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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO: BELGRADE, MONTREAL, ROME, TRIESTE, ZAGREB

FROM : Ambassador Vienna

DATE: November 7, 1967

SUBJECT: whereabouts of Non-American Citizen  
Krunoslav Draganovic

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2001 2008

REF : EWK  
CR-3457 November 7, 1967

(BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED)

The following is a summary of press information on the case of Dr. Krunoslav Draganovic.

1. Vienna Press Charges Austrian Citizen Kidnapped. In late October and early November the Vienna press (principally Die Presse) reported the mid-September disappearance of Dr. Krunoslav Draganovic after he boarded a train in Rome for Vienna but never arrived here. He was reportedly an Austrian citizen and the chaplain of a convent at Pressbaum, near Vienna. The press speculated that he made a stopover in Trieste to interview people in connection with a book he was writing which would describe killings of Croats by Serbians during World War II. The press also speculated that he was abducted during the Trieste stopover and taken to Yugoslavia against his will. At least one of the sources for the kidnapping story is apparently a Dr. Branimir Jelic, a Berlin physician and chairman of the "Croatian National Committee" who has charged that Draganovic was abducted by a "specialist in political kidnapping," one Zivo Ribicu, who "had also abducted West Berlin anti-Communist Walter Huse to East Berlin."

2. Yugoslavs Admit Draganovic in Yugoslavia. On November 11, the semi-official Wiener Zeitung reported that at a press conference in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia, Deputy Attorney General Vladimir Zugic disclosed Draganovic's presence in Yugoslavia and said he was charged with offenses

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)  
(2)(A) Privacy   
(2)(B) Methods/Sources   
(2)(G) Foreign Relations

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Mr. Irving

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

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under paragraph 118 of the Criminal Code of Yugoslavia of "disseminating enemy propaganda." The Yugoslav Deputy Attorney General also said that investigation of the case "had begun," but Draganovic was "at large" (i.e. presumably not in prison). Die Presse of November 13 refers to assertions by unnamed "Belgrade sources" that Draganovic came voluntarily to Yugoslavia and that there is "every possibility he will be amnestied under a 1962 amnesty law, even though he is still on the Yugoslav War Criminals List." These sources were quoted as saying that "he will be produced soon at a press conference."

3. Austrian Official Interest. On November 14 Die Presse reported that Foreign Minister Toncic had stated the day before that "...a member of (our) Embassy in Belgrade has been instructed to enter into contact with Draganovic."

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Comment: An official of the Austrian Foreign Ministry told the Embassy that Draganovic did hold Austrian citizenship but was probably a dual national. Because of the conflict in the stories (that he was kidnapped and that he went voluntarily) the Foreign Ministry has instructed the Embassy in Belgrade to attempt to contact Draganovic personally to ascertain whether or not his presence in Yugoslavia is voluntary.

MACARTHUR

*Just for*

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