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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

**INFORMATION REPORT**

CD NO.

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DATE DISTR. **13 June 1949**

SUBJECT **USIA Discontinuance of Trade with Yugoslav Purchasing Commission in Austria**

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1. On 3 June 1949, a representative of the Yugoslav Purchasing Commission in Vienna was informed by Shevchenko, chief of the USIA Central Commercial Bureau, that Tikhonirov, USIA General Director, had ordered all transactions with the Yugoslavs to be stopped immediately. Shevchenko stated that the order applied only to the Yugoslav Purchasing Commission; trade with other foreign commercial representatives was to continue. The source interprets this USIA directive as the application of economic sanctions by the Soviet authorities in Austria in line with the anti-Tito Cominform policy.
2. After two weeks' delay, on 3 June 1949 Shevchenko provided a transport permit for the shipment to Yugoslavia of 500 steel rails, which were awaiting loading at the Danube dockside. Shevchenko informed the Yugoslav representative that this is the last transport permit to be issued to them by the Soviets.
3. During the first week of June, the Yugoslav Purchasing Commission received 100 tons of sheet iron from Schmidmette Krems. The Yugoslavs obtained a transport permit for this order in April, and do not expect the shipment of the 150 tons still outstanding to be stopped by Tikhonirov's orders.

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