that the communist governments in Southeast Asia, as other communist nations have done in the past, are without any moral justification, illegally retaining prisoners of war in despite of their firm agreement to return all prisoners of war; and

Whereas, these very same communist countries of North and South Vietnam are saking to be recognized and admitted to the United Nations; and

Whereas, objection by the United States to the admission of North or South Vietnam to the United Nations has thus far been based on the fact that the Republic of Korea has not been admitted but such objection ahould also be based on a further detailed accounting of our citizens still carried as missing in action or prisoners of war. Wherefore your memorialist, the Legislature of the State of Arizona, prays:

1. That the President and the Congress of the United States take every possible step and make every possible effort to obtain a more detailed accounting of all Americans still carried as prisoners of war, missing in action or unaccounted for in Southeast Asia.

2. That it be publicly stated by Congressional Resolution and Fresidential Decree that the United States through its ambasasdor to the United Nations will continue to yoto any move to admit either North or South Vietnam to the United Nations, regardless of the status of the Republic of Kores, until there is forthcoming a more detailed accounting of all Americans still carried as prisoners of war, missing in action or unaccounted for in Southeast Asia.

3. That copies of this memorial be dispatched by certified mail, with a return receipt requested, to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Arizona Delegation to the United States Congress.

To the President and the Congress of the United States of America: Your memorialist respectfully represents:

of the State of Arizona are aware that nearly five hundred American airmen owe their lives to the late General Draza Mihailovich of Yugoalavia; and

Whereas, General Draza Mihailovich, at the risk of his own life and the lives of his men, rescued these airmen from enemy territory and helped them get to American lines; and

Whereas, General Drass Mihailovich was swarded the Legion of Merit in 1948 by President Truman; and

Whereas, the National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich has requested permission to construct a simple concrete monument to General Mihailovich; and

Whereas, such monument would be constructed and maintained at no public expense.

Wherefore your memorialist, the Legislature of the State of Arizona, prays: 1. That the President and the Congress of

1. That the President and the Congress of the United States make every possible effort to insure the passage of legislation authorizing the construction and maintenance of the General Draza Mihallovich Monument in Washington, District of Columbia.

2. That copies of this memorial be dispatched to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Arizona Delegation to the United States Congress.

ARIZONA STATE SENATE. Phoeniz, Ariz., June 24, 1976.

President GERALD R. FORD, The White House, Washington, D.C. DEAE ME. PRESIDENT: As individuals con-

cerned with insuring the future safety of American airmen in times of war or na-

tional emergency, we the undersigned, believe it is time the United States of America

pay its debt of gratitude to Yugoslavian General Draza Mihailovich who, by his direct actions, was responsible for saving tha lives

of nearly 500 American airmen who had been

shot down behind German lines during

be commemorated by allowing the construc-

tion of a simple concrete monument by the

National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich. Such a

monument would contain the words of Presi-

dent Truman which were engraved on the

posthumously to General Mihailovich in 1948 and would also contain the names of

the nearly 500. Americans who are alive

today because of General Mihallovich. Because such a memorial would not be constructed or maintained with public funds,

we believe that it is appropriate for the United States of America to finally thank a

World War II General who risked his life

Mr. President, we ask for your direct support to insure the passage of legislation now before Congress which would authorize the

construction and maintenance of the Oen-

eral Draza Mihailovich Monument in Wash-

ington, District of Columbia. Thank you for

Sue Dye. Bob Stump, William Swink. Betty Morrison, Lucy Davidson, Made-

lene Van Arsdell, Frank J. Felix, Manuel Pena, Stan Turley, Jones Osborn, Tom Moore, Morris Parr, Tony Gabal-

Washington, D.C., July 19, 1978.

Chairman, Subcommittee on Monuments and Libraries, House of Representatives,

my attention that you are considering legis-

lation in the Subcommittee on Monuments and Libraries which may approve the erection of a monument to the late General

DEAR CONGRESSMAN NEDET: It has come to

Weeks, Bill McCune,

AFL-CIO.

to save the lives of American servicemen.

he presented

Legion of Merit award which

your support in this matter.

Marcia

Stephen Davis.

Washington, D.C.

Mihailovich of Yugoslavia.

Sincerely,

don.

Hon. LUCIEN NEDEL,

We further believe that such a debt should

World War II.

