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90/003941

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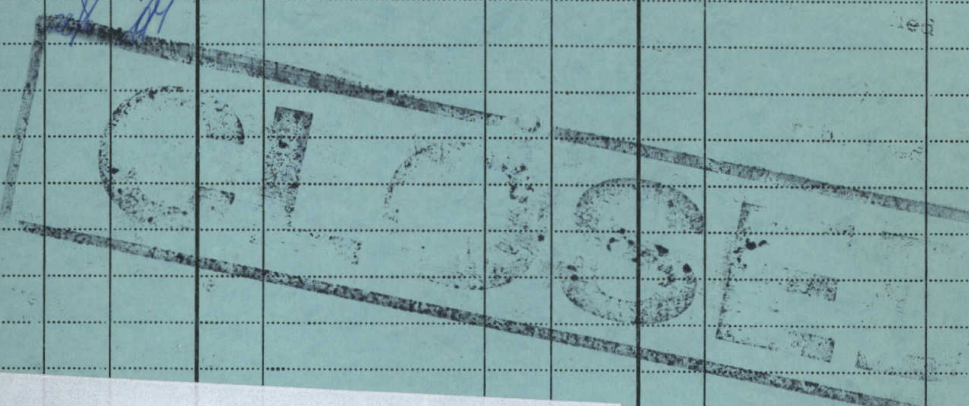
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FILE 1

90/003941

SASO BRAZANSKI  
EMBASY OF THE  
S.F.R. OF YUGOSLAVIA  
PHONE: 95 1458

man 950409



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File Number ..... 73/6/3 .....

Part Number ..... 1 .....

**FILE  
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Fax: (062) 612176  
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Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Canberra.

FACSIMILE MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED

Date 10/11/89

To SENATOR EVANS'S OFFICE

Fax No. 734112

Attention MR GEOFF WISEMAN

Pages Following 17

From BARBARA KELLY

File No. 73/6/3

Subject YUGOSLAVIA: VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY THE PRESIDENT OF MACEDONIA, MR BOGDANSKI

COMMENTS:

Geoff. grateful clearance of the attached brief for Mr Bogdanski's call on Senator Libraa (Wednesday 11am 15/11/89) and of on the NSW : Attorney-general, Mr Dowd, (11.30 am Friday 17/11/89)

Regards

Barbara Kelly  
East Europe Section  
x 3361

VISIT OF MR JEZDIMIR BOGDANSKI, PRESIDENT OF THE PRESIDENCY OF  
THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

The following persons will be accompanying Mr Bogdanski:

- Mr Boris Rikalovski, Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the SR Macedonia
- Mr Zivko Kondev, Secretary to the Delegation and Chief of Cabinet of the President
- H.E. Dr Boris Cizelj, Ambassador of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia
- Mr Bojan Dimitrov, interpreter
- Mr Saso Brazanski, Third Secretary, Yugoslav Embassy
- Dr Barbara Kelly, East Europe Section, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The following three journalists have been given permission to take photographs prior to the commencement of the meeting:

- Mr D. Jinevski
- Mr T. Mickovski
- Mr K. Cirevski.



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Mr Jezdimir BOGDANSKI

Born 1930. President of the Republican Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Macedonia. Graduate of the School of Sociology. Member of the League of Communists since 1948. Republican Secretary for Labour, Health and Social Policy. Deputy of the Republican Parliament. Member of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Macedonia.

The Australian Government recognises Mr Bogdanski's status as President of the Republic of Macedonia within the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. His rank is roughly equivalent to that of an Australian State Premier. He is visiting Australia from 11-19 November in an unofficial capacity.

MACEDONIA

Background

- . The Macedonian issue occupies a complex and controversial place in Greek and Balkan history. There have been numerous claims and counter claims concerning Macedonian identity, history and culture on the part of Greece, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria.
- . Although there is no territorial dispute between Yugoslavia and Greece over the Macedonian issue, it is nevertheless a source of friction between the two countries as the existence in Yugoslavia of a Macedonian Republic in which the Macedonian language, identity and culture are fostered is seen by Greece as encouraging similar aspirations among Greek Macedonians
  - Yugoslav Macedonians feel some concern that fellow Macedonians in Greece and Bulgaria are not allowed to identify themselves as Macedonians
  - however, this does not mean that the Yugoslav Government in any sense supports or condones those Macedonians who aspire to the creation of a "Greater Macedonia".

Australia/Macedonia

- . The Australian Government holds the view that the claims and counterclaims on Macedonian identity should be resolved by the parties directly involved
  - Australia does not recognise or support the concept of a "Macedonian State" transcending present boundaries of Yugoslavia, Greece and Bulgaria.
- . The Macedonian issue has not been a source of friction between Australia and Yugoslavia
  - Australia recognises the existence of the Republic of Macedonia within the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Mr Bogdanski's status as President of the Republic.
- . The Macedonian issue has, however, occasionally caused friction in our bilateral relationship with Greece. For a number of years Greece has refused entry to some holders of Australian passports whom it deems to hold "anti-Greek" or "pro-Macedonian" views
  - some people have been questioned or detained on arrival in Greece, presumably because of suspicions relating to their Macedonian origins
  - representations by Australia (and by the United States and Canada on behalf of their nationals in similar circumstances) have been rejected by Greece.

- . Some 41,949 persons indicated their Macedonian ancestry in Australia's 1986 Census. Of these, 12,154 were born in Australia; 4,155 were born in Greece; and 20,800 were born in Yugoslavia (and the remainder in other places). Some 43,100 persons indicated that they spoke Macedonian at home.
- . The majority of Macedonians in Australia reside in Victoria (22,181), with the rest living predominantly in NSW (13,152) and Western Australia (4,735).
- . The Australian Government, in keeping with its commitment to multi-culturalism, considers that ethnic groups in Australia have the right to self-determination
  - hence people in Australia may identify themselves and their language as "Macedonian"
    - : this position, however, should not be interpreted as implying any form of recognition by the Australian Government of the claims or objectives of particular groups
  - the Australian Government also firmly espouses the view that the success of multi-culturalism will be put at risk if rivalries and animosities which have their origins elsewhere continue to be acted out in Australia. In preserving their own traditions and cultures, all groups in Australia must respect the rights of others to do the same, and restrain their actions within the framework of Australian law.

Community concerns in Australia

- . The Macedonian 'community' is divided into different groups with different concerns depending on their country of origin and on the time of their arrival in Australia. There have been two waves of immigration of persons of Macedonian origin following the First and Second World Wars.
- . In Melbourne the Australian Macedonian Progressive Society held its first national conference at Melbourne University in April 1989 and looked at the future directions and needs of the Macedonian community as a separate culture and ethnicity. This initiative is seen as an attempt to counter the influence of the Greek-oriented Australian Institute of Macedonian Studies.
- . In Melbourne again, the Central Organisation Committee for Macedonian Human Rights, in delegation with Macedonian activists from Australia and Canada, recently attended a series of meetings in Europe to promote the issue of Macedonian rights in Greece.
- . The Macedonian community in Sydney and Melbourne has reacted strongly to a series of public lectures and radio discussions presented by a Yugoslav visitor, Dr Vojislav

Seselj, invited to Australia by the Serbian Foundation. In his public talks, including a speech at Macquarie University, Dr Seselj is said to have promoted Serbian nationalism and denied the existence of Macedonian as a language and culture. The Macedonians claim that his 'Serbian chauvinism' not only offended their community, but also the Albanians and the Croats. The community has protested to the Department of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs over Dr Seselj's visit.

- . The difficulties over the "Ancient Macedonia" exhibition, a contribution by the Government of Greece to Australia's Bicentennial commemorations in 1988, illustrate dramatically the depth of Greek sensitivities on this issue.
- . Australian requests that the exhibition be retitled in order to avoid offending the Slav and some Greek Australian communities were firmly rejected by the Greek Government, and were dropped following representations to Mr Hawke from Greek Australian community organisations and from Greek Prime Minister Papandreou.
- . The exhibition, which consisted of archaeological discoveries from the area of northern Greece known as Macedonia, opened in November 1988 in Melbourne, and was later shown in Brisbane, Sydney and Adelaide. As expected it drew a hostile response from some Slav and Greek Macedonians. The response was made worse by a number of inflammatory statements which Greek President Sartzetakis made while on an official visit to Australia at the time of the exhibition's opening.
- . Greece may be expected to take future opportunities to extend in Australia its propaganda war over Macedonia.

YUGOSLAVIA/ AUSTRALIA BILATERAL RELATIONS

General

- . The main element in the relationship is the migration connection, as the Yugoslav communities constitute the fourth largest ethnic group in Australia, although there is also the potential for increased trade. Yugoslavia's status as a leading member of the non-aligned group of nations, and its strategic position as an independent communist state in Europe, also give Yugoslavia an international importance which is of interest to Australia.
- . The migration connection between the two countries is an important one: there are 150,000 Yugoslav-born Australians (1986 census) and over 300,000 people of Yugoslav descent in Australia
  - most Yugoslav migrants came to Australia in the immediate post-Second World War period, although there were earlier waves of migration going back to pre-First World War days
  - migration is now virtually limited to family reunion, with about 3,000 new arrivals per year. At present there are no unresolved family reunion cases with Yugoslavia.
- . While the connection created by migration has on the whole been a positive development, the complex character of Yugoslav society and its nationalist, ethnic and religious animosities have to some extent been carried over into Australia and into the bilateral relationship.

