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1819FILE No. **EN** U 18/6 (Part)

TITLE:

ANNIVERSARIES AND CELEBRATIONS IN YUGOSLAVIA

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REFER TO

NAME
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SEE:

DATE

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DATE

R.
Mr Sparrow

12

18/5

Mr Sparrow

5/6

Mr Sparrow

19-21

13/6

Mr Burns

23

FCO 28/2155

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FILE No. **EN** U 18/6

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37

Mr Bullard

cc Chancery,
Belgrade

1. Mr Ristic, Counsellor for Consular Affairs at the Yugoslav Embassy, called on me on 7 December to make a complaint about articles in the Birmingham press which had described him and his staff as agents for the Yugoslav Secret Police. He also wished to complain about picketing which had occurred outside a Yugoslav National Day celebration which he had organised in Bradford.
2. I made the usual reply to the first point noting that the press reports included the statements of the Yugoslav Embassy and adding that we did what we could in attributable and unattributable briefing to keep the press on the right lines.
3. As regards the second, I said that police powers were limited but I was glad to hear from him that the local force had adopted a cooperative attitude. If he were to anticipate serious difficulties on some future occasion I would be willing to contact the Home Office and ask them to request the local police force to provide any extra assistance that might be required.
4. Mr Ristic's protests were chiefly for the record as is this minute.

LAST PAPER

A F Green
EESD

8 December, 1972

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REGISTRY NO. 15
ENV 13/2
ENV 15/6

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DD897261 230443 500M 5/72 GM 3643/2

Private Secretary

c.c. Mr Goulding

YUGOSLAV NATIONAL DAY ON 29 NOVEMBER

1. The Secretary of State has kindly agreed to make an appearance at the Yugoslav reception at noon on 29 November.
2. There are no special points which the Secretary of State need be asked to make.
3. The following are some possible topics of conversation:-
 - (a) congratulations to the Yugoslav Ambassador, Mr Vidic, on the GCVO, which he was awarded in connection with the State Visit;
 - (b) our pleasure at the success of the State Visit;
 - (c) we welcome the forthcoming visit of the President of the Yugoslav Federal Assembly as the guest of the Speaker. (Mr Todorovic is due to call on the Secretary of State on 11 December.)
 - (d) Mr Vidic has already called on Mr Amery, who naturally takes a very personal interest in Yugoslav affairs.
4. I attach a personality note on Mr Vidic.

pa

27 November 1972

J L Bullard
Eastern European and
Soviet Department



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London S.W.1

The Right Honourable Sir Alec Douglas-
Home thanks His Excellency The Yugoslav
Ambassador for his kind invitation to a
Reception on Wednesday, 29 November on the
occasion of The Yugoslav National Day and
has much pleasure in accepting.

20 November, 1972.



(24)

all right

Sec (25)

DT

Mr Bullard
Private Secretary

c.c. Mr Goulding
Mr Daunt
Sir T Brimelow

1. Accepted 28/11
2. ✓ 28/11
3. ✓ 28/11
B 10/27/11
Jul 17/11.

PROBLEM

Flag A 1. The Secretary of State has been invited to attend the Yugoslav National Day at noon on Wednesday, 29 November.

BACKGROUND

2. The Yugoslavs were naturally disappointed that the coincidence of the summit meeting prevented the Secretary of State from accompanying The Queen on Her State Visit to Yugoslavia. It would therefore be particularly appropriate and a valuable demonstration of our wish to maintain the momentum created by the State Visit, if the Secretary of State could agree to attend Yugoslavia's National Day this year. He was unable to go in 1970 and 1971.

RECOMMENDATION

3. I therefore recommend that the Secretary of State should attend if his other engagements allow.

A F Green
Eastern European and Soviet
Department

14 November, 1972

I am afraid that after the State Visit the Yugoslav Ambassador (now G.E.V.V.) will be expecting the Secretary of State to come to this. I hope it may prove possible, but I hope that Mr Amery will definitely go in any case.

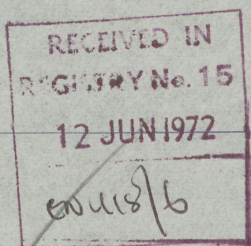
JBullard
14/11

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23



British Embassy
SOFIA



R.A. Burns, Esq.,
E.E.S.D.
F.C.O.

Your reference

Our reference 3/1

Date 1 June 1972

Dear Andrew, Inter
TITO'S EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY

1. We noted with interest the award, which was reported in the Bulgarian press, of the Order of Lenin by the Soviet Union to Tito on his eightieth birthday (Moscow telno 767 of 25 May). We wondered if the Bulgarians might make a similar gesture. In the event they have not done so, but Zhivkov did send a warm message of greetings. The leading papers also carried Tito's biography. (17)

2. Zhivkov's message to Tito was not published in some papers until 26 May (Rabotnichesko Delo 25 May) when it appeared next to a birthday greeting to Kadar (all papers 26 May). A comparison between the two messages reveals that while the one addressed to Kadar is much shorter it is also couched in more intimate terms. The language of the message to Tito is polite, respectful but official.

3. In his message to Tito, Zhivkov said that Bulgaria was "truly happy at the successes and achievements of the fraternal Yugoslav people" and "highly esteems your (Tito's) personal contribution to the development of friendly relations" between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia, expressing hope that these will be strengthened and developed in the interests of the two nations, of peace and of socialism. The published biography, paying warm tribute to Tito as a fighter against imperialism and colonialism, makes much the same points, referring in particular to the feeling of friendship and the desire to expand bilateral relations which were expressed during Tito's two visits to Bulgaria.

*Yours ever
Philip*

P J Priestley *—*

Pa

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F.C.O.

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5 JUN 1972

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PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T171/72

paed

cc RRS

R2/6

Proc
7/6

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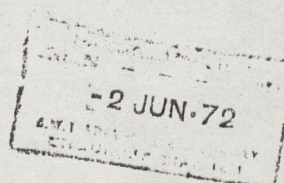
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ETATPRIORITY

THE RT- HON. EDWARD HEATH PRIME MINISTER
OF GREAT BRITAIN
LONDON



W WARMLY THANK YOU FOR CORDIAL CONGRATULATIONS AND SINCERE
GOOD WISHES YOU SENT ME ON BEHALF OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT
AND IN YOUR OWN NAME ON THE OCCASION OF MY 80TH ANNIVERSARY
JOSIP BROZ TITO

COL ETATPRIORITY 80TH

paed

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(21)

BRITISH EMBASSY

BELGRADE

26 May 1972

ptt.

B Sparrow Esq
EE & SD
FCO
London SW 1

R 2/6.

~~Mr Bullard~~ to see
J 2/6.

cc. Private Secretary
PCD (Mr Magall)

Dear Bryan

TITO'S BIRTHDAY: MESSAGES

1. Both the messages which you arranged to have sent on the occasion of Tito's birthday got good publicity, both in the newspapers and on T.V. and radio. The Queen's message was amongst the first batch to be published in full in the press and that from the PM appeared first in a long recital of messages from all over the world in this morning's Politika.