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Having reviewed the history of his very great and heroic deeds which contributed to the Allies cause of World War II, and to the setsy of American airman who now wish to honor the memory of this partisen for freedom, it is my hope that you and the members of your Subcommittee will now approve this privately sponsored project.

With every good wish, Sincerely yours,

GEORGE MEANY, President.

Time FOR JUSTICE TO AN OLD ALLT' (By John Chamberlain)

For one reason or another, governments are never vary grateful. During the early days of World War II, the Western allies were dependent on the Yugoslav Gen. Draja Minatovich and his Chetniks for pinning down Nasis on the Balkan front. The U.S. tended to favor Minatlovich over the Communist Tito and his Partisans.

Despite the U.S. preference. Winston Churchill, who had few quaims about walking his mile with the devil when it came to saving the British Empire, thought Tito was a better bet than Mihailovich as a "soft underbelly" helpmate in pushing the war in southeast Europe against Eitler.

With British help the Communists were permitted to get away with the big lie in propagating the idea Mihailovich was a "reactionary," indeed a Nast collaborator. So the Chetnik movement, which would have saved Tuggelavia from Communism as wall as Nazism, was doomed.

After the war, the need to drive a wedge between the victorious Tito and the Stalinists in Moscow took preference in Washington over any policy of fairness to Mihailovich's memory. The "Truman Doctrine" would have been vastly imperiled in neighboring Greece if Tito had not broken with the Eremlin. But Harry Truman, despite his enforced commitment to a distasteful realpolitik, couldn't be totally uncrateful.

politik. couldn't be totally ungrateful. In 1947 Truman awarded the Legion of Marit posthumously to Mihailovich for his help to the silied cause. He did so with the proviso that the award would remain a classified secret until such time as the "Truman Doctrine" would no longer be entangered by the revelation that the U.S. still stood by the memory of Mihailovich as a dedicated anti-Nazi who had to be sacrificed to political expediency.

Truman's gratitude had a specific as well as a general reference. While the war was on, some 500 U.S. airmen had been rescued by Mihailovich's Chetniks when their planes crashed in Yugoslay territory.

The problem was how to get them back to Italy. The British, who were breaking with Mihailovich, were not in a position to be helpful: they were atraid, if there were a renewal of American representation at Mihailovich's headquarters. Tito would comsider it an evidence of double-dealing.

To get around the diplomatic impasse, the U.S. 16th Air Force headquarters created their own "authority"--the Air Crew Rescue Unit. And ao, without any formal blessing, the stage was act for the dispatch of three Americans by airdrop into Chetnik-held territory.

Led by George [Guv] Musulin, a 250pound ex-pro football player, the Americans made contact with the Chetniks and helped prepare a 775-yard-long airstrip on a natural plateau to bring in C-47 rescue planes. Three hundred pessants hauled the gravel for fill, refusing to take a cent for their work.

Within a few hours some 250 American airmen. including 26 who were sick or wounded, had been lifted back to safety. Other reacue missions followed, forcing the Titoista. as represented by Louis Adamic's South Slav Bulletin, to admit that "Nami Chetnika" had been "forced" to release "soms" Allied aviators.

It took some 20 years for Rep. Edward J. Derwinski [R., II].] to compet the release of news about Truman's bestowal of the posthumous Legion of Marit on Gen. Mihailovich. Said Richard Nizon, in a 20-year-after testimonial, "Gen. Mihailovich was a patriot, a brave soldier and a gallant ally of the United States."

The rescued airmen have not been content with a mere acknowledgment that despite Tito and our need to keep Moscow from invading Yugoslavia as it invaded Hungary and Czechoslovakia, Mihailovich is now to be remembered as an ally. They have formed a National Committee of American Airmen Essented by General Mihailovich, and they now propose to build a National Memorial to the general in Washington as the "savior of American airmen."

A petition for snabling legislation is being drawn up, and a dosen of the rescued airmen have already signed it. One problem is to locate the full number of airmen, who are dispersed thruout the U.S. These who have not yet signed the petition are urged to get in touch with Rep. Derwinski's office on Capital Hill.

The time for justice has come: after some 30 years, there is no point to concealing the skullduggery and ingratitude that marred our victory in World War II.

John Chamberiain also appears in the Saturday editions of the Chicago Tribune.