Representation

- . Diplomatic relations between Australia and Yugoslavia were established in 1966.
- . Australia is represented in Yugoslavia through its Embassy in Belgrade; the Australian Ambassador to Yugoslavia is also accredited to Romania, Bulgaria and Albania. The present Australian Ambassador in Belgrade is Mr Frank Milne, MBE.
- . Yugoslavia is represented in Australia through its Embassy in Canberra and through Consulates in Melbourne and Perth. The Yugoslav Ambassador in Australia is Dr Boris Cizelj.

Closure of the Sydney Consulate-General

- . Relations between the two countries were strained in the wake of the shooting incident at the Yugoslav Consulate-General in Sydney on 27 November 1988, during a demonstration by members of the Croatian community
  - leading to the closure of the Consulate-General and the expulsion of three officials from the Australian Embassy in Belgrade, in December 1988.
- . The firing of shots by an employee of the Consulate-General, resulting in the serious wounding of a young man outside the grounds of the Consulate, was a serious breach of Australian law as well as a grave violation of internationally accepted standards of conduct for Consular staff.
- . The New South Wales Police considered that there was sufficient evidence to lay charges against the Consular employee in question. The Australian Government's efforts to have the matter resolved under Australian law were, however, frustrated by the refusal of the Yugoslav authorities to surrender the Consular employee to face charges
  - their refusal prompted the Australian Government to close the Consulate-General on 2 December 1988, and to declare the Consular officers of the Consulate-General to be personae non gratae, and all of the other members of the Consular staff to be unacceptable. All members of the Consular staff and their dependants were required to leave Australia by 5 December 1988.
- . The Yugoslav Government retaliated by expelling three officers from the Australian Embassy in Belgrade. The Australian Government considered this action totally unwarranted, as none of the officers had in any way been involved in actions inconsistent with their status or in breach of Yugoslav law
  - the Australian Government nonetheless determined that no useful purpose could be served by a further retaliatory response.
- . The Yugoslav Government has claimed on a number of occasions that security arrangements for the demonstration were inadequate. The Australian Government has conducted a thorough review of the security arrangements and regards such charges as unjustified. Security arrangements were consistent with those of recent years for similar demonstrations in Sydney, which had been peaceful. There was no prior indication that last year's demonstration would be of a different nature
  - some measure of responsibility for what occurred must lie with the staff of the Consulate, who contributed

to inflaming the situation by leaving the Consulate-General building to confront the demonstrators. This was both provocative and inappropriate, given that action to remove the demonstrators from the premises was solely the responsibility of the Australian police and security personnel present.

- . The Australian Government takes seriously its obligations to protect Consular personnel and premises and views with concern the actions of those demonstrators who intruded into the grounds of the Consulate-General. Responsibility for legal action against them, however, lies outside Commonwealth jurisdiction and rests with the NSW authorities
  - the NSW Police have issued cautions against six persons (three adults and three juveniles) who intruded into the grounds of the Consulate.
  
- . The shooting incident and its aftermath have inevitably affected bilateral relations. The impact of the incident on bilateral relations, however, should not be exaggerated, and the wider relationship has been largely unaffected
  - the visit of an Australian Parliamentary delegation to Yugoslavia from 17-24 June and the visit of Senator Evans to Belgrade from 31 August-3 September for the Non-Aligned Movement Summit, demonstrate that bilateral relations continue to be conducted on a normal basis
  - trade and commercial links have not been affected. An Australia-Yugoslavia Chamber of Commerce was established this year and the Australia/Yugoslavia Joint Committee met in Belgrade in September
  - talks between QANTAS and JAT on aviation links have resumed.
  
- . Steps have been taken to minimise the disruption to consular and migration services caused by the closure of the Sydney Consulate-General and the expulsion of staff from the Australian Embassy in Belgrade.
  
- . The Yugoslav authorities agreed to replacements for the three Australian officers expelled last year and the Australian Embassy in Belgrade is now back to full strength.
  
- . The Australian Government has permitted officers of the Yugoslav Embassy in Canberra to conduct consular visits to areas formerly served by the closed Sydney Consulate-General (New South Wales, Queensland and the Northern Territory). The permission to conduct such visits is not a step towards reopening of the Consulate, but has been granted in recognition of the genuine need of many Australians (and other residents) in those areas for consular services.



- . A number of conditions have been imposed on the conduct of the visits. The visits are to be of no more than two days duration once a fortnight; details concerning the visits and the staff involved are to be provided in advance; the premises of the closed Consulate-General are not to be used in any way; while premises may be leased in Sydney for the conduct of the visits, they may not be described or identified in any way as a part of the Embassy or as a Consulate.
- . The Yugoslav Consulate-General in Sydney remains closed and the question of reopening it will not be considered by the Australian Government until the end of the year.

Dual Nationality

- . The issue of dual nationality remains an area of difficulty within the bilateral relationship. Relations were strained in 1987 when Yugoslav authorities on 5 June imprisoned Dragoljub Pantelic, who held both Australian and Yugoslav citizenship, for six years on charges of engaging in political activity hostile to Yugoslavia
  - the case aroused considerable public attention in Australia, not least because Pantelic was charged for activities allegedly carried out in Australia, not Yugoslavia.
- . Following strong representations from the Australian Government, Pantelic was released on 9 September 1987.
- . Conclusion of a Consular Agreement with Yugoslavia would help avoid such problems. Negotiations were begun in 1985 but are currently stalemated because the Yugoslav authorities insist on maintaining a heavily restrictive position on dual nationality
  - they are not prepared to recognize the other nationality of a person they deem to be a Yugoslav
  - and they wish to retain the right to deny consular access to detained persons whom they deem to be Yugoslav nationals if they consider access would be against Yugoslavia's interests.
- . The Australian Government considers that the question of unconditional consular access for Australian citizens is of fundamental importance and that therefore a Consular Agreement with Yugoslavia cannot currently be concluded on satisfactory terms.

Immigration Issues

- . Australia's Yugoslav communities number about 300,000 and constitute Australia's fourth largest ethnic/national grouping.

- . Yugoslav migration to Australia continues at a rate of about 2500 persons per annum (2462 in 1987-88 and 2743 in 1988-89). The great majority are family reunion cases (about 20 per cent Preferential Family category and about 65 per cent Independent and Concessional Family categories).
- . Yugoslavia is a party to the UN Convention on Refugees. Apart from Hungary, which acceded to the Convention recently, Yugoslavia is the only Eastern European country which is party to the Convention.
- . Australia has a small refugee and special humanitarian program in Yugoslavia, under which 398 visas were issued in 1987-88 (July-March) and 192 in 1988-89 (July-March).

#### Allegations of Extremist Activity

- . The Yugoslav authorities frequently raise allegations that elements of the Yugoslav community in Australia are engaging in activities hostile to the Yugoslav Government, its representatives in Australia and sections of the community which are sympathetic to the Yugoslav Government
  - Yugoslav authorities also charge that Australian Government and police authorities are at times too lenient or tolerant in their response to such activities
  - similar concerns are also shared by sections of the Australian community and were voiced to Senator Evans during a meeting with community groups on 31 March.
- . Australian authorities at State and Federal level are fully committed to enforcing the law and will not tolerate acts of violence by any groups or individuals. The Australian Government views very seriously allegations of violent activity
  - following a meeting with Yugoslav community groups on 31 March, Senator Evans wrote to the Attorney-General, the Minister for Justice and the Minister for Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs, in order to draw to their attention the concerns felt by the community on this issue.
- . While there is a history of violent activity on the part of elements within the Yugoslav community in Australia, it appears that only very small numbers of people have been involved.
- . While strongly concerned to prevent any acts of politically motivated violence, the Australian Government is also committed to upholding the principles of freedom of expression and assembly which are fundamental in a democratic society. Individuals and groups have the right to express their views provided they do so within the framework of the law.

### Social Security

- . Preliminary fact-finding discussions were held between Australia and Yugoslavia in relation to a possible Social Security Agreement. Yugoslavia undertook to consult Federal, Republican and local bodies and pension payment institutions and to inform Australia of its position on a possible agreement
  - to date no response has been received.
- . The Australian Government indicated that it would need to consult with the Yugoslav communities in Australia before entering negotiations. These consultations have not been held, pending the Yugoslav response on the initial discussions.
- . Australia is negotiating with a number of countries and agreements may be concluded with West Germany, Malta, Ireland, the Netherlands, Spain and Portugal in the next 12 months
  - agreements already exist with United Kingdom, New Zealand and Italy (an agreement has also been signed with Canada; it is being implemented this year).
- . In the absence of a Yugoslav response on the 1986 discussions, and given the heavy negotiating commitments already entered into with other countries, Australia is not attaching a high priority to the early conclusion of an agreement with Yugoslavia.
- . As of September 1988, 32,571 Yugoslav-born Australians (about one fifth of the total) were receiving Australian pensions. Of these, 2,869 were receiving a pension in Yugoslavia.