2. I do not know that we can attach any great significance to it being at the head of the list but I must say it looked and read very well there. It was a great help to us that you were able to get this message and that from the Queen.

Yours
B.4

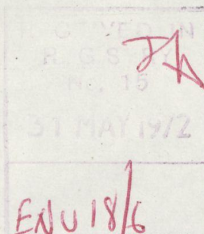
W Bentley

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EN CLAIR

FM BELGRADE 261115Z

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20

TO PRIORITY FCO TEL NO 178 OF 26 MAY 1972 RFI PRIORITY
TO MOSCOW ROUTINE TO SOFIA BUCHAREST WASHINGTON UKDEL NATO.
TITOS 80 TH BIRTHDAY. 1. THE SOVIET AWARD AND THE MESSAGE
FROM BREZHNEV, PODGORNYY AND KOSYGIN HAVE BOTH BEEN PUBLICISED
HERE BUT WITH NO UNDUE PROMINENCE. AS REPORTED HERE THE
COMMENT OF THE YUGOSLAV PRESIDENCY ON TITOS FORTHCOMING
VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION WAS THAT IT WILL REPRESENT A
NEW SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT
OF EQUAL FRIENDLY COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.
THIS EMPHASIS ON EQUALITY AND INDEPENDENCE HAS, AS USUAL
FOUND ITS PLACE IN ALL YUGOSLAV PRESS COMMENT ABOUT THE
VISIT. 2. IN A LONG BIRTHDAY EVE TELEVISION INTERVIEW ABOUT
HIS PAST CAREER (FULLER ACCOUNT BY BAG, NOT TO ALL) TITO SPOKE
A GOOD DEAL ABOUT RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION. HE
MENTIONED MORE THAN ONCE HIS LOVE OF THE RUSSIAN PEOPLE
AND REGARD FOR THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE OCTOBER REVOLUTION
BUT HE ALSO REPEATEDLY LAID STRESS ON YUGOSLAVIA'S RIGHT
TO INDEPENDENT DEVELOPMENT AND HER DETERMINATION TO STRIVE FOR
RELATIONS OF EQUALITY WITH THE SOVIET UNION, SUCH AS SOCIALIST
DEVELOPMENT REQUIRES.

STEWART

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Pa

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BRITISH EMBASSY

BELGRADE

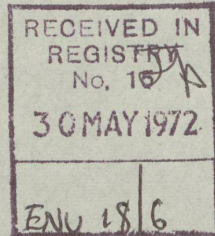
25 May 1972

(19)

pa 88

1/2

B Sparrow Esq
EE & SD
FCO
London SW1



See (20)

Dear Bryan,

TITO ON TELEVISION

1. As part of this week's celebrations of Tito's 80th birthday and of the 35th anniversary of his stewardship of the LCY he was interviewed on television recently for an hour and a half by the Director-General of RTV Belgrade (Zdravko Vuković). Any doubts as to his vigour and fitness were dispelled by a performance excelling that reported in Bill Bentley's letter 1/2 of 19 April. ENU 1/6

2. In reminiscent mood he was gently led by the interviewer (no Robin Day approach) over some of the events of his long life as a revolutionary since his days in Omsk at the time of the October Revolution. The course of his pre-war career in the CPY was lightly sketched in with acknowledgment of his part in the struggle against the factions plaguing the Party, culminating in his appointment as Secretary-General in 1937 in Moscow (replacing the liquidated Gorkić). Reference was made to his efforts to persuade the Comintern to allow the CPY leadership to return to Yugoslavia, to the years of "gradual preparation" (1939-41 when the Party was opposed to the war) and to the decision on 4 July 1941 (three months after the German invasion of Yugoslavia and twelve days after the attack on the Soviet Union) to go on to the offensive.

3. On reflection he saw his unsuccessful attempts to come to an understanding with the Chetnik Mihailović were the result of the class struggle between the bourgeoisie on the side of the occupier and the Party on that of the people. The break with the Cominform in 1948 was deeper than a shock to him since he loved the Russian people and had been greatly involved in the life of their country. Nevertheless he was realist enough to refuse Stalin's invitation to go to Kiev for talks from which he would not have returned alive. Relations with the Soviet Union should be marked by equality despite the disparity of size between the two countries and no-one should ever be someone else's satellite.

/4.

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4. His remarks on the LCY were standard, repeating the view that it should be active in all spheres as a guiding factor and that it be reorganised into smaller basic units. Parting with comrades who had died was hard for him while for those who had been in conflict with the Party line, his feelings were more of sorrow than of anger. Recent Croatian events may well have been in his mind, but taking a longer historical view he may have remembered earlier defections.

Diden.

5. Although non-alignment, at present in the doldrums with many of its adherents too preoccupied with their own interests, did not command much enthusiasm among some big powers it could not be ignored and could play an even more important role.

6. Optimistic about the future of Yugoslavia, he also foresaw man's destiny as a search for social change, learning from the experiences of those who have already achieved successes. His message to the young generation was to appreciate the achievements of their elders and develop those of the revolution.

7. In all, as a television programme of Tito at his most relaxed and enjoying himself, the interview rated well and provided the viewer with some small glimpse of incidents in a life led to the full and still going strong. He spoke with a candour unusual in a statesman still active in affairs. The JTS (6248) made a selective translation of the second more interesting part of the interview. If you have time it is worth reading in full.

*Your ever
P Rennie*

P Rennie

Copy to: K H M Duke Esq
EE Section
Research Dept
FCO

R Howard-Gordon Esq
IRD
FCO

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CYPHER CAT A

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18

FM MOSCOW 251100Z

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TO PRIORITY FCO TEL NO 768 OF 25 MAY 1972.
INFO PRIORITY TO BELGRADE, ROUTINE TO SOFIA, BUCHAREST
WASHINGTON AND UKDEL NATO.

M.I.P.T.: TITO.

17

1. WITH TITO'S MOSCOW VISIT SO CLOSE, THE RUSSIANS COULD HARDLY HAVE LET HIS BIRTHDAY PASS WITHOUT MARKING IT IN SOME WAY. THEIR FRIENDLY GESTURE IS ALSO NO DOUBT INTENDED TO INDICATE THEIR SERIOUS INTEREST IN FURTHER DEVELOPING THE IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS WHICH HAS BEEN APPARENT SINCE BREZHNEV'S VISIT. MOREOVER THE RUSSIANS EVIDENTLY ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO CLOSING RANKS IN EASTERN EUROPE AS A CESC APPROACHES.

KILLICK.

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Pa

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(17)

See (18) (203)

TO PRIORITY FCO TEL NO 767 OF 25 MAY 1972.
INFO PRIORITY BELGRADE, ROUTINE SOFIA, BUCHAREST, WASHINGTON
AND UKDEL NATO.

TITO'S EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY.