MARKET FORCES JUSTIFY LOWER PRIME RATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. REUES) is recognized for 10 minutes.

• Mr. REUSS. Mr. Speaker, the time has come for the large banks of this country to begin making significant reductions in their lending rates across the board—rates which continue at unacceptable levels.

During the past week, major banks have reduced their prime rate from the record-breaking 15% to 15% percent. This is not good enough.

There is no justification for continuing to hold the prime rate at 15½ percent when underlying market interest rates are declining, loan demand is off substantially, and the rate of growth in the money supply is down comfortably within the Federal Reserve's target lange. Specifically:

The interest rate on 3-month certificates of deposit has fallen from a peak reached in late October of 14.47 to 13.18 percent, and the Federal funds rate from a peak of 15.61 to 14 percent. If these CD rates hold, Citibank, which led the way up, should by its own formula reduce its prime rate to 15 percent or lower:

Demand for commercial and industrial loans at large New York banks, has dropped for the last 3 weeks_in a row, for a total decrease of \$800 million; and

The Federal Reserve has brought the rate of growth in the money supply for the year ending November 14, 1979, down to 5 percent, about the middle of its target of 3 to 6 percent. This indicates there is no need for the Federal Reserve to tighten the money supply further in order to stay within its money growth targets.

Keeping interest rates higher than underlying market forces require simply enriches the big banks while driving many small businesses to the wall and choking off needed credit for housing and for productive investment. Such continuing high rate jeopardize our chances of reducing inflation without precipitating a sharp recession.

Not all the Nation's bankers are as high interest prone as the big money center banks. First Marine Bank of Riviera Beach, Fia., a \$417 million institution for instance, has reduced its prime rate to 14½ percent. As mortgage rates in many cities edged past the 13-percent level, First Marine cut its home mortgage rate to 12½ percent. It has now reduced automobile financing rates from 12½ to 11 percent. First Marine chairman, Jerry Thomas, tells me in a letter of November 26, 1979, of his "objections to the high interest rates being charged by most large banks."

I agree with Mr. Thomas' belief that interest rates are generally higher than they need to be. Mr. Thomas said:

The prime is a very nebulous thing the banks are using to jack up their lending rates. They don't have to charge what they're charging. They seem to have a contest to see who can be first to raise the rate and then all the rest fall in line, playing follow the leader.

Thomas points out that there is "nothing altruistic" about his bank lowering its interest rates. He said:

It's good business. This will prove profitable for us.

If other banks would follow the lead of First Marine, the economy would be better off, the people would be better off, and the banks themselves would be better off. \oplus

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GONZALEZ) is recognized for 15 minutes.

(Mr. GONZALEZ addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WEAVER) is recognized for 10 minutes.

[Mr. WEAVER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. ANNUNEIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. ANNUNZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

SOLAR ENERGY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentle-

-Thans., Sept. 6, 1979

Los Angeles Times

Event to Honor Partisan Chief

The California Citizens' Committee to Commemorate Gen. Draza Mihailovich will hold a dinner dance on Saturday at the Los Angeles Hilton to honor the late Yugoslavian general who was among the first anti-Nazi resistance leaders in Europe, credited with the rescue of nearly 600 American airmen whose planes went down in his country, during World War II.

Mihailovich's leadership of Yugoslav guerrillas is thought to have led to the failure of the German march on Moscow in 1941 by delaying it until winter, a turning point in the Russian-German conflict.

Despite evidence of Mihailovich's support of the Allied cause and his part in the Soviet victory, he was charged with collaboration with Germany and executed by the Communist government in Belgrade in 1946.

President Harry Truman, on the recommendation of Allied Commander Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, posthumously awarded the Legion of Merit in the Degree of Supreme Commander to Mihailovich in 1948, but the award was classified and not revealed for 20 years.

American airmen who were rescued by Mihailovich

have petitioned Congress for permission to erect a memorial to the late general in Washington, D.C.

Speakers at the banquet will include David Martin, author of "Patriot or Traitor: The Case of General Mihailovich." Martin was also secretary of the Committee for a Fair Trial for Draza Mihailovich at the time the trial was conducted in Belgrade.

Other speakers will be Maj. Gen. Donald J. Smith of Chicago, Lt. Col. Charles L. Davis of Falls Church, Va., and Maj. Richard L. Felman, USAF ret., who were among rescued American airmen. Also on the program will be a film and other reminiscences and tributes.