### Cultural Relations

- . Australia has a cultural relations agreement with Yugoslavia but it is largely dormant because of resource constraints. Some funds are available to support Embassy activities or to support Australian artists travelling to Yugoslavia to attend conferences and symposia
  - Tom Shapcott, Director of the Literary Arts Board at the Australia Council, was assisted in travelling to the Struga Poetry Festival in Macedonia to accept the Festival's Golden Wreath Award
  - Shapcott's visit was most successful. His receipt of the award was given live to air nationwide coverage and the ceremony was attended by Mr Vasile Tupurkovski, Macedonian Member of the Federal Presidency.
- . Yugoslavia is a candidate for the 1996 Olympic Games, but failed to send a delegation to the IOC in Puerto Rico in

September 1989. It appears likely that Belgrade may withdraw its candidacy. Melbourne is one of the prime candidates for hosting the 1996 Games.

High Level Visits

- . The Prime Minister Mr Hawke visited Yugoslavia from 22 to 25 October 1987. The then Prime Minister, Mr Whitlam, also visited Yugoslavia in January 1975. Other ministerial visits in recent years include
  - the Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations, Mr Willis (July 1983)
  - the Minister for Health, Dr Blewett (May 1984)
  - the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Hayden (August 1984)
  - the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Senator Gietzelt (April 1985)
  - the Minister for Arts, Heritage and Environment, Mr Cohen (May 1986)
  - the Minister for Employment, Education and Training, Mr Dawkins (March 1988) and
  - the Minister for Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs, Mr Holding (July 1988)
  - a Commonwealth Parliamentary delegation, led by Senator the Hon Kerry Sibraa (June 1989)
  - the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Senator Evans (31 August-3 September 1989, for the NAM Summit). Senator Evans held bilateral talks with Prime Minister Markovic, Foreign Minister Loncar and Dr Vasile Turpukovski, Macedonian Member of the Federal State Presidency.
  
- . High-level Yugoslav visitors to Australia in recent years include the Foreign Secretary Lazar Mojsov in February 1984
  - and a Parliamentary delegation led by the President of the Yugoslav Federal Assembly, Marjan Rozic, in February 1988.

BILATERAL TRADE AND TRADE RELATIONS

	\$Am		
	1986	1987	1988
Exports	109.2	70.3	114.6

Imports	30.6	46.5	50.9
Balance	+78.6	+23.7	+63.7

- . Australia's trade with Yugoslavia is small. Yugoslavia is ranked as Australia's 39th export market and 44th as a source of imports. Australia's main export item is wool (valued at \$56.9m in 1988; cf \$40.2m in 1987 and 65.7m in 1986)
  - other important exports were coal (\$16.4m in 1988), cotton (\$15.3m) and hides and skins (\$8.9m)
    - : some Australian exports enter Yugoslav through third markets and consequently do not appear in Australian statistics.
- . Imports from Yugoslavia have increased steadily to reach \$50.9m in 1988 and were made up of a wide range of manufactured goods, the main items being furniture (\$18.5m), household type equipment (\$4.7m), textiles (\$3.1m), refrigerators (details not available) and glassware (\$1.5m).
- . Australia's trade with Yugoslavia has continued along these traditional lines for many years. The Yugoslav market has proven to be a relatively difficult one, with uncertainties surrounding the economy, including the high inflation rate, foreign exchange shortages and foreign debts
  - Australia's trade is, by and large, limited to those products which are considered as essential inputs for export industries (those which generate foreign exchange) and essential for industrial and economic development (ie, those offering greater productivity and high technology, etc).
- . Australia has established a market for wool and coal in Yugoslavia. Australian companies involved in the trade need to work to protect, and hopefully increase, their share of the import market
  - there are considered to be prospects for exports of Australian meat and foodstuffs, hospital and medical equipment, food processing equipment and technology, agricultural and mining machinery and technology, and pollution control and coatings technology
    - : in addition there are also possibilities for the export of wheat, cotton, charcoal and briquettes, iron ore and alumina.
- . Joint venture arrangements offer opportunities to develop two way trade. A well publicised joint venture in Yugoslavia was signed in 1987 between the Australian firm,

Telectronics, and Rude Cajavec of Yugoslavia for the assembly in Yugoslavia and the export to East Europe of heart pacemakers.

#### Trade Promotion

- . Australia participated for the first time for several years in the Zagreb Spring Fair in April this year. Yugoslavia participated in Expo last year and has used the International Trade Development Centre (ITDC) on three occasions (the last time in 1985).
- . As a developing country Yugoslavia also benefits under the Australian System of Tariff Preferences (ASTP).

#### Yugoslav export efforts

- . From the Yugoslav side the interest in Australia in the past has been limited
  - the Australian import market offers a number of opportunities for Yugoslavia and in two areas, furniture and refrigerators, Yugoslavia has been particularly successful, largely due to the effective marketing techniques used.
- . Further opportunities in the Australian market are considered to exist for Yugoslav textiles and leisure goods, consumer electrical goods, heavy equipment and motor vehicles.

#### Private Sector dialogue

- . A measure of Yugoslavia's growing commercial interest in Australia was the visit of the large Yugoslav business delegation to Australia from 24-31 July 1988. The delegation, comprising representatives of Yugoslav industry, attended the Joint Committee and the Australia/Yugoslavia Business Conferences in Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney.
- . An important tool in the development of the commercial relationship has been the ongoing work of the Australia/Yugoslavia Chamber of Commerce (AYCC) based in Sydney with a membership of around 25. The Chamber includes the majority of Australian exporters active in Yugoslavia. One of the main activities of the Chamber has been the organising of missions to Yugoslavia and the facilitating of Yugoslav missions to Australia (the AYCC was the principal organiser of the Business Conferences).

#### Joint Committee

- . The establishment last year of the Australia/Yugoslavia Joint Committee on Economic and Technological (Scientific and Technical) Co-operation has been an important development in focusing attention on bilateral trade and economic opportunities.

- . The first meeting of the Joint Committee was held in July 1988 and discussions covered a wide range of bilateral, economic and multilateral trade issues.
- . The second meeting was held in Belgrade on 27 September 1989, and provided a useful occasion to review bilateral economic links and to examine future prospects. The Australian side was led by Mr Peter Field, Deputy Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and the Yugoslav side by Mr Marendic, Federal Secretary for Development.

#### Civil Aviation

- . A Civil Aviation Agreement was signed in 1974.
- . The Yugoslav airline JAT operates two flights a week to Australia (to Sydney and Melbourne). QANTAS suspended its weekly service through Belgrade in May 1987
  - a decision made on purely commercial grounds.
- . Further talks are expected between the two airlines on the question of JAT's interest in seeking a third service to Australia.

#### Trade issues

- . There are no major contentious issues in the bilateral trade relationship. Yugoslavia has in the past expressed concern with the trade imbalance in Australia's favour and with Australia's anti-dumping actions on Yugoslav goods. Yugoslavia now appears less preoccupied with the imbalance and has focused its attention and efforts on increasing exports to Australia.
- . There is no current anti-dumping action against Yugoslav goods (previously imports of electric motors, canned ham and refrigerators have been subject to investigations).

#### YUGOSLAVIA- GENERAL

##### Human Rights

- . Yugoslavia's human rights record is a mixed one. While the Federal and most local authorities by and large adopt a relatively relaxed approach towards cultural freedoms and freedom of expression in comparison with other Eastern European countries, Yugoslavia's record with respect to political prisoners is one of the worst in Eastern Europe
  - there are thought to be at least 800 political prisoners in Yugoslavia, including 200 whom Amnesty International has classified as "prisoners of conscience" imprisoned for non-violent expression of views

- most are ethnic Albanians from the province of Kosovo where there has been unrest for a number of years
- trials in political cases do not always follow due process.
- . Yugoslavia has capital punishment. This has been imposed mainly in respect of murder cases (3 in 1987).
- . The outbreak of violence in Kosovo province in March 1989, following changes in the constitutional relationship between the province and the Republic of Serbia, has given rise to serious concern that human rights violations may have occurred
  - there have been reports indicating that the official death toll (24) is well below the actual figure
  - while there is evidence that some of the demonstrators were armed, there appears to have been an excessive use of force in breaking up demonstrations
  - human rights concerns, including in relation to the Province of Kosovo, were raised with the Yugoslav authorities by the Commonwealth Parliamentary delegation, led by Senator the Hon Kerry Sibraa, which visited Yugoslavia in June 1989
  - Senator Evans during his visit to Belgrade in September 1989 for the NAM Summit, held high level bilateral talks and took the opportunity to convey Australia's concern at the abuse of human rights in the Province of Kosovo. He expressed the hope that the situation would be resolved
  - the Australian Government views the recent developments in Kosovo with concern. While the constitutional status of Kosovo is clearly an internal affair, the reports of human rights violations are disturbing. The Embassy has been instructed to follow the situation closely.

#### Republic of Slovenia

- . On 27 September 1989, the Republic of Slovenia unanimously adopted a revised Constitution which included the following provisions
  - the right for Slovenia to secede from the Yugoslav federation
  - the exclusive right of the Slovenian Assembly to deploy armed forces in peaceful times and to declare a state of emergency in the Republic
  - the compulsory use of the Slovenian language in all Slovenian institutions.



- . The Yugoslav Communist Party and Federal Assembly held emergency sessions to discuss the amendments which are seen as posing a threat to Yugoslav unity, and called unsuccessfully for Slovenia to postpone the adoption of the amendments
  
- the Federal Assembly has since announced that the Constitutional Court will be reviewing the amendments to the Slovenian Constitution and all other Republican Constitutions.