1. TODAY'S PRAVDA PUBLISHES A DECREE OF THE SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDUM AWARDING THE ORDER OF LENIN TO TITO ON THE OCCASION OF HIS EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY. THE DECREE NOTES HIS SERVICES IN THE JOINT STRUGGLE AGAINST FACISM, HIS CONTRIBUTION TO STRENGTHENING AND DEVELOPING FRIENDSHIP AND ALL-ROUND RELATIONS BETWEEN THE SOVIET AND YUGOSLAV PEOPLES, AND HIS ACTIVE PART IN THE STRUGGLE FOR PEACE AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

2. A MESSAGE FROM BREZHNEV, PODGORNYY AND KOSYGIN DESCRIBES TITO, INTER ALIA, AS THE OUTSTANDING LEADER OF THE YUGOSLAV WORKING PEOPLE AND A PROMINENT FIGURE IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' MOVEMENT, AND RECALLS HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE GREAT OCTOBER SOCIALIST REVOLUTION. IT EXPRESSES CONFIDENCE THAT THE FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND ALL-ROUND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE USSR AND YUGOSLAVIA WILL CONTINUE TO DEVELOP.

3. A TASS DESPATCH FROM BELGRADE IN TODAY'S PRAVDA NOTES THAT CONFIDENCE HAD BEEN EXPRESSED AT A MEETING OF THE PRESIDUM OF THE FEDERAL ASSEMBLY THAT TITO'S VISIT TO THE USSR WOULD MAKE A NEW, CONSIDERABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

4. SEE M.I.F.T. *Pa*

KILLICK.

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office
London SW1A 2AH

16

UNCLASSIFIED Telephone 01-

pu R

P E Rosling Esq
BELGRADE

Your reference

Our reference
BPE 11/329/1

Date

11 May 1972

MESSAGE FOR VJESNIK

① 1. You will probably not be surprised to hear that following your telephone conversation with me last week, such enthusiasm as there was for putting up a submission based on your letter of 27 April underwent a sudden deflation and, as things now stand, I am afraid no-one is willing to take the matter further.

Dep.

R.

11/5

R E Jones
Guidance and
Information Policy
Department

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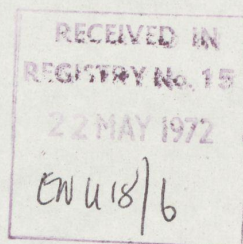
TO PRIORITY FCO TELNO 172 OF 19 MAY
YOUR TELS NOS 131 AND 134: PRESIDENT'S BIRTHDAY
FOLLOWING FOR BULLARD.

See (76)

1. VERY MANY THANKS: THIS PUTS US IN REALLY GOOD SHAPE.
2. IN THE LIGHT OF THIS I WOULD SEE NO PROBLEM ABOUT DROPPING THE IDEA OF A MESSAGE TO VJESNIK (ROSLING'S LETTER 18/6 OF 27 APRIL TO JONES) UNLESS IT HAS ALREADY BEEN AGREED.

STEWART

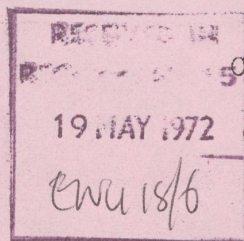
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per. 22/5

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See (15)

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TO IMMEDIATE BELGRADE TELEGRAM NUMBER 134 OF 18 MAY.

YOUR TELEGRAM NUMBER 161: PRESIDENT TITO'S BIRTHDAY. (7)

1. PLEASE CONVEY THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT ON 25 MAY FROM THE PRIME MINISTER. BEGINS:

"I SEND YOU THE WARM CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD WISHES OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT ON YOUR 80TH BIRTHDAY. YOUR HISTORIC ACHIEVEMENTS FOR YUGOSLAVIA, IN WAR AND PEACE, AND THE DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTION WHICH YOU HAVE MADE TO INTERNATIONAL LIFE, ARE WIDELY RECOGNISED IN THIS COUNTRY WHERE YOU ARE HELD IN VERY HIGH REGARD. I RECALL WITH PLEASURE THE VISITS WHICH YOU HAVE MADE TO BRITAIN, AND MOST RECENTLY MY CONVERATIONS WITH YOU AT CHEQUERS LAST YEAR. I ASK YOU TO ACCEPT THIS EXPRESSION OF BRITISH ADMIRATION AND RESPECT ON YOUR NOTABLE ANNIVERSARY". ENDS. (13)

2. THE PRIME MINISTER HAS AGREED ALSO TO SEND TWO CASES OF CHIVAS REGAL FOR THE PRESIDENT WHICH WE WILL DESPATCH BY THE QUEEN'S MESSENGER LEAVING THIS WEEKEND.

DOUGLAS-HOME

Pa

FILES
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P & C D
COMMS D
SIR T BRIMELOW

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13



10 Downing Street
Whitehall

See (17)

16 May 1972 Draft Tel.
press 18/5
E.F.S.
Hand
12/5

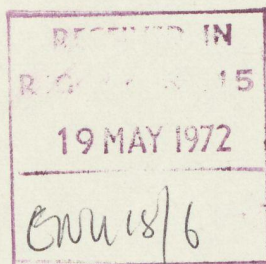
Dear Michael,

cc. Sir T. Brownlow

Thank you for your letter of 12 May
about President Tito's 80th birthday. (n)

The Prime Minister agrees to send a message of congratulation and I attach a text which he has approved. He also agrees that it would be appropriate for him to send two cases of Chivas Regal whiskey, and I have asked Protocol and Conference Department if they could make the necessary arrangements on the Prime Minister's behalf.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Peggy Metcalfe.



Yours etc.

Tom Bridges

M.O'D.B. Alexander, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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DRAFT MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT TITO ON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

I send you the warm congratulations and good wishes of the British Government on your 80th birthday. Your historic achievements for Yugoslavia, in war and peace, and the distinguished contribution which you have made to international life, are widely recognised in this country where you are held in very high regard. I recall with pleasure the visits which you have made to Britain, and most recently my conversations with you at Chequers last year. I ask you to accept this expression of British admiration and respect on your notable anniversary.

EESO.

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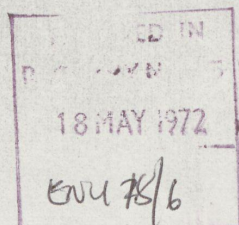
(12)



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London S.W.1

12 May, 1972



per 18.
See (13)

You enquired what was being done to mark President Tito's 80th birthday on 25 May.

The Queen has agreed to send a message of congratulations to President Tito through HM Ambassador at Belgrade.

There can be no doubt that a similar message from the Prime Minister would be genuinely welcome in Belgrade. The Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary hopes that the Prime Minister will feel able to do this. A message would of course be particularly appropriate in view of the Prime Minister's meeting with President Tito in November last year, and the fact that the Prime Minister may not be able to take up President Tito's invitation to him to visit Yugoslavia this ... year. I enclose a possible draft.

(5) (7) You should by now have seen HM Ambassador's telegrams nos. 160 and 161 from Belgrade (copies enclosed for convenience) reporting that several West European Heads of State are proposing to send President Tito a present. Many other Heads of State or Government are likely to follow suit. We suggested to the Palace that The Queen might care to send President Tito a present, but it was felt that this would not be appropriate. In these circumstances, we would see great advantage if the Prime Minister were able to send a present. It would undoubtedly be much appreciated in Belgrade. HM Ambassador's suggestion - a couple of cases of President Tito's favourite Scotch whiskey (Chivas Regal) - would be entirely suitable but you may have some other suggestion. If the Prime Minister agreed, we would hope so to arrange matters that the gift was delivered to President Tito at the same time as the message.