Edward Teller is honorary chairman of the event and will make the opening remarks. Cochairmen are Congressman Robert Dornan and Aleksandar Milosevic of Windsor, Ontario, Can.

The event will begin with a 6:30 p.m. reception preceding dinner at 7:30, the program and dancing from 9:30 to 12:30. Cost is \$30 a person, and reservations may be made by calling 274-1655 (days) or 784-6049 (evenings). Honorary Chairman MAJ. GEN. DONALD J. SMITH Chicago, Honais

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Edmonton, Canada

Personnel involved in air cfein rescue operation COL. ROBERT H. MicDOWVELL* Cleanwater, Florida MIKE DEV JAK Gary, Indiana ARTHUR MEBLIAB Tiffr, Dino CAPT. NICK LALICK*

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"Retired "Honorary Member (Widow or Mother) "Rescued Catiadia: A man Honorary Member

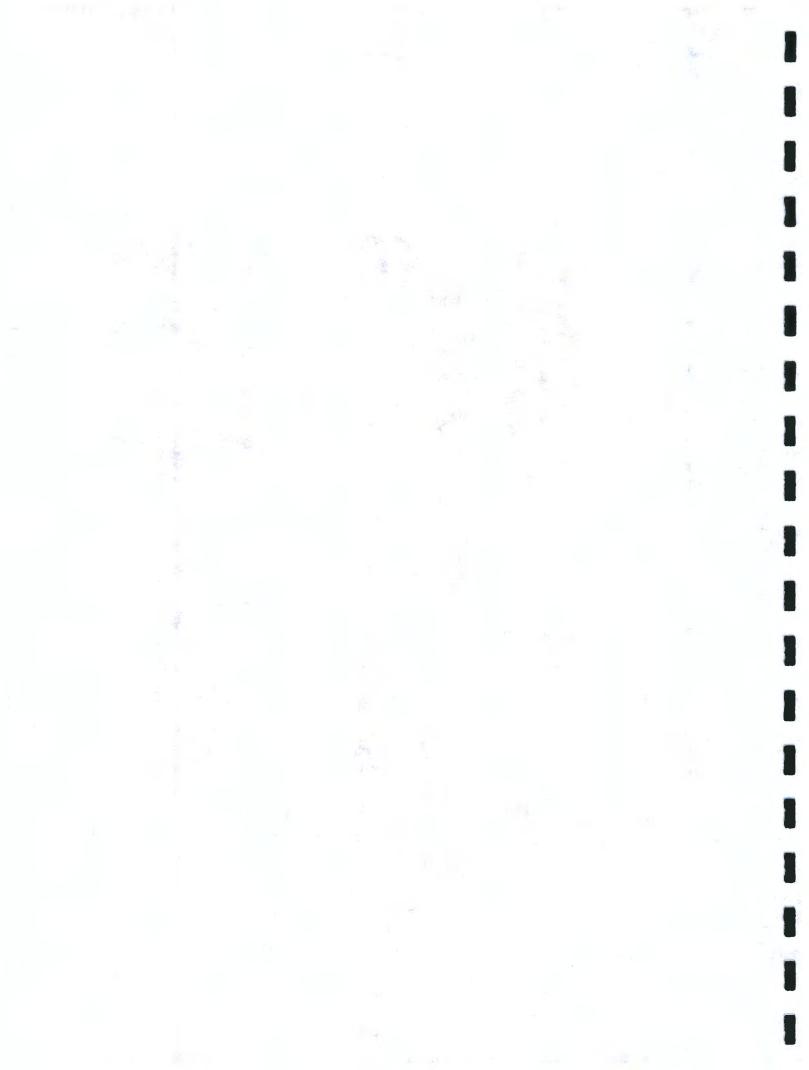
National Committee of American Airmen Rescued by General Mihailovich, Inc.

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THIS EDITORIAL APPEARED IN THE HEARST NEWSPAPERS ON APRIL 27, 1946 ... IT IS JUST AS TIMELY TODAY, PERHAPS MORE SO.



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* American airmen rescued by General Mihailovich ** Office of Strategic Services (OSS) members involved in Mission to Mihailovich & Air Crew Rescue