The difficulties over the "Ancient Macedonia" exhibition, a contribution by the Government of Greece to Australia's bicentennial commemorations in 1988, illustrate dramatically the depth of Greek sensitivities on this issue.

- . The Greeks knew that a promotion which appeared to appropriate exclusively to Greece the heritage of Macedonia would annoy the Australian Slav Macedonian community. Our concern on that score, coupled with logistical problems in accommodating international exhibitions in the bicentennial year, led Australian officials to be unenthusiastic about accepting the exhibition in the first place.
- . Greece was adamant, however, that this was what it was going to do for our bicentenary. Greece had for some time seen Australia, along with Canada, as a battleground for its propaganda wars on the Macedonian issue. Its determination to stage the exhibition should be seen in this context.
- . When Greece pressed in August 1988 for an Australian decision to take the exhibition, Australia replied that it would do so only if the title was changed to exclude the word "Macedonia". In retrospect it can be seen that there was never any chance of this condition being accepted, because the provocation which Australian officials feared was more or less the very reason why the Greek Government wanted the exhibition to take place.
- . In response to Australia's ultimatum the Greek Minister for Culture, Mrs Mercouri, called in the Australian Ambassador and abused him. She portrayed Australia's position as censorship and as an attack on Greek territorial integrity.
- . An account of Mrs Mercouri's meeting with the Ambassador was leaked to the Greek media, and for one weekend became the major story of the day. Greek opinion was unanimously behind Mrs Mercouri. The opposition New Democracy Party, now the leading party in the Greek Parliament, called on the Greek Government to expel the Australian Embassy. The Greek Deputy Minister for Culture called on Greeks living in Australia "to raise their voices against this anti-Hellenistic ploy".
- . Following representations by Greek community organizations in Australia as well as by Greek Prime Minister Papandreou, Mr Hawke decided that Australia should take the exhibition under its original name.
- . The International Cultural Corporation of Australia, which has the responsibility of bringing international exhibitions to Australia, nonetheless considered refusing to accept the exhibition - not for political or community reasons but because of its doubt that the content of the exhibition had sufficient public appeal for the costs of the exhibition to be recovered.

- The Greek Government had never envisaged paying the transport, labour or other costs of presenting the exhibition, even before the controversy occurred.
- . In the face of ICCA's delay, an Embassy representative was summoned in September 1988 to the office of the Greek Ministry of Culture's Director of Antiquities, Mr J. Tzedakis, who told him that if the decision was further delayed the Greek Government would prompt the Greek community in Melbourne to "tear the city apart, brick by brick". He also said that although the Embassy probably did not know it, there was a circle of powerfully placed Slav Macedonians who sought to direct Australian policy in these matters.
- . In the end, the exhibition did take place. Although it was attended poorly in Melbourne it proved popular in Brisbane, and was sufficiently well attended in Sydney for its season to be extended to Adelaide. Among Australia's Slav Macedonian community it caused the unhappiness which Australian officials had always predicted and had sought to avoid.
- . Greek President Sartzetakis opened the exhibition during an official visit to Australia in November 1988. Throughout that visit he made numerous provocative attacks on Yugoslavia in general, the Republic of Macedonia in particular and on the Australian Slavic Macedonian community, despite Australian requests at a high level that he should refrain from doing so.
- . In Greece Mr Sartzetakis was treated as a hero. Even his political opponents agreed that he had been brave in going to Australia and standing alone in defence of the honour of Greece against supposed hordes of Slavs.
- . Greece may be expected to take future opportunities to extend in Australia its propaganda war over Macedonia.

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- . Greece may be expected to take future opportunities to extend in Australia its propaganda war over Macedonia.

URGENT

Levi

Fax: (062) 612176  
Tel: (062) 61 3361



Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Canberra

FACSIMILE MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED

Date 10/11/89

To DPAT PERTH

Fax No. 09-221 2827

Attention MR John Powys

Pages Following 6

From BARBARA KELLY East Europe Section

File No. 73/6/3

Subject YUGOSLAVIA : VISIT OF MR BOGDANSKI

COMMENTS:

Attached is a program of the visit received from Yugoslav Embassy, for your information.

Regards

B Kelly

*Given to Yugo. Embassy  
10/11  
238*

VISIT TO AUSTRALIA OF MR JEZDIMIR BOGDANSKI, PRESIDENT OF THE  
PRESIDENCY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

CANBERRA, 15 DECEMBER 1989

- 0730 A Commonwealth car and driver will arrive at the Pavillion Hotel. The car can take four passengers. It will be available as directed until the departure of the delegation at 1240.
  
- 1000 Meetings commence at Parliament House. Please arrive at Senate side entrance. Dr Kelly from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade will meet the delegation and will provide visitors passes to Parliament House. Dr Kelly will escort the delegation to all calls.
  
- 1130-1200 The delegation will be met at Senator Sibraa's office and taken on a short tour of Parliament House.
  
- 1200 Depart Parliament House. Cars to collect the delegation from the Senate side entrance.

Senator Sibraa has given permission for the two journalists to take photographs. We are awaiting advice from the Prime Minister's Office as to whether photographs of the Prime Minister and Mr Bogdanski will be permitted.

SYDNEY

An appointment has been made for Mr Bogdanski to call on the Attorney-General, Mr John Dowd, at 1130 on Friday 17 November. The meeting will take place on 20th level, Goodsell Building, Chifley Square. Contact: Neville Ley tel. 2284513.

Neither the Premier nor the Deputy Premier were available.

A VIP lounge at Sydney airport can be booked by telephoning 02-6679111. The use of the room only costs \$25-00, the room with tea and coffee costs \$40-00, and the room with alcoholic beverages costs \$60-00.

Barbara,

From Owen Thompson contacted

At Office

Sydney

Shirley Moore, PM's Dept. meeting  
Noone know their left

Ma adonia

Pres of on arrival. 10/11

3580223



sent

Fax: (062) 612176

Tel: (062) 612176

tel: John Foster  
702207

Department of Foreign Affairs

~~Peter Wren~~

Di Beety -

FACSIMILE MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED

Date: 6/12/76

To: PS

Fax No: 222222

Attention: JOHN FOSTER

Pages Following: 2

From: BARBARA KELLY

File No: 73/6/3

Subject: YUGOSLAVIA: VISIT OF PRESIDENT BOGDANSKI

COMMENTS:

Please find attached  
- a note from me  
- a program received from  
Yugoslav Embassy  
Regards  
B Kelly

*sent*

Fax: (062) 612176  
Tel: (062) 61 3361



Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Canberra.

FACSIMILE MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED

Date 10/11/89

To PSCC

Fax No. 702255

Attention JOHN FOSTER

Pages Following 7

From BARBARA KELLY

File No. 73/6/3

Subject YUGOSLAVIA : VISIT OF PRESIDENT BOGDANSKI

COMMENTS:

*Please find attached*  
*- a note from me*  
*- a program received from*  
*Yugoslav Embassy*  
*Regards*  
*B Kelly*

10 November 1989

Mr Foster

I have attached a program of the visit received yesterday from the Yugoslav Embassy.

Please note that on Wednesday, 15 November in Canberra, a Commonwealth car and driver will collect the party from the Pavillion Hotel at 7.30 am and will be available for use as directed until their departure from Canberra. The car can take four passengers. A Yugoslav Embassy car will also be used to transport the party.

At Parliament House the party will enter and leave through the Senate entrance. I will meet them on arrival, give them passes for Parliament House and escort them to all meetings.

Two journalists have been given permission to photograph the meeting with Senator Sibraa. We are still awaiting advice from the Prime Minister's Office as to whether photographs with the PM will be allowed. The journalists are D. Jinevski (a journalist and Australian citizen who will carry a recorder) and T. Mickovski, a cameraman from Macedonia. The journalists will arrive at Parliament House at 10.30.

*B Kelly*

Barbara Kelly  
East Europe Section

*sent*

Fax: (062) 612176  
Tel: (062) 61 3361



**Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**

Canberra.

**FACSIMILE MESSAGE**

UNCLASSIFIED

Date 10/11/89

To DFAT MELBOURNE

Fax No. 03-6115455

Attention MR J. GRINBERG

Pages Following 6

From BARBARA KELLY

File No. 73/6/3

Subject YUGOSLAVIA: VISIT OF MR BOGDANSKI

COMMENTS:

*Mr Grinberg*  
*Attached, for your information, is a program*  
*of the visit received from the*  
*Yugoslav Embassy*  
*Regards.*  
*B Kelly*

Fax: (062) 612176  
Tel: (062) 61 3361



Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Canberra.

FACSIMILE MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED

Date 10/11/89

To DILGEM

Fax No. 642670

Attention Ms Kaye Savage

Pages Following 1

From Barbara Kelly

File No. \_\_\_\_\_

Subject Yugoslavia: Meeting with President Bogdanovsk.