(Sgd) P. H. Grattan

Lord Bridges,
10 Downing Street.

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

DRAFT MESSAGE

In the name of Her Majesty's Government and of the British people I send you warmest congratulations and good wishes on the occasion of your 80th birthday. You know the high regard in which you are held in this country. This regard has in no way diminished with the passing of the years, and it was with particular pleasure that we welcomed you in London last year. I cannot therefore allow this occasion to pass without adding our good wishes to the many messages of congratulations which you will be receiving from all over the world.

I recall with great pleasure our meeting last November and am only sorry it has so far not been possible for me to take up your kind invitation to visit your country. I hope however that it will be possible to find a suitable opportunity before too very long.

IMMEDIATE

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CYPHER CAT A

M BELGRADE 101315Z

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TO IMMEDIATE FCO TELNO 160 OF 10 MAY

BELGRADE TELNO 156; PRESENTS FOR TITO'S 80TH BIRTHDAY

1. I AM SORRY TO SAY THAT THIS IS DEVELOPING AS PREDICTED BY HM CHARGE D'AFFAIRES.

2. AS RECENTLY AS THREE WEEKS AGO WESTERN AMBASSADORS HERE WERE AGREED THAT THEY WOULD NOT RECOMMEND PRESENTS FROM THEIR HEADS OF STATE SINCE THERE HAD BEEN SUFFICIENT INDICATIONS FROM TITO'S STAFF THAT THE BIRTHDAY WAS TO BE TREATED AS A YUGOSLAV AID NOT AN INTERNATIONAL EVENT. BUT THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR BROKE RANKS AND PERSUADED HIS PRESIDENT TO SEND A PRESENT. THIS IS TO BE 80 BOTTLES OF WINE - HIGHLY INAPPROPRIATE SINCE TITO LONG AGO GAVE UP WINE FOR SCOTCH WHISKY BUT UNFORTUNATELY ENOUGH TO SET THE BANDWAGON ROLLING. THE SWISS HAVE CONFIRMED THAT THEIR PRESIDENT IS GIVING A PLATINUM WATCH. ALL OTHER WESTERN EUROPEAN AMBASSADORS TOGETHER WITH THE AUSTRALIANS AND CANADIANS HAVE NOW RECOMMENDED PRESENTS AND ARE CONFIDENT THAT THEIR HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENTS WILL SEND THEM. THE US AMBASSADOR HAS SO FAR ONLY WARNED HIS GOVERNMENT THAT IT WILL PROBABLY BE NECESSARY TO FOLLOW SUIT.

3. IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES I AM BOUND TO RECOMMEND A BRITISH GIFT. AS YOU KNOW WE HAVE FALLEN WELL BEHIND OTHER WESTERN GOVERNMENTS IN A NUMBER OF OPERATIONS DESIGNED TO BRING AID AND COMFORT TO YUGOSLAVIA- THE LIST RANGES FROM INTERGOVERNMENTAL LOANS AND HIGH LEVEL VISITS TO GIFTS OF SMALLPOX VACCINE. THERE MAY HAVE BEEN GOOD REASONS FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL DECISION BUT THE CUMULATIVE EFFECT HAS BEEN TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF A SIGNIFICANT DECLINE OF BRITISH INTEREST IN YUGOSLAVIA. THIS IMPRESSION WILL BE FURTHER STRENGTHENED IF WE ARE ODD MAN OUT IN THE MATTER OF A PRESENT FOR TITO'S

BIRTHDAY, THE MORE SO SINCE OUR CONNECTIONS WITH HIM IN THE PAST WERE MUCH CLOSER AND MORE IMPORTANT THAN THOSE OF THE OTHER WESTERN GOVERNMENT WHO ARE NOW MAKING THE RUNNING HERE.

4. IF IT IS POSSIBLE FOR HM THE QUEEN TO SEND A GIFT I WOULD VENTURE TO RECOMMEND A PIECE OF SILVER. LOCAL KNOWLEDGE AND TASTE ARE SUCH THAT LATE VICTORIAN WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE THAN ANYTHING EARLIER AND MORE DISTINGUISHED.

/5.

CONFIDENTIAL

5. IF THAT IS NOT HER MAJESTY'S PRACTICE I HOPE THAT
THE PRIME MINISTER COULD AGREE TO SEND SOMETHING. A
COUPLE OF CASES OF TITO'S FAVOURITE SCOTCH (CHIVAS REGAL)
WOULD I AM SURE BE TAKEN AS A FRIENDLY PERSONAL
GESTURE.

STEWART

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TO IMMEDIATE FCO TELNO 161 OF 11TH MAY
YOUR TELNO 127: TITO'S BIRTHDAY

1. THIS CROSSED MY TELNO 160. I HAVE LITTLE TO ADD. MOST
HEADS OF MISSIONS WHO HAVE BEEN FORCED ON TO THIS BANDWAGON
HAVE HAD GREAT DIFFICULTY IN THINKING OF A NATIONAL PRODUCT
WHICH TITO MIGHT ACTUALLY USE AND HAS NOT BEEN GIVEN MANY TIMES
BEFORE AND SOME WHO HAVE HAD WHAT THEY THINK GOOD IDEAS ARE
RELUCTANT TO PASS THEM ON. THE FRENCH AND ITALIANS
ARE CERTAINLY CONFIDENT THAT THEIR PRESIDENTS WILL SEND PRESENTS..
THE BELGIANS ARE SENDING A SHOTGUN, THE AUSTRALIAN
AMBASSADOR THINKS HIS GOVERNMENT WILL SEND A PAINTING.

STEWART

FILES:

