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TEXT

TAGS: PGOV, PREL, YO, IS, AU, WJC
SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV-ISRAELI RELATIONS, WALDHEIM ISSUE:
- COMMENTS BY PRESIDENT OF SOCIALIST ALLIANCE

REF: BELGRADE 6983

1. C-ENTIRE TEXT.

2. ON JULY 17, THE AMBASSADOR PAID A CALL ON THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL CONFERENCE OF THE SOCIALIST ALLIANCE OF WORKING PEOPLE OF YUGOSLAVIA (SAWPY), MILOJKO DRULOVIC. DRULOVIC, A SERB, TOOK OVER THE LEADERSHIP OF SAWPY (YUGOSLAVIA'S UMBRELLA POLITICAL ORGANIZATION) IN MAY, IN THE ANNUAL ROTATION OF GOVERNMENT AND OTHER OFFICIALS. DRULOVIC SERVED PREVIOUSLY, INTER ALIA, AS YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR TO CHINA (MID-1970'S) AND TO THE SOVIET UNION (MID-1980'S) AND SO IS WELL QUALIFIED TO COMMENT ON FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES. AMBASSADOR SCANLAN ELICITED FROM HIM A NUMBER OF INTERESTING REMARKS ON YUGOSLAV RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL (BELOW) AND WITH THE SOVIET UNION (SEPTTEL).

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3. AS REPORTED REFTEL, THE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS (WJC) JUST COMPLETED A VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA, FOR WHICH SAWPY SERVED AS HOST. IN RESPONSE TO THE AMBASSADOR'S INQUIRIES ABOUT THE VISIT, DRULOVIC REPORTED THAT HE TOLD WJC PRESIDENT EDGAR BRONFMAN THAT THERE IS NO PROBLEM IN YUGOSLAVIA AS FAR AS ANTI-SEMITISM IS CONCERNED. HOWEVER, YUGOSLAVIA DOES HAVE A PROBLEM WITH ISRAEL'S "GENDARME" ACTIVITIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST. ISRAEL SHOULD RE-THINK ITS FUTURE IN THIS REGARD. DRULOVIC AFFIRMED THAT ISRAEL SHOULD HAVE A "GUARANTEE" OF ITS SECURITY--THAT IS ONLY REASONABLE. BUT YUGOSLAVIA CANNOT CONDONE THE TAKING OF FOREIGN TERRITORY BY ISRAEL OR ANY OTHER COUNTRY. THAT WOULD LEAVE YUGOSLAVIA ITSELF OPEN TO THREATS TO ITS OWN TERRITORY. HE TOLD BRONFMAN THAT ISRAEL SHOULD ALSO GUARANTEE THE RIGHTS OF PALESTINIANS ON ITS TERRITORY.

4. ACCORDING TO DRULOVIC, WHEN BRONFMAN SPOKE OF THE FUTURE OF YUGOSLAV-ISRAELI RELATIONS, HE MENTIONED THE ADVANTAGES OF THE TECHNOLOGY AND KNOW-HOW THAT ISRAEL COULD MAKE AVAILABLE TO YUGOSLAVIA. DRULOVIC TOLD BRONFMAN THAT YUGOSLAVIA NEEDS MONEY MORE THAN TECHNOLOGY.

5. DRULOVIC STATED THAT HE AND BRONFMAN ALSO DISCUSSED THE MATTER OF AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT **KURT WALDHEIM**. IN DRULOVIC'S VIEW, THE CONTROVERSY SURROUNDING WALDHEIM'S WARTIME RECORD CONTRIBUTED TO HIS ELECTION AS PRESIDENT, AND HE SAID THAT BRONFMAN ACKNOWLEDGED THIS AS WELL. DRULOVIC TOLD BRONFMAN THAT YUGOSLAVIA MUST TREAT THE WALDHEIM MATTER CAREFULLY AND IN A "SPORTSMAN-LIKE" WAY. AUSTRIA IS A NEIGHBORING COUNTRY WITH WHICH YUGOSLAVIA HAS GOOD, BROAD-BASED RELATIONS AND, LIKE YUGOSLAVIA, IT IS NON-ALIGNED. YUGOSLAVIA WANTS THEREFORE TO RESPECT AUSTRIA'S SENSIBILITIES. AT THE SAME TIME, HE SAID, EVERYONE KNOWS THE WALDHEIM STORY BY NOW--MANY PEOPLE KNEW IT ALL ALONG--SO NOTHING SHOULD BE HIDDEN ABOUT IT.

6. ACCOMPANYING THE AMBASSADOR OUT OF THE OFFICE A FEW MOMENTS LATER, DRULOVIC DREW HIM ASIDE TO MAKE THE POINT THAT YUGOSLAVIA COULD NOT ACCEPT POLITICALLY A VISIT BY WALDHEIM. HE DID NOT SUGGEST THAT AUSTRIA HAD RAISED THE QUESTION, BUT MADE IT CLEAR THAT YUGOSLAVIA WOULD QUIETLY DEFLECT THE ISSUE IF IT SHOULD ARISE.

SCANLAN

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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