COMMENTS:

*Kaye, Attached is the list of names  
you requested. Please reply me  
if you need any more information*

*regards*

*Barbara*

*61336/*

YUGOSLAVIA: VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY MR JEZDIMIR BOGDANSKI,  
PRESIDENT OF THE PRESIDENCY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF  
MACEDONIA, 11.11.89-19.11.89

Canberra, Wednesday 15 November:

1000 Mr Tony Harris, Deputy Secretary or Mr Wayne Gibbons,  
Acting Deputy Secretary, and Ms Sue Ingram, Assistant  
Secretary, Policy Secretariat, DILGEA. Committee  
Room 11, Parliament House

1030 Prime Minister

1100 Senator the Hon Kerry Sibraa, President of the Senate

The following will be present at the 1000 meeting

- Mr Jezdimir Bogdanski, President of the Presidency of the SR Macedonia
- Mr Boris Rikalovski, Secretary for Foreign Relations of SR Macedonia
- Mr Zivko Kondev, Chief of the Cabinet of the President of the Presidency of the SR Macedonia
- Mr Bojan Dimitrov, Interpreter
- H.E. Dr Boris Cizelj, Ambassador, Embassy of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia
- Mr Saso Brazanski, Third Secretary, Yugoslav Embassy
- Dr Barbara Kelly, East Europe Section, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.



# FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

Department of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs  
Benjamin Offices, Chan Street, Belconnen,  
A.C.T. 2617 Ph: (062) 64 1111

To: Ms Barbara Kelly DEAT	Telephone Number
------------------------------	------------------

From: E. GOY DILGEA - Ethnic Affairs	Telephone Number 642716
---	----------------------------

Title of Message: Macedonians	
Number of Pages to Follow: 1 + 2	Date 9/11/1989

FORM M.833 (5-89)

Message:

As discussed with J. Butt,

E. Goy.  
642716  
9/11/89

*Handwritten:* by OMA PM C

*Handwritten:* 230

*Handwritten:* There are different groups within the Mac. community who have different concerns depending on where they came to Aust & where they came from.

**EDONIAN COMMUNITY IN AUSTRALIA**

Demographics: Some 41,949 persons indicated their Macedonian ancestry in the 1986 Census. Of these, 12,154 were born in Australia; 4,155 were born in Greece; and 20,800 were born in Yugoslavia (and the remainder in other places). On the language question, some 43,100 persons indicated that they spoke Macedonian at home.

The majority of the Macedonians reside in Victoria (22,181), with the rest of this community living predominantly in NSW (13,152) and Western Australia (4,735).

Community concerns: The travelling exhibition of Macedonian art and artefacts has angered the Macedonian community. The exhibition was sent to Australia as a gesture by the Greek Government. The Australian Bicentennial Authority guaranteed its costs up to almost \$1M. The perception in the Macedonian community is that the Greek community is using the art and artefacts as part of their campaign against them. On the other side, the Greeks have been incensed at Macedonians' reaction to the exhibition.

In Melbourne the Macedonian community held its first national conference at Melbourne University in April 1989 and looked at the future directions and needs of the Macedonian community as a separate culture and ethnicity. This initiative is seen as an attempt to counter the influence of the Greek-oriented Australian Institute of Macedonian Studies.

In Melbourne again, the Central Organisational Committee for Macedonian Human Rights, in delegation with Macedonian activists from Australia and Canada, recently attended a series of meetings in Europe to promote the issue of Macedonian rights in Greece.

The Macedonian community in Sydney and Melbourne has reacted strongly to a series of public lectures and radio discussions presented by a Yugoslav visitor, Dr Vojislav Seselj, invited to Australia by the Serbian Foundation. In his public talks, including a speech at Macquarie University, Dr Seselj is said to have promoted Serbian nationalism and denied the existence of Macedonian as a language and culture. The Macedonians claim that his 'Serbian chauvinism' not only offended their community, but also the Albanians and the Croats. The community has protested to the Department over Dr Seselj's visit.

The Ancient Macedonia exhibition was opened in August in Adelaide and prompted the predictable angry reaction by the Macedonian Orthodox community, which voiced its opposition through a leaflet that was peacefully distributed to guests.

*Handwritten:* Church

*Handwritten:* Australian Macedonian Progressive Society



DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ETHNIC AFFAIRS

# MINUTE

OFFICE:

FILE NO:

Ms Barbara Kelly  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade  
BARTON ACT 2600

## MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY IN AUSTRALIA

Attached is a brief on the Macedonian community in Australia, giving detail of community issues raised in this Department.

  
JAN BUTT  
Ethnic Affairs

9 November 1989



DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION ADVICE

OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

MESSAGE TO:

Facsimile No 61 21 76  
 Persons Name BARBARA KELLY  
 Dept/Institution AMERICAS AND EUROPE  
DEPT  
 Contact No: 613361

MESSAGE FROM:

Facsimile No (062) 71 5939  
 Persons Name TONY ZANDARIGO  
 Branch COMMUNICATIONS  
 Contact No 715654

No. of pages sent 3  
 (excluding cover sheet)

Date sent 10/11/89

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

INFORMATION IN AID OF CLEAR THINKING!  
- ESPECIALLY JUPP.

EXTRACT FROM JUPP, J.  
"THE AUSTRALIAN PEOPLE"

227  
THE SETTLERS  
Macedonians

## MACEDONIANS

The geographical area of south-eastern Europe known as Macedonia is now divided between Yugoslavia, Greece, Bulgaria and Albania and has never been an independent State in modern times. It is inhabited by many ethnic groups, including Slav Macedonians, Greeks, Albanians, Roma, Vlachs, Turks, Serbs and Bulgarians. Cultural differences run through villages and even families. In this article the term 'Macedonian' refers to those with the Slav language, culture and orientation. Others from Macedonia are surveyed in Encyclopedia articles on Greeks, Bulgarians, Albanians, Serbs and Roma.

IN ANCIENT times Macedonia was the area between the lower Haliakmon (Bistrica) and the Axios (Vardar) rivers. From the seventh century BC, the area was settled from the west by the ancient Macedonians, who were related to the Greeks, although the latter sometimes considered them foreigners. Under King Phillip II (359-336 BC) and his son, Alexander the Great (336-323 BC), Macedonia rose to be the greatest State in the ancient world, although the empire was short-lived. From 167 BC Macedonia was under Roman rule.

In the sixth and seventh centuries AD, Macedonia and also the Peloponnese and Thrace were overrun by East-South Slavonic tribes, although most of these areas were later re-Hellenised. Any connection between the present population and the ancient Macedonians is tenuous, at best. Today, Macedonia is considered to be the region that is bounded by the Shar mountains in the north, the Aegean Sea in the south, the lower Mesta (Nestos) River and the Rhodope mountains in the east, and the Albanian highlands in the west, and lies within the borders of Greece, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria.

Macedonia re-emerged as an international political issue in the nineteenth century. The region was then part of the Ottoman Empire. The Treaty of Berlin (1878) left the vilayers of Skopje (Üsküb), Bitola (Monastir) and Salonika (Selanik) under the Turks. These three districts were then considered as Macedonia in the modern sense.

In the first half of the nineteenth century, Macedonia was often regarded as part of the Bulgarian-speaking territories of the Balkans. Minority groups in Macedonia included Greeks, Jews, Albanians, Vlachs, Turks and Roma. For the majority of the population, the question of national allegiance in the first half of the nineteenth century was often incomprehensible and certainly irrelevant. They thought of themselves as Christians, and the first approach to nationalism was in fact through the churches. Until 1870 all Christians in the Ottoman Empire were subject to the Greek patriarch in Constantinople. In 1870 the Ottoman sultan acceded to the establishment of an independent Bulgarian Church headed by an exarch (referred to as the Bulgarian exarchate). The majority of church communities in Macedonia voted to join the exarchate. Those that remained loyal to the patriarch in Constantinople became known as 'patriarchists', 'Graecophiles', or simply as Greeks.

After the Treaty of Berlin, Macedonian revolutionaries under Goce Delčev, leader of the Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organisation (IMRO), put forward the slogan 'Macedonia for the Macedonians'. 'Macedonians' referred to all inhabitants of the region. In 1903 IMRO staged an ill-prepared revolution. It began on Ilinden (St Elijah's Day) on 2 August. For 10 days the insurgents held out at Kruševo, where they set up a radically democratic, pan-Macedonian commune (the Kruševo Republic), but no-one came to their aid and the revolution collapsed. The Turks carried out terrible reprisals against the Slavonic population in Macedonia in the wake of the uprising.

Serbia, Greece and Bulgaria formed an alliance to wrest Macedonia from the Turks, which they achieved by force in the first Balkan War (October-December 1912). In the second Balkan War (Inter-Allied War, June-July 1913) they fought over the spoils. The Bucharest Peace Treaty of 1913 awarded most of the northern part of Macedonia to Serbia ('Vardar-Macedonia'), most of the southern part to Greece (Greek

or 'Aegean' Macedonia), and the Pirin region in the east to Bulgaria. Some villages in the west were allotted to Albania in 1920. With minor adjustments, these borders have remained in force ever since.

In their part of Macedonia, which was officially referred to as South Serbia, the kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (Yugoslavia) declared the Slavonic inhabitants to be Serbs. Exarchist (Bulgarian) institutions were closed and replaced by Serbian ones. Only the Serbian language was permitted for official use.