EESD

P & C D

SIR T. BRIMELOW

~~~~~

CONFIDENTIAL



RECEIVED IN  
REGISTRY  
No. 10  
16 MAY 1972  
EN 018/6

+ EN 026/1

Mr Mayall Protocol and Conference Dept

PRESIDENT TITO'S 80th BIRTHDAY

1. I understand from Mr Bullard that following your conversation with him today you are prepared to undertake to write to the Palace to see whether it will be possible for there to be some reference to the possibility of a visit by Her Majesty The Queen to Yugoslavia in 1973, to be included in Her Majesty's message to President Tito on the occasion of his 80th birthday. I attach a copy of the comment in this connection made by the Secretary of State on my submission of 1 May.


E/8

B Sparrow  
Eastern European and Soviet Dept

15 May, 1972

Pa



  
CONFIDENTIAL

Mr Mayall Protocol and Conference Dept

cc Mr Daunt  
Mr Renwick  
Private Office  
Sir T Brimelow

PRESIDENT TITO'S 80th BIRTHDAY

1. You will have seen HM Ambassador's telegram nos 160 and 161 from Belgrade recommending that since other West European Heads of State are proposing to send to President Tito a present on his birthday it would be most appropriate for Her Majesty The Queen to send President Tito a gift, possibly a piece of late Victorian silver. I entirely agree with Mr Stewart's suggestion and I hope that you will feel able to recommend accordingly to the Palace.
2. I am sending you separately a copy of this Department's submission about the possibility of a message and a present to President Tito from the Prime Minister.

Re

*R.A. Bullard*

pp J L Bullard  
Eastern European and Soviet Dept

12 May, 1972

Mr Bullard

1. I put to the Private Secretaries at the Palace your suggestion that The Queen might send President Tito a gift on his 80th birthday. Their reaction was categoric that The Queen would not wish to do this. She did not know Tito well, if at all, and would not normally send a present on such an occasion. She would, however, have no objection to sending a suitable message and we shall be discussing this later on with Sir Martin Charteris and the possibility of including a reference to a State Visit next year to Yugoslavia.

2. In the circumstances unless the Secretary of State feels very strongly about this, I suggest that the present

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/should



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Should come from the Prime Minister and only a message from  
The Queen.

*A L Mayall*

12 May 1972

A L Mayall  
Protocol and Conference Dept  
CH 403 MA 365


*Mr Spanton & free*

*We should accept this. Please follow up*

*PSM  
15/5*

CONFIDENTIAL



  
CONFIDENTIAL

(9)

Private Office

*Letter sent.*

See (10)

cc Mr Mayall P and C Dept  
Miss Makgill PCD  
Mr Rawlinson News Dept  
Sir T Brimelow  
Mr Daunt,  
Mr Renwick

PRESIDENT TITO'S 80th BIRTHDAY (25 MAY)

PROBLEM

1. What messages and/or presents should be sent to President Tito on his 80th birthday, which falls on 25 May.

BACKGROUND

2. This Department has agreed with HM Ambassador at Belgrade that it would be appropriate and most welcome to the Yugoslavs if a message to President Tito could be sent by Her Majesty The Queen. We have already sent a suggested text to Protocol and Conference Department.

(44)

3. It would be a very welcome additional gesture to the Yugoslavs if it were possible for the Prime Minister also to send his good wishes, preferably in the name of HMG and the British people. Lord Bridges has indicated on the telephone that this possibility is already being considered at No 10. A message from Mr Heath would be particularly appropriate in view of his meeting with President Tito last November and of the strong possibility that he may after all be unable to take up President Tito's invitation to him to visit Yugoslavia in 1972.

(5)

Flag A

4. HM Ambassador at Belgrade has reported in his telegrams nos. 160

(7)

Flag B

and 161 that several Western European Heads of State are now considering sending a present to President Tito. The President of West Germany is sending 80 bottles of wine, the Swiss President is sending a platinum watch and it seems likely that other West European and North American Heads of State or Government will follow suit. In such circumstances it is clear that a present from Her Majesty The Queen would be genuinely and particularly welcome. If this raises difficulties of

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/protocol,





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protocol, the present could go from the Prime Minister. If we did not send a present from either Her Majesty The Queen or Her Majesty's Government, I believe that this would be adversely regarded in Belgrade.

5. As to what form the present should take, HM Ambassador has suggested a piece of late Victorian silver as a suitable gift from Her Majesty; or a couple of cases of President Tito's favourite Scotch whiskey (Chivas Regal) if the gift is to come from the Prime Minister.

RECOMMENDATION

6. I attach a draft letter to No 10.

*R.A. Evans*

*11* J L Bullard  
Eastern European and Soviet Dept

12 May, 1972

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

(885363) Dd. 896639 1,000M 8/71 SLS.

Registry  
No.

DRAFT

Submission

Type 1 +

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

Top Secret.  
Secret.  
Confidential.  
Restricted.  
Unclassified.

To:—

From

Telephone No. & Ext.

Department

PRIVACY MARKING

.....In Confidence

Mr Bullen  
Private  
Office.

Copy to  
Mr Mayall  
Mr Mackgill  
P.O.D.

The Prime Minister has asked what messages are being sent to President Tito on his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday (25 May).

2. It is hoped that a message will be sent from Her Majesty the Queen, about which a separate submission to P.O.D. has been made.

3. It would be a very welcome gesture to the Yugoslavs if it were possible for the Prime Minister also to send his good wishes. This would be particularly appropriate in view of the Prime Minister's ~~recent~~ meeting with President Tito last November, and in view of the unlikelihood of the Prime Minister being able to take up the invitation to visit Yugoslavia in the near future.

Hay A.

4. Our Embassy in Belgrade has reported that several West European governments are considering sending a present to President Tito.



If it is confirmed that these governments have decided to do this (confirmation has been sought from Belgrade), then it would certainly be appropriate for HMG to do the same.

5. I attach a draft letter to No 10.

Draft from P.S to Lord Bridges

I understood that the P.M. has expressed an interest in what is being done about President Tito's birthday.

2. We have recommended that HM. the Queen should send a message through the Ambassador. It would certainly be very well received in Belgrade if the P.M. were also able to send a message. This would be particularly appropriate in view of the P.M.'s recent meeting with President Tito and the fact that the P.M. will probably not be able to take up the invitation to visit Yugoslavia in the near future. In the hope that this idea will commend itself to the P.M. I enclose a draft message.

3. Our Embassy in Belgrade have reported that some governments are considering the possibility of <sup>also</sup> sending a present. We are seeking confirmation of the intentions of our major European partners, and if it appears that they have decided to do so, in this case I would

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

Registry  
No.

DRAFT

Type 1 +

## SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

Top Secret.  
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Restricted.  
Unclassified.

To:—

From

Telephone No. &amp; Ext.

Department

## PRIVACY MARKING

.....In Confidence

recommend that a small  
gift from HMG should be sent,  
perhaps to be delivered with the P.M.'s  
message.

Draft message

I recall with much pleasure  
our meeting last November and  
I am only sorry that pressure of  
work has <sup>so far</sup> prevented me from taking  
up your kind invitation to visit  
your country. ~~This is not to say that~~  
~~I am ~~not~~ looking~~

~~into~~ I am certainly anxious to  
find a suitable opportunity to do so,  
and I hope that ~~this matter can be~~  
~~kept under review~~ it will soon be  
possible to arrange this.

I am writing <sup>to express</sup> ~~congratulations~~  
my sincere personal ~~good wishes~~  
and those of my government to  
you on your 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. You will  
already know, I hope, of the high



regard in which you are held  
in my country, a regard with  
increases with the passing of the  
years, ~~and~~ I would not like ~~you~~  
~~to~~ this occasion to pass  
without sending you my <sup>own</sup> good  
wishes, and to assure you of those of  
the British people.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN





Mr Mayall

|                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| RECEIVED IN<br>REGISTRY No. 15<br>12 MAY 1972<br>CNU 26/1<br>+ CNU 18/6 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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*Mr. Bullard to see  
Mr. Burns (8)*

*See (11)*

*Tito's 80th birthday is now a major thing.  
Please speak urgently. Several things are  
involved: Queen's visit, Queen's message,  
P.M.'s message and possible present.*

*Sturges*

*10/5*

# ROYAL VISITS 1973

*lag A  
orig on CNU 3/524/2  
copy  
attached*

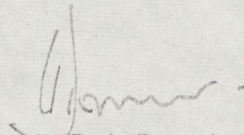
1 The Secretary of State has minuted on a submission about Yugoslavia that it would be nice to announce a visit on Tito's 80th birthday (25 May): he suggested that he might write to Sir M Charteris. If you agree, I suggest that the matter should be left until after the meeting on 12 May between the PUS, Sir B Trend and Mr Armstrong about Royal Visits in 1973. The Secretary of State has approved and we have proposed a State Visit by The Queen to Yugoslavia in 1973; it is one of four Royal Visits abroad recommended by us but the Prime Minister has asked whether we can give a rather greater European content to the programme. It seems unlikely that the Yugoslav proposal will fall by the wayside in consequence. But I doubt whether we can take this for granted or clear the Yugoslav proposal in advance of the meeting. I suggest that, at the meeting on 12 May, in pressing the case for a visit to Yugoslavia, the PUS should mention the Secretary of State's proposal. Assuming that the visit to Yugoslavia is agreeable to the Prime Minister, it could perhaps be agreed that the Secretary of State should be invited to write to Sir M Charteris on 15 or 16 May (in advance of the meeting of the Royal Visits Committee proper) seeking agreement to the Yugoslav visit in advance of approval being accorded to the whole 1973 programme. If there is likely to be difficulty over processing the whole matter in 10 days or so





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and objection to announcing a State Visit a year or more in advance, it might be proposed that news of The Queen's agreement to undertake the visit during 1973 should be incorporated in some message of congratulation, whether conveyed by HM Ambassador or not, sent to President Tito on 25 May. I gather from EESD that this sort of procedure would meet their requirements well and that no public announcement would be necessary.

  
T L A Daunt

9 May 1972

cc Private Secretary

EESD ✓

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL



Mr Bullard  
Sir T Brimelow  
Private Office  
YUGOSLAVIA

Secretary of State

If you agree, I suggest

1. letter to issue

P.V.S

2.

It would be nice the evening of Thursday.  
The Queen could 27 July, before going to the  
agree to a name on ... Hirsch.  
Titles for birthday a visit. Shall I  
to Yugoslavia 1973. Shall I  
write to her in ... 4/5.

Flag A

1. The Yugoslav Ambassador has written to ask whether the Secretary of State would accept an invitation to dinner on a date of his choosing in June or July.

2. I understand that the Secretary of State has not yet been able to accept such an invitation since the Ambassador arrived. The last such invitation was during the visit of the Yugoslav Deputy Foreign Minister <sup>in March</sup> last month.

3. The Yugoslav Ambassador is disappointed that we have been unable to be more forthcoming towards his country. This was made clear during Mr Vidić's call on Mr Godber on 20 April. This disappointment mainly relates to our inability to offer financial assistance or to agree to high level exchange visits. We have been aware of this dissatisfaction for some time and hope that it will soon be possible for contact to be re-established between Ministers concerned with economic affairs and with agriculture.

4. In these circumstances the Secretary of State's acceptance of this invitation would present a useful opportunity to show that we continue to be interested in Yugoslavia, and that we appreciate the special problems of her non-aligned position in

By and for now

Flag B



IMMEDIATE  
YPHER CAT A

CONFIDENTIAL

FM BELGRADE 110930Z

CONFIDENTIAL

TO IMMEDIATE FCO TELNO 161 OF 11TH MAY  
YOUR TELNO 127: TITO'S BIRTHDAY (6)

RECEIVED IN  
REGISTRY No. 15  
11 MAY 1972  
ENU 18/6

TOP COPY

See (12)

(14)

1. THIS CROSSED MY TELNO 160. I HAVE LITTLE TO ADD. MOST (5)  
HEADS OF MISSIONS WHO HAVE BEEN FORCED ON TO THIS BANDWAGON  
HAVE HAD GREAT DIFFICULTY IN THINKING OF A NATIONAL PRODUCT  
WHICH TITO MIGHT ACTUALLY USE AND HAS NOT BEEN GIVEN MANY TIMES  
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ARE CERTAINLY CONFIDENT THAT THEIR PRESIDENTS WILL SEND PRESENTS..  
THE BELGIANS ARE SENDING A SHOTGUN, THE AUSTRALIAN  
AMBASSADOR THINKS HIS GOVERNMENT WILL SEND A PAINTING.  
STEWART

FILES:

EESD  
P & C D  
SIR T. BRIMELOW

