STAT
Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2010/07/22 : CIA-RDP90-00552R000404030062-4

ARTICLE APPEARED ON PAGE 4

NEW YORK TIMES
17 MAY 1980

In Vienna, Strong Contrasts Of Past Accords and Crisis

By FLORA LEWIS

Special to The New York Times

VIENNA, May 16 — A speech here today by Secretary of State Edmund S. Muskie drew a sharp contrast between the current East-West crisis and what Austria represents as a symbol of East-West accord and respect for the neutrality of buffer states.

It was on everyone's mind as people gathered to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the negotiated withdrawal of occupation forces since World War II — from Austria.

The British Foreign Secretary, Lord Carrington, saying that once again as in the years from 1945 to 1955 we live in dangerous times, called the Austrian experience proof of "the benefits of a successful and well-negotiated settlement if the circumstances are right."

The French Foreign Minister, Jean François-Poncet, called Austria a model. The Soviet Foreign Minister, Andrei A. Gromyko, without any explicit mention of Afghanistan, echoed Moscow's current thesis that "military détente must be added to political détente" and Chancellor Bruno Kreisky of Austria said the occasion showed that "coexistence does work — there can be peace in our time."

'Détente Is a Precious Thing'

"Détente in Europe is indeed a precious thing," he said. "That is why we are so concerned these days."

The formal ceremony opening Austria's long-planned festivities to celebrate the treaty that changed its daily life and its fate was had to be postponed by one day because Mr. Gromyko was attending a meeting of the Warsaw Pact. Mr. Muskie arrived at midday yesterday from a meeting to rally the Atlantic alliance to resist Soviet threats.

The Austrians had tried to reassemble the dignitaries memorialized in the great painting of the signing of the treaty on May 15, 1955, in the same marble and gilt room of the baroque Belvedere Palace.

Former Prime Minister Harold Macmillan of Britain was there, as was for Prime Minister Antoine Pinay of France. Eleanor Lansing Dulles, a veteran diplomat herself, represented her brother, John Foster Dulles, then Secretary of State. But the invitation to Vyacheslav M. Molotov was returned by the Soviet Foreign Ministry with the crisp comment that the former Foreign Minister was "too old and sick to travel." The Austrians never found out if he even knew he was invited.

Attempt to Lure Molotov

Possibly Moscow was taking no risks of a repetition of an incident involving Mr. Molotov in 1961, the year of the ill-fated Khrushchev-Kennedy Vienna summit. American offficials accompanying Mr. Muskie recalled that at the time, when Mr. Molotov was in disgrace as head of the Soviet delegation to the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, an effort was made to lure him into defecting. In the end he returned to Moscow and what is believed to be a form of house arrest.

The atmosphere of skullduggery and spy high jinks, which has inspired thrillers ever since, persisted in Vienna well after the 1955 treaty put an end to the era of "four men in a jeep" — American, Soviet, French and British police patrols in the capital — and "the third man," when a black market flourished across the lines of occupations.

Change in Soviet Policy

But 1955 did appear to mark a certain change in postwar Soviet policy. In addition to the abrupt reversal of 10 years' refusal to withdraw from Austria, the Soviet leader, Nikita S. Khrushchev, returned the island of Porkkala to Finland and made the extraordinary gesture of traveling to Belgrade for a reconciliation with President Tito of Yugoslavia. A few months later, in February 1956, Mr. Khrushchev made his secret speech denouncing Stalin.

So it was really 1955 that marked the beginning of détente, Chancellor Kreisky said today, implying in his formal spech the energetic efforts he has been making privately to open the door for negotiations over Afghanistan and other East-West matters.

In his meetings with the foreign ministers gathered here — including those of West Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Italy, Switzerland and Liechtenstein, Austria's seven neighbors — and with other visitors, Mr. Kreisky has been insisting that the attempt must be made to find a face-saving agreement with the Soviet Union on Afghanistan.

To the question whether he has had the slightest hint that Moscow would like to find a comfortable way to retreat, the Chancellor replies that, after all, it took almost a decade of apparently fruitless talks before the Russians accepted the Austrian treaty.

Contrasts in Mood

The mood now contrasts not only with the start of détente but, as noticeably, with the euphoria of Vienna just last summer, when President Carter embraced and kissed Leonid I. Brezhnev, the Soviet leader, after they signed the second strategic arms limitation treaty here.

"If we had known when we started planning the celebrations that the situation would be what it is now, we might have done things differently," an Austrian official confided in the midst of tense questioning about the Soviet-American meeting today. Still, there was a certain satisfaction that Vienna continues to provide a place where East and West can talk.

Mr. Muskie's stern speech startled other diplomats, not by its content, which they knew to be a clear statement of current American policy, but by its eschewal of obfuscation and subtle bowing to the protocol of a formal occasion. Mr. Gromyko was no more indulgent to the rococo traditions of Austrian diplomacy, but his country's policy at the moment requires only declarations of peaceful intent and demands for disarmament.

"It was tough, wasn't it?" a member of the American delegation said after Mr. Muskie spoke. "The man standing next to me didn't like it." He was asked who had been standing next to him. He laughed. It was Anatoly F. Dobrynin, the Soviet Ambassador to Washington, here to join Mr. Gromyko in the first high-level Soviet-American meeting since the intervention in Afghanistan.

C.I.A. Link to Molotov Denied

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 16 — A former Central Intelligence official who was in charge of the agency's Soviet division in the late 1950's and early 1960's said tonight that the attempt to get in contact with Vyacheslav M. Molotov was made by the Time-Life bureau in Vienna in 1960 "with knowledge of the C.I.A." The aim was to buy his memoirs.

"A pass was made at him, but not by the agency," the former official related. "The agency was not spending money on it."

The former official, who asked not to be identified, said that the late Charles Katek, who was the C.I.A. station chief in Vienna at the time, was aware of the Time-Life approach to Mr. Molotov, seeking his memoirs. "Katek was buddy-buddy with a lot of newspaper people," he said.

Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2010/07/22 : CIA-RDP90-00552R000404030062-4