The Greek-Turkish war of 1920-22 led to the forced exchange of 400 000 Turks from Greek Thrace for 1.3 million Greeks from Asia Minor, half of whom were settled in the Greek province of Macedonia. This new element in the Macedonian population was referred to as *prosfites* (refugees). By 1926 the League of Nations recorded 88.8 per cent of the people of this region as Greeks. This result reflects the methods used and the problems involved in the collection of Macedonian statistics. The Greek authorities closed the exarchist (Bulgarian) schools and churches and expelled the priests. All place names were Hellenised and only Greek surnames were officially recognised. With the advent of the dictatorial regime of Ioannis Metaxas in 1936, conditions for the Slav Macedonians became intolerable. Their native speech was prohibited even in their own homes. During the Greek Civil War (1946-49) many Slav Macedonians joined the left-wing forces and hoped for an autonomous greater Macedonian State within a Balkan Federation.

In 'Vardar-Macedonia' the war of national liberation against Germans and Bulgarians began on 11 October 1941. Yugoslavian communists formally took the decision to set up a Macedonian republic within the Yugoslavian Federation on Ilinden in 1944 and declared that the vernacular speech of the Slav Macedonians would be the official language of the republic. After the war the People's Republic of Macedonia, later renamed the Socialist Republic of Macedonia (SRM), was constituted as a State of the Yugoslavian Federation, with Skopje as its capital.

### Macedonian People

In the nineteenth century the term 'Macedonian' was used to refer to any inhabitant of the region. Today it is often understood to refer only to the Slavs. The Greek organisation *Kentro apodismōn Makedonōn* (Centre for the Macedonians Abroad) in Salonika caters only for Greek Macedonians, whereas the influence of the corresponding *Matica na iselenicite od Makedonija* (Institute for the Emigrants from Macedonia) in Skopje is restricted mainly to the Slav Macedonians. The official Bulgarian view is that the Macedonians are not a separate ethnic group.

Nationality or ethnicity can be defined on the basis of more or less objective sociological criteria such as language, ancestry and customs, or on the basis of the subjective profession of identity by the people concerned. Under the definition of 'Macedonian' used in the constitution of the Macedonian Orthodox Community of Melbourne and Victoria, a Macedonian is 'a person who speaks a Slavonic language [specifically, an East-South Slavonic dialect] coming from the area of Europe known as Macedonia'. However, it must not be overlooked that a large number of these people identify with Greece, and a certain number with Bulgaria.

Macedonians in this sense are typically of the Orthodox faith, but in Melbourne there is a small group of Protestants from the SRM, descendants of Orthodox Slavs who were converted to Protestantism by American missionaries during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The Muslims of Macedonia are a special case. They may be descended from Turks, Roma, Albanians or Slavs. The latter group is referred to colloquially as *torbesi*. In the SRM they are encouraged to identify themselves as Macedonians. In Perth there are several hundred recent immigrants from the SRM who identify themselves as Roma.

THE "HELLENIC" LINE

# Macedonia has always been Greek

In recent times a small ethnic minority totalling no more than 32,000 persons throughout Australia has painstakingly and systematically propagated a fantastic concoction which has, as a result of the multicultural nature of Australian Society, succeeded in gaining pseudo recognition. The Greek community of some 1,000,000 persons has, on the whole, remained calm in the face of provocation as it believed that the preposterous claims made by this minority would easily be seen through. Unfortunately, it may be true that the bigger the lie the easier it may be believed. The Greek community refuses to be intimidated any longer and wishes to set the record straight. Accordingly, the following information is provided and we invite you to research its accuracy:

1. Macedonia is the northern part of Greece with a population of about 2.8 million people with no minority groups of any significance. Its capital is Thessaloniki which was founded in 315 B.C. From the 5th Century B.C. to the present day (2,500 years) it has been an integral part of the Greek world and the majority of its population, despite invasions and long periods of foreign occupation, has always been Greek.
2. The Socialist Republic of Macedonia occupies what was Southern Serbia until 1943. It was created in 1943-44 by Marshal Tito in an attempt to consolidate the fledgling Yugoslav Federation and to hook the pro-Bulgarian Slavs from any ties with Bulgaria. Its people speak a Slavic language.
3. This so-called «S.R. of Macedonia» has christened its language «Macedonian». There is no historical evidence of the existence of such a language from antiquity till 1944.
4. This so-called «S.R. of Macedonia» created the «Macedonian Orthodox Church» in 1968. This «Church» has not been recognized by any other Church in the world, not even the other Churches of Yugoslavia.
5. Having a «language» and a «church» the so-called «S. R. of Macedonia» has also re-written the history books and plagiarised the culture of its neighbours in order to endow its people with a sense of national identity. It is here that Greeks take strong objection because a glorious era of Greek history is being done away with in order to facilitate falsehood and deception. This is done so that the «Macedonians» of Yugoslavia may assert the unassailable —that they form a historical, unbroken continuation with the Ancient Macedonians— and to reconcile the irreconcilable —the language of Skopje with that spoken by Ancient Macedonians. That this is truly irreconcilable consider the following indisputable facts:—
  - (a) The Skopje «language» is undeniably Slavic.
  - (b) The Slavs did not set foot in Macedonia until 6-7th Centuries A.D., i.e. one thousand years after Alexander the Great.
  - (c) The name «Macedonia» and «Macedonian» was in use at least 1500 years before the arrival of the first Slavs.
  - (d) The name «Macedonia» is etymologically Greek.
  - (e) All known place names, names of people, names of months are undeniably Greek.
  - (f) Alexander, Philip and every known Macedonian King, soldier, statesman and artist had Greek names.
  - (g) The Book of Daniel (Old Testament) and the Acts of the Apostles (New Testament) confirm the Greekness of Macedonia.
  - (h) Homer, Herodotus, Titus Livy confirm the Greekness of the Macedonians.
  - (i) It was the Greek language that the Macedonians took to Asia, and it was cities with Greek names that were founded.
  - (j) There are 60,000 archaeological findings which confirm that the Macedonians were Greek in language, culture and religion.
  - (k) The home of the Greek gods was in Macedonia. Is it feasible that a people would worship its gods in a foreign country?
  - (l) If the Yugoslav «Macedonians» are so keen to find a Thracio-Illyrian origin for the Ancient Macedonians (in order to purge every Greek element as the Greekness of Macedonia runs contrary to their very identity and arguments) how do they explain:—
    - (i) the absence of even one Thracio-Illyrian word in the known Macedonian vocabulary,
    - (ii) the absence of even one Thracio-Illyrian word in their own Slavic language,
    - (iii) that the Macedonian words belong to the centum group of the Indo-European languages whilst Thracio-Illyrian and Slavic both belong to the satem.
  - (m) On the above basis and on the surviving linguistic historical and archaeological evidence Scholars have concluded that there is no scientific support for the Skopian theory for the origin of the Ancient Macedonian which runs as follows:— the ancient Macedonians were Thracio-Illyrians, whose kings became hellenized during the Golden Age of Greece, but the majority of the Macedonian people were untouched by such influence and on the arrival of the Slavs merged to form the Macedonians of today».
6. The above theory ignores that, even on their reckoning, the Macedonians were at the very least under Greek linguistic, cultural and religious influence for a thousand years. It also goes contrary to what always happens in the history of nations —foreign rulers are linguistically absorbed by the local people and never the reverse— the German Franks became Latin speakers when they conquered Latin Gaul and the German Normans became French speakers in Normandy and then English speakers when they conquered England. How long would a Greek royal household have lasted in Macedonia?
7. There is not a single historical text or reference supporting the existence of a Slavic-Macedonian people from the arrival of the Slavs in the 7th Century until the 19th Century. If the (Slav) Macedonians were the descendants of such a glorious past surely they would have written at least one single word in 1400 years! especially when the ancient Macedonians left such a voluminous (Greek) record.
8. Until 1912 the geographical area known as Macedonia was part of the Turkish Empire. As is well known the Turks were not particularly partial to the Greeks but observe the findings of the 1904 Census for the population of Macedonia: 634,500 Greeks, 385,529 Bulgarians, 90,000 Others (Muslims, Jews, Gypsies, Vlachs)  
NO MENTION OF ANY MACEDONIANS.
9. The «S.R. of Macedonia» in Yugoslavia is not even geographically in the territory occupied by ancient Macedonia.

## EPILOGUE

Greece does not have any territorial aspirations against any of its neighbours. The Greek community of Australia does not harbour any ill will or hostility against any other community. It supports fully the policy of multiculturalism and recognizes the right to all persons to feel and express their own identity. It is regrettable that the Slavs of Yugoslavia have adopted the Greek name «Macedonian» to designate themselves as some other name would have caused less confusion. However, this now being the case the Greek community does not object to these people expressing their own identity. There is, however, strong objection to

- (i) any attempt to distort and usurp Greek history,
- (ii) any attempt to monopolise the name «Macedonian» and ironically prevent the true Macedonians from using same,
- (iii) the presentation of fanciful statistics claiming that there is a minority of 2,000,000 in Greece (when ironically the population of Yugoslav «Macedonia» is 1,500,000 which is composed of minorities like Albanians, and Vlachs who are being suppressed) or claims of genocide that cannot be substantiated and which are the basis for the burning of Greek flags in an attempt to influence the Australian media and public.
- (iv) The publication of maps which include Northern Greece as part of a future «Macedonia» which has to be liberated.

Such actions can only lead to the conclusion that this minority is preparing the groundwork for future territorial claims against Greece. Whilst this is a matter for Greece it will undoubtedly affect the relationship and peace of a large community in Australia and it is your responsibility to ensure that you are familiar with the facts and that the existing harmony in Australia is not disturbed by this small minority which is using multiculturalism in Australia to further its own ends.