~~~~~

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IMMEDIATE
CYPHER/CAT A

CONFIDENTIAL

FM FCO 101710Z

(EN)

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DESKBY 110930Z

TO IMMEDIATE BELGRADE TELNO 127 OF 10 MAY.

6

TOP COPY

SEE 7

RECEIVED IN REGISTRY No. 15 11 MAY 1972 ENU 18/6

YOUR TELNO 156 OF 3 MAY: TITO'S BIRTHDAY. 4

1. THE QUESTION OF AN OFFICIAL BIRTHDAY PRESENT HAS FEW PRECEDENTS BUT WE ARE LOOKING INTO THIS MATTER. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE A FIRM STATEMENT OF THE INTENTIONS OF THE FRENCH, ITALIAN AND FEDERAL GERMAN GOVERNMENTS, ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THEY HAVE MADE UP THEIR MINDS.

DOUGLAS-HOME
FILES
EESD
P & C D
SIR T BRIMELOW

CONFIDENTIAL

pt

ALIAI

IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

Submission on (5)
12.

HER CAT A

FM BELGRADE 101315Z

CONFIDENTIAL

See (7) (12)

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 15
1. MAY 1972

TO IMMEDIATE FCO TELNO 160 OF 10 MAY

BELGRADE TELNO 156; PRESENTS FOR TITO'S 80TH BIRTHDAY (4)

1. I AM SORRY TO SAY THAT THIS IS DEVELOPING AS PREDICTED BY HM CHARGE D'AFFAIRES.

2. AS RECENTLY AS THREE WEEKS AGO WESTERN AMBASSADORS HERE WERE AGREED THAT THEY WOULD NOT RECOMMEND PRESENTS FROM THEIR HEADS OF STATE SINCE THERE HAD BEEN SUFFICIENT INDICATIONS FROM TITO'S STAFF THAT THE BIRTHDAY WAS TO BE TREATED AS A YUGOSLAV AND NOT AN INTERNATIONAL EVENT. BUT THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR BROKE RANKS AND PERSUADED HIS PRESIDENT TO SEND A PRESENT. THIS IS TO BE 80 BOTTLES OF WINE - HIGHLY INAPPROPRIATE SINCE TITO LONG AGO GAVE UP WINE FOR SCOTCH WHISKY BUT UNFORTUNATELY ENOUGH TO SET THE BANDWAGON ROLLING. THE SWISS HAVE CONFIRMED THAT THEIR PRESIDENT IS GIVING A PLATINUM WATCH. ALL OTHER WESTERN EUROPEAN AMBASSADORS TOGETHER WITH THE AUSTRALIANS AND CANADIANS HAVE NOW RECOMMENDED PRESENTS AND ARE CONFIDENT THAT THEIR HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENTS WILL SEND THEM. THE US AMBASSADOR HAS SO FAR ONLY WARNED HIS GOVERNMENT THAT IT WILL PROBABLY BE NECESSARY TO FOLLOW SUIT.

3. IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES I AM BOUND TO RECOMMEND A BRITISH GIFT. AS YOU KNOW WE HAVE FALLEN WELL BEHIND OTHER WESTERN GOVERNMENTS IN A NUMBER OF OPERATIONS DESIGNED TO BRING AID AND COMFORT TO YUGOSLAVIA- THE LIST RANGES FROM INTERGOVERNMENTAL LOANS AND HIGH LEVEL VISITS TO GIFTS OF SMALLPOX VACCINE. THERE MAY HAVE BEEN GOOD REASONS FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL DECISION BUT THE CUMULATIVE EFFECT HAS BEEN TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF A SIGNIFICANT DECLINE OF BRITISH INTEREST IN YUGOSLAVIA. THIS IMPRESSION WILL BE FURTHER STRENGTHENED IF WE ARE ODD MAN OUT IN THE MATTER OF A PRESENT FOR TITO'S

BIRTHDAY, THE MORE SO SINCE OUR CONNECTIONS WITH HIM IN THE PAST WERE MUCH CLOSER AND MORE IMPORTANT THAN THOSE OF THE OTHER WESTERN GOVERNMENT WHO ARE NOW MAKING THE RUNNING HERE.

4. IF IT IS POSSIBLE FOR HM THE QUEEN TO SEND A GIFT I WOULD VENTURE TO RECOMMEND A PIECE OF SILVER. LOCAL KNOWLEDGE AND TASTE ARE SUCH THAT LATE VICTORIAN WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE THAN ANYTHING EARLIER AND MORE DISTINGUISHED.

/5.

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5. IF THAT IS NOT HER MAJESTY'S PRACTICE I HOPE THAT
THE PRIME MINISTER COULD AGREE TO SEND SOMETHING. A
COUPLE OF CASES OF TITO'S FAVOURITE SCOTCH (CHIVAS REGAL)
WOULD I AM SURE BE TAKEN AS A FRIENDLY PERSONAL
GESTURE.

STEWART

FILES

EESD

PROT & CONF D

COPIES TO:

HDS OF MISSION SECTION

(LH) (S)

See (9)

Mr Mayall - Protocol & Conference Dept

cc: Mr Daunt
Sir T Brimelow

PRESIDENT TITO'S 80th BIRTHDAY

1. We discussed this on the telephone. On second thoughts I withdraw my suggestion that the message should be in The Queen's own hand. If it were possible for a slightly longer message, on the lines of the attached draft, to be delivered by our Ambassador in Belgrade, this would go down very well.

J L Bullard
E European & Soviet Dept

9 May 1972

CONFIDENTIAL

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

DRAFT MESSAGE

On the occasion of your 80th birthday I send to
Your Excellency my congratulations and sincere best
wishes for your continued good health and happiness
and also for the success and prosperity of your pro

Mr Sparrow
Passed on the
instruction of Mr. Stewart



K E H W I

With the compliments of

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH
OFFICE

HEADS OF MISSION SECTION

Mr Sparrow Draft to Relapense 12/8/51

I separated this from the
question of a ~~present~~^{message}. Please sound
PCD about presents, and the Private
Secretary also, LONDON, S.W.1
since this says Governments.

Burman 9/5

CYPHER

4

sin

see (4)

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 15
11 MAY 1972

PRIORITY

584-0491

Hds. of Liaison Sec. P.O. 2

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CYPHER CAT A

ADVANCE COPY

FM BELGRADE 031620Z

RESTRICTED

TO PRIORITY FCO TELNO 156 OF 3 MAY

FOLLOWING FOR AMBASSADOR

TITO'S BIRTHDAY

1. YOU INTENDED DISCUSSING THIS IN LONDON. I ALSO WROTE ON 27 APRIL TO SPARROW.
2. I NOW LEARN THAT SEVERAL WEST EUROPEAN COLLEAGUES ARE RECOMMENDING OFFICIAL PRESENTS, BEYOND THAT BEING ORGANISED BY DOYEN FROM THE CORPS. SWISS GOVERNMENT WILL PROBABLY GIVE

A WATCH AND FRENCH, WEST GERMAN AND AUSTRIAN ALL THINK IT LIKELY THEIR GOVERNMENTS WILL SEND PRESENTS. I THINK THIS THIS BANDWAGON MAY ROLL QUITE A LONG WAY.

BENTLEY

Mr Mayall, Protocol & Conference Department

cc: Sir T Brimelow
Mr Daunt

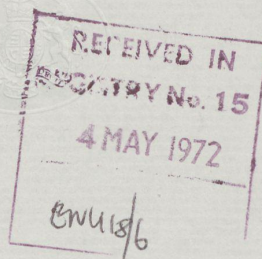
PRESIDENT TITO'S 80th BIRTHDAY

1. President Tito will be 80 on 25 May and we understand that the Yugoslavs are going to make quite an occasion of this event. When HM Ambassador in Belgrade was here for the Ambassadors' Conference last week he said it was known that messages of congratulation would be sent by the Heads of State of the EEC countries. It would clearly be unfortunate if Britain were seen to be absent from the list of congratulations.
2. Her Majesty the Queen saw President Tito in London last November, when she entertained him to luncheon. So far as I know, this meeting was a success. President Tito obviously will not be in Office much longer and since the Yugoslavs seem determined to make a major event of this birthday you may think it would be appropriate for Her Majesty to send a short message. I attach a draft; and suggest that in the rather exceptional circumstances this should be written in Her Majesty's own hand.
3. I suggest that a message would be appropriate whether or not the suggestion for a visit by Her Majesty to Yugoslavia in 1973 is favourably received.

Pa

J L Bullard
E European & Soviet Dept

4 May 1972



(12)
(3)

Mr Bullard

Private Office

PRESIDENT TITO'S 80th BIRTHDAY

- Flag A 1. The editor of the main Croat daily newspaper "Vjesnik" has approached our Embassy in Belgrade for the message from the Prime Minister which would appear in their edition of 25 May (the President's birthday). The Yugoslavs are determined to make President Tito's 80th birthday a major occasion and I am sure that it would do us a lot of good if it were possible for the Prime Minister to agree to send a short message. We know that the Yugoslavs are rather disappointed at the fact that the Prime Minister has not yet been able to accept an invitation to visit Yugoslavia and a message on this occasion would indicate our continuing interest in Yugoslavia.
2. We understand that the United States Embassy in Belgrade has recommended that President Nixon should send such a message, and provided that such a message is forthcoming from President Nixon or from our major European allies I would recommend that the Embassy be authorised to issue a message on the lines of the attached draft.
3. If it is not possible for the Prime Minister to send such a message I hope that the Secretary of State would consider whether it would be possible for him to do so instead. The Embassy would like to have such a message by 15th May to meet the newspaper's deadline.
4. I attach a draft letter to No 10.

Bryan Sparrow

B Sparrow
Eastern European and Soviet Dept

4 May, 1972

RESTRICTED



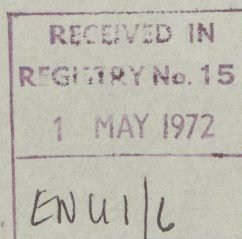
2

BRITISH EMBASSY

BELGRADE

27 April 1972

B Sparrow Esq
EE & SD
FCO
London
SW1



Enfer
Submission made
pa 284/5.

Dow Bryan

see (3)

TITO's 80th BIRTHDAY

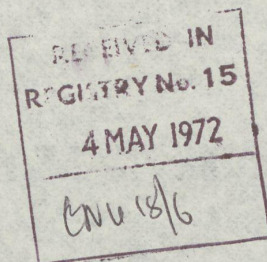
1. I think the Ambassador may well be mentioning this to you during his current visit to London. Just before I came back from leave Julian Bullard said he was thinking of trying to get a message of birthday greetings from the Queen. After all sorts of rumours about the sort of foreign dignitary who might be invited to the birthday celebrations here it now looks as if they will be kept within the Yugoslav family. I understand Tito said as much the other week to the US Ambassador.

2. It looks therefore as if messages at the highest level will be the general order of things. The Ambassador understands from his EEC colleagues that they hope for messages from their respective Heads of State. If it proved possible to arrange a message from Her Majesty that would obviously be a very fine thing.

Y
BH

W Bentley

RESTRICTED



see

(10) 3 (16)

(21)

BRITISH EMBASSY
BELGRADE

18/6

27 April 1972

R E Jones Esq
Guidance & Information Policies Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
LONDON
SW1A 2AH

per 28.
No action

MESSAGE FOR VJESNIK ON TITO'S 80TH BIRTHDAY

1. The Zagreb daily newspaper Vjesnik are asking foreign missions to obtain statements from Heads of State and governments on the occasion of President Tito's 80th birthday on 25 May. We have received such a request from the Chief Editor, Mr Augustin (incidentally a sponsored visitor to the U K in 1968). The paper seeks a message conveying the sender's "opinion" of President Tito "especially on his role as a statesman in world relations". The paper's deadline is 15 May.

2. We recognise that it is not a very common practice for the Prime Minister to issue such statements for publication. Also we doubt whether it would be appropriate for such a statement to convey specifically an assessment of Tito. However, the Yugoslavs are pulling out all the stops for the celebration of Tito's 80th birthday and we are hoping that EESD (to whom we are sending a copy of this letter) will manage to arrange a birthday message to the President himself from the Queen. We therefore think that we should ask you to recommend that a suitable statement be given to Vjesnik for publication. Ideally this should be from the Prime Minister, but if this is impossible, we think that a message from the Secretary of State would probably be acceptable instead. I attach a draft. This has been prepared in haste to catch the bag and I have not had time to do any research into, for example, any public statements made by British Ministers, perhaps in connection with Tito's visits to the U K, about the President. We may not in any case have such material here. If therefore you agree with our recommendation, perhaps some research could be done in London.

3. Vjesnik have apologised for the short notice, and in order to catch the bag, I am afraid I am unable to tell you whether, for example, the French, German and Italians will be providing statements for Vjesnik. The Americans are however recommending that President Nixon should provide a message, and their Embassy think it likely that one will be provided. I will send this information, perhaps by telegram, as soon as I have it. I think Vjesnik will undoubtedly get statements from neutral and non-aligned countries, and possibly from the Warsaw Pact countries as well.

P E Rosling

✓ Copy to B Sparrow Esq
EESD
FCO

DRAFT STATEMENT

It is with great pleasure that I take the opportunity of the 80th birthday of His Excellency President Josip Broz Tito to express the admiration and high regard which are felt in Great Britain towards the President personally and towards the peoples of Yugoslavia.

Our relations go back a long way. We have been allies in war and friends in peace. Our relations are close and extensive. We know and understand each other very well. It is a friendly relationship which we value highly. We value highly, too, Yugoslavia's participation in the councils of the world. To this President Tito has contributed much. We in Britain, remember with pleasure the President's visits to our country. On the last occasion when he was here I personally had the honour of meeting him and engaging in fruitful discussions from which we derived great benefit. I, and my fellow-countrymen, look forward to the continued development of our contacts and relations. In saying this, I take this opportunity, through your columns, of expressing our best wishes to President Tito and to the peoples of Yugoslavia.

RECEIVED IN
REGISTRY No. 15

1 MAY 1972

ENV 18/6

BRITISH EMBASSY
BELGRADE

18/6

27 April 1972

R E Jones Esq
Guidance & Information Policies Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
LONDON
SW1A 2AH

see [initials]

MESSAGE FOR VJESNIK ON TITO'S 80TH BIRTHDAY

1. The Zagreb daily newspaper Vjesnik are asking foreign missions to obtain statements from Heads of State and governments on the occasion of President Tito's 80th birthday on 25 May. We have received such a request from the Chief Editor, Mr Auguštin (incidentally a sponsored visitor to the U K in 1968). The paper seeks a message conveying the sender's "opinion" of President Tito "especially on his role as a statesman in world relations". The paper's deadline is 15 May.

2. We recognise that it is not a very common practice for the Prime Minister to issue such statements for publication. Also we doubt whether it would be appropriate for such a statement to convey specifically an assessment of Tito. However, the Yugoslavs are pulling out all the stops for the celebration of Tito's 80th birthday and we are hoping that EESD (to whom we are sending a copy of this letter) will manage to arrange a birthday message to the President himself from the Queen. We therefore think that we should ask you to recommend that a suitable statement be given to Vjesnik for publication. Ideally this should be from the Prime Minister, but if this is impossible, we think that a message from the Secretary of State would probably be acceptable instead. I attach a draft. This has been prepared in haste to catch the bag and I have not had time to do any research into, for example, any public statements made by British Ministers, perhaps in connection with Tito's visits to the U K, about the President. We may not in any case have such material here. If therefore you agree with our recommendation, perhaps some research could be done in London.

3. Vjesnik have apologised for the short notice, and in order to catch the bag, I am afraid I am unable to tell you whether, for example, the French, German and Italians will be providing statements for Vjesnik. The Americans are however recommending that President Nixon should provide a message, and their Embassy think it likely that one will be provided. I will send this information, perhaps by telegram, as soon as I have it. I think Vjesnik will undoubtedly get statements from neutral and non-aligned countries, and possibly from the Warsaw Pact countries as well.

P E Rosling

Copy to B Sparrow Esq
EESD
FCO

DRAFT STATEMENT

It is with great pleasure that I take the opportunity of the 80th birthday of His Excellency President Josip Broz Tito to express the admiration and high regard which are felt in Great Britain towards the President personally and towards the peoples of Yugoslavia.

Our relations go back a long way. We have been allies in war and friends in peace. Our relations are close and extensive. We know and understand each other very well. It is a friendly relationship which we value highly. We value highly, too, Yugoslavia's participation in the counsels of the world. To this President Tito has contributed much. We in Britain, remember with pleasure the President's visits to our country. On the last occasion when he was here I personally had the honour of meeting him and engaging in fruitful discussions from which we derived great benefit. I, and my fellow-countrymen, look forward to the continued development of our contacts and relations. In saying this, I take this opportunity, through your columns, of expressing our best wishes to President Tito and to the peoples of Yugoslavia.