Finally we would ask you to respond to the following questions:—

1. Have you heard about the problems being created by the Slav-Macedonians?
2. Do you know the history of Ancient, Medieval and Modern Macedonia?
3. Would you like to know more?

**THE MACEDONIAN PROTEST VIGIL AGAINST THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S BICENTENNIAL "GIFT" - A TROJAN HORSE BROUGHT TO AUSTRALIA WITH \$950,000 OF AUSTRALIAN TAX-PAYERS' MONEY.**

Why has Greece chosen to give a "gift" of findings from ancient Macedonia instead of from ancient Greece? Every Australian should ask this question.....

It should be loud and clear to everybody that the Greek Government wants to say to the Australian people and the world that the 'Macedonians are Greeks'. This total falsehood has been perpetuated because Greece annexed 51% of Macedonia in 1913 and its governments have mistakenly believed that they could only hang on to it through the extermination or assimilation of the Macedonian people. We do not protest at the contents of the exhibition but rather its use for the propaganda purpose of denying the ethno-specificity of the Macedonians.

We, the Macedonian people, accuse all past Greek Governments of attempted genocide against the Macedonians.

We accuse the present Greek Government of perpetuating this policy by:

- 1) Denial of the existence of Macedonian ethno-specificity.
- 2) Non-recognition of the Macedonian language and culture in the Balkans and throughout the world.
- 3) Refusing Macedonians entry into Greece to see their families.
- 4) A hopeless failure to observe human rights accords to which it is a signatory.
- 5) Attempting to foment conflict between the Macedonian and the Greek communities of Australia, Canada and America.

We, the Macedonian people, demand that the Greek Government redress these injustices with full recognition of the basic human rights of all Macedonians within the borders of Greece and throughout the world.

**MACEDONIA**



We, the Macedonian people, demand of the Australian Government that it honour its policy of fair-treatment of its minorities and stop supporting Greek Government initiatives against the Macedonian people's rights.

Authorized by the Macedonian Orthodox Community of Adelaide & S.A. Inc.

**TIME-LINE OF THE FATE OF MACEDONIANS IN AEGEAN MACEDONIA (MACEDONIA WITHIN GREEK POLITICAL BOUNDARIES).**

1913: Macedonia was politically divided between Greece (51%), Serbia (36.5%) and Bulgaria (10.5%). After the first Balkan war when the Ottoman Empire was driven from its last foothold in Europe.

1919: (i) Treaty of Versailles ratifies division of Macedonia.

(ii) Macedonian people from Aegean Macedonia exchanged with Greek people from Bulgaria.

1923: Lausanne Agreement between Greece and Turkey after the Greco-Turkish war.

Massive exchange of population. 1,221,849 Greeks exported from Turkey. 538,595 of whom settled in Aegean Macedonia to 'facilitate' denationalisation of the Macedonian people.

1925: A school primer - known as the ABPECEDAR printed in Athens to teach Macedonian children their own language - destroyed before distribution.

1927: A Greek government edict proclaimed whereby all Macedonian names of villages, towns, regions, rivers, mountains in addition to all first and surnames were forcibly replaced with Greek names.

1938-41: Violent repression of the Macedonians under the military dictatorship of Metaxas. Heavy fines, tortures, beatings and reprisals against Macedonians who used their language, even within the privacy of their homes.

1941-44 - Macedonian and Greek partisans fight side by side to drive out the fascist occupiers (Italy, Germany and Bulgaria).

1944: The People's Republic of Macedonia proclaimed within the Federation of communist Yugoslavia. (Now known as the Socialist Republic of Macedonia - SRM). Macedonians recognised as a separate people with their own political and cultural identity.

1946-9: Civil War between leftist and rightist forces in Greece. Macedonian demands range from autonomy within Greece to total independence. British and American intervention crushes the liberation movement. Mass outflow of refugees both Macedonian and Greek.

1948: Red Cross assists in resettlement of 'refugee children' in Eastern Bloc. 28,000 Macedonian children displaced.

1960-61  
1962-71 - Emigration of Macedonians accelerates and outright political discrimination during these two periods.

1970s - 1980s - Large Macedonian communities comprising Macedonians from Aegean Macedonia and Vardar Macedonia (SRM) form in America, Australia, Canada, West Germany and Sweden.

1984: Property law in Greece passed where only "Greeks by birth" amongst refugees could go back to Greece to claim property left during civil war. Macedonians barred.

1986: Papandreu, Prime Minister of Greece, declares there are no Macedonians anywhere in the world.

1988 - February 5 - Mass demonstrations of Macedonians at La Trobe University against congress of so-called 'Macedonian studies'.

1988: July - Over 50 Macedonians holding Australian and Canadian barred from entry into Greece.

At present it is only the states of Greece and Bulgaria which deny the existence of Macedonian language, culture, history and ethnicity.

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O.CH563002 1819 09.11.89 CLA

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FM. CANBERRA / M4 REF O.CH562552

*BX*

C O N F I D E N T I A L

YUGOSLAVIA : VISIT BY PRESIDENT OF MACEDONIA TO AUSTRALIA

FROM FILE 73/6/3

FURTHER TO PARA 7 OF REFTEL, SECOND SENTENCE SHOULD READ "COULD NOT/NOT RULE OUT A REACTION TO THE VISIT BY SECTORS OF THE GREEK COMMUNITY".

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE  
DEP P M AND CABINET  
ASIO (C)  
CERHOS

PRIME MINISTER  
MIN FOR TRADE NEGS  
D.I.L.G.E.A.(C)  
JIO T/T  
TRANSPORT + COMM

MIN FOREIGN + TRADE  
DEP ADMIN SVCS  
CIVIL AVIATION AUTH  
PSCC

MIN. FOR I.L.G.E.A  
DEP DEFENCE  
ONA  
PRESIDING OFFICERS

ACTION: EEB  
FA-M  
FA-P  
FA-S

T/T  
T/T  
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JAKI

SEC	DEPSEC-SMITH	DEPSEC-LIGHTOWLER	
DEPSEC-FIELD	DEPSEC-COSTELLO	SPECIAL-ADVISER	
EXB	PPB	FAS(AED)	PA(AED) EEU EUT
FAS(ILD)	GLB	IOB	ENB FAS(ETD)
PA(ETD)	TAB	REC	TSB TCB FAS(MTD)
GTB	RAB	RBB	FAS(DND) IDB DPB
FAS(PAD)	OIB	PMB	SWS PRB FAS(CMD)
PA(CMD)	REGIONAL-DIRECTOR(S)		DG-ADAB
DDG(CCIP)			

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O.CE800576 1057 09.11.89 CLA

- TO.
- PP : FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE GEN 05963/
- PP : PSCC GEN 05963/
- PP : PM AND C GEN 05963/
- PP : AFP (FEDPOL AND NATOPS) GEN 05963/
- PP : NSWPSB GEN 05963/
- PP : GALUP (ATTN: PSCTIU) GEN 05963/
- PP : VICPOL (CTEIS AND OIU) GEN 05963/
- RR : INFO AUSTERITY PERTH CCO 08253/
- RR : INFO AUSTERITY SYDNEY CCO 08253/
- RR : INFO AUSTERITY CANBERRA CCO 08253/
- RR : INFO AUSTERITY MELBOURNE CCO 08253/

FM. : ASIO / AS

R E S T R I C T E D

INTERIM THREAT ASSESSMENT

INTELLIGENCE LIAISON SECTION FOR INFO.

- AUSTERITY SYDNEY : FOR INFO AND PLEASE PASS TO NSWPSB
- AUSTERITY MELBOURNE: FOR INFO AND PLEASE PASS TO VICPOL
- AUSTERITY PERTH : FOR INFO AND PLEASE PASS TO GALUP

INTERIM THREAT ASSESSMENT : VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY THE PRESIDENT OF MACEDONIA, YUGOSLAVIA, MR JEZDIMIR BOGDANSKI, 11-19 NOV 1989.

2. REF PSCC MESSAGES 012/30 OF 30 OCT, 001/07 OF 7 NOV AND 015/01 OF 1 NOV 1989.

PAGE TWO GEN 05963/CCO 08253 R E S T R I C T E D

3. ASIO, THE AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL, NEW SOUTH WALES, WESTERN AUSTRALIA AND VICTORIA POLICE FORCES HAVE NO INFORMATION OF ANY SPECIFIC THREAT TO THE PRESIDENT DURING HIS VISIT TO AUSTRALIA. THIS ASSESSMENT, HOWEVER, SHOULD BE REGARDED AS AN INTERIM THREAT ASSESSMENT. FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE PROVIDED IF/WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE.

4. HOWEVER, THERE ARE GROUPS WITHIN THE MACEDONIAN EMIGRE COMMUNITY IN AUSTRALIA WHICH ADVOCATE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT STATE OF MACEDONIA, FREE FROM THE RULE OF GREECE, YUGOSLAVIA AND BULGARIA. THESE ELEMENTS HAVE, IN THE PAST, DISPLAYED A LOW TENDENCY TOWARD VIOLENCE TO ACHIEVE THEIR AIMS.

5. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT RECENT INCIDENTS IN AUSTRALIA INVOLVING THE

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MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY ARE:

GREEK PRESIDENT SARTZETAKIS WAS THE TARGET OF LARGE AND POTENTIALL VIOLENT MACEDONIAN DEMONSTRATIONS OVER THE 'TREASURE OF MACEDONIA' BICENTENNIAL EXHIBITION IN 1988. THESE DEMONSTRATIONS WERE FUELLED BY A PUBLIC CONTROVERSY OVER THE USE BY THE GREEK GOVERNMENT OF 'MACEDONIA' IN THE TITLE OF THE EXHIBITION. WHEN THE EXHIBITION FINALLY APPEARED IN AUSTRALIA, THE YUGOSLAV-MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY PROTESTED IN LARGE NUMBERS, RESULTING IN PHYSICAL CONFRONTATIONS BETWEEN THE DEMONSTRATORS AND THE PRESIDENT'S ENTOURAGE: AND

ON 5 FEBRUAAARY 1989, THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MACEDONIAN STUDIES AT LA TROBE UNIVERSITY, MELBOURNE, WHICH WAS SPONSORED BY MEDI-BANK PRIVATE, A PRIVATE HEALTH FUND, WAS THE SUBJECT OF A DEMONSTRATION BY YUGOSLAV-MACEDONIANS.

6. THE VISIT OF THE MACEDONIANPRESIDENT AND DELEGATION TO AUSTRALIA IS LIKELY TO INCREASE TENSION WITHIN THE AUSTRALIAN-MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY. THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY IN AUSTRALIA HAS A HISTORY OF DEMONSTRATIVE ACTION, AND THE TIMING OF THIS VISIT - CLOSE TO YUGOSLAV NATIONAL DAY ON 29 NOVEMBER, WHICH IS TRADITIONALLY A TIME OF HEIGHTENED SEPARATIST FEELING, COULD SERVE TO POLARIZE MACEDONIAN OPINION.

PAGE THREE GEN 05963/CCO 08253 R E S T R I C T E D

7. IT IS LIKELY THAT ELEMENTS WITHIN THE GREEK MACEDONIAN, BULGARIAN-MACEDONIAN AND SEPARATIST YUGOSLAV-MACEDONIAN COMMUNITIES WILL UNDERTAKE PROTEST ACTION. HOWEVER, ASIO AND STATE POLICE FORCES ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY PROTEST ACTIVITY PLANNED DURING THE VISIT. A MAJOR MACEDONIAN DEMONSTRATION IS PLANNED IN CANBERRA ON 26 NOVEMBER 1989 AFTER THE DELEGATION HAS DEPARTED.

8. THE VIOLENCE WHICH WAS PRESENT AT THE DEMONSTRATION OVER THE ''TREASURE OF MACEDONIA'' BICENTENNIAL EXHIBITION IN 1988 WAS THE PRODUCT OF A BUILD UP OF TENSIONS WITHIN THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY OVER A PERIOD OF MONTHS. NO SUCH SITUATION IS EVIDENT INVOLVING THE VISIT OF THE MACEDONIAN PRESIDENT AND DELEGATION TO AUSTRALIA. CONSEQUENTLY ASIO ASSESSES THE LIKELIHOOD OF ANY VIOLENCE TIMED TO COINCIDE WITH THIS VISIT TO BE LOW.

9. IN ACCORDANCE WITH CURRENT GUIDELINES, THE THREAT TO THE PRESIDENT AND THE DELEGATION IS ASSESSED TO BE LEVEL 5 (LEVEL 5B - WHILE THE VISIT MAY OCCASION PROTESTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY, THERE IS NO INFORMATION TO SHOW, OR BASIS TO BELIEVE SUCH PROTESTS WILL BE VIOLENT).

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FOI ACT 1982: SECTION 16 (2) AND SECTION 25 (1) MAY APPLY TO THIS DOCUMENT.

090903 ESST NOVEMBER 1989

- ACTION: EEB
- EEU
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- DFP
- INP
- SCB
- DSS



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Tel: (062) 61 3361



Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Canberra.

FACSIMILE MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED

Date 9/11/89

To OMA / PM+C

Fax No. 715939

Attention MR TONY ZANDERIGO

Pages Following 4

From BARBARA KELLY

File No. \_\_\_\_\_

Subject MACEDONIA

COMMENTS:

- grateful your views on the  
2 page brief from West Europe Serbia DFM  
+ the 1 page from DILGEE.

Regards

Barbara Kelly  
61 3361

Accommodation

Canberra : Hotel Parillian

Sydney

Campdown  
Travel Lodge

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OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

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O.CH562719 JRLE

O.CH562719 1738 07.11.89 CLA

TO.  
RR BELGRADE/1727 ATHENS/7540

FM. CANBERRA / M4

R E S T R I C T E D

YUGOSLAVIA : MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY OF W.A.

FROM FILE 73/6/3

PLEASE NOTE THAT O.CH562548 IS A REPEAT OF O.CH560437 SENT TO DFAT PERTH IN RESPONSE TO AN ENQUIRY RE VISIT OF MR BODGANSKI, PRESIDENT OF SR MACEDONIA.

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE

ACTION: WEB  
EEB

JAKI  
JAMK

WEU          EUC          EUT



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Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Canberra.

FACSIMILE MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED

Date 7.11.89

To DFAT MELBOURNE

Fax No. 03-6115455

Attention MR J GRINBERG

Pages Following ---

From BARBARA KELLY EES

File No. -----

Subject YUGOSLAVIA: VISIT BY PRESIDENT OF MACEDONIA

COMMENTS:

*MV Gwinkey*

*Further to paragraph 8 of O.CH 562552  
of 6/11/89, please note that O.CH 560437  
has been repeated to you as O.CH 562547.*

*B Kelly*

*Sul*

Fax: (062) 612176  
Tel: (062) 61 3361



**Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**

Canberra.

**FACSIMILE MESSAGE**

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Date 7/11/89

To DFAT SYDNEY

Fax No. 02-356 4238

Attention MR T B. MCCARTHY

Pages Following 0

From BARBARA KELLY EER

File No. \_\_\_\_\_

Subject YUGOSLAVIA - VISIT OF MR BOGDANSKI

**COMMENTS:**

MR MCCARTHY

FURTHER TO CABLE O.CH652499 OF 6.11.89, PLEASE CORRECT PARAGRAPH 1 TO READ "HE WILL BE IN AUSTRALIA FROM 11.11.89 TO 19.11.89." PARAGRAPH 9 OF REFTEL REFERS TO O.CH560437 WHICH HAS BEEN REPEATED TO YOU AS O.CH562547.

**2. FOLLOWING IS BIODATA:**

JEZDIMIR BOGDANSKI, BORN 1930. GRADUATE OF THE SCHOOL OF SOCIOLOGY. MEMBER OF THE LEAGUE OF COMMUNISTS SINCE 1948. REPUBLICAN SECRETARY FOR LABOUR, HEALTH AND SOCIAL POLICY. DEPUTY OF THE REPUBLICAN PARLIAMENT. MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE LEAGUE OF COMMUNISTS OF MACEDONIA.

*B Kelly*

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ACTION: EUT  
COPY NO. 1  
O.CH562547 KPMO

O.CH562547 1744 6.11.89 CLA

TO.  
PP : DFAT SYDNEY/  
PP : DFAT MELBOURNE/

FM. : CANBERRA / M4

C O N F I D E N T I A L

YUGOSLAVIA: MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY OF WA

FROM FILE 73/6/3 F

FROM EEB DFAT

FOLLOWING FOR YOUR INFORMATION

BEGINS:

1. THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE OCCUPIES A COMPLEX AND CONTROVERSIAL PLACE IN GREEK AND BALKAN HISTORY. THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS CLAIMS AND COUNTERCLAIMS CONCERNING MACEDONIAN IDENTITY, HISTORY AND CULTURE ON THE PART OF GREECE, YUGOSLAVIA AND BULGARIA.

2. ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO TERRITORIAL DISPUTE BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND GREECE OVER THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE, IT IS NEVERTHELESS A SOURCE OF FRICTION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AS THE EXISTENCE IN YUGOSLAVIA OF A MACEDONIAN REPUBLIC IN WHICH THE MACEDONIAN LANGUAGE, IDENTITY AND CULTURE ARE FOSTERED IS SEEN BY GREECE AS ENCOURAGING SIMILAR ASPIRATIONS AMONG GREEK MACEDONIANS

- YUGOSLAV MACEDONIANS FEEL SOME CONCERN THAT FELLOW MACEDONIANS IN GREECE AND BULGARIA ARE NOT ALLOWED TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS MACEDONIANS

- HOWEVER, THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT IN ANY SENSE SUPPORTS OR CONDONES THOSE MACEDONIANS WHO ASPIRE TO THE CREATION OF A 'GREATER MACEDONIA'.

3. THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT HOLDS THE VIEW THAT THE CLAIMS AND COUNTERCLAIMS ON MACEDONIAN IDENTITY SHOULD BE RESOLVED BY THE PARTIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED

- AUSTRALIA DOES NOT/NOT RECOGNISE OR SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF A 'MACEDONIAN STATE' TRANSCENDING PRESENT BOUNDARIES OF YUGOSLAVIA, GREECE AND BULGARIA.

4. THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE HAS NOT BEEN A SOURCE OF FRICTION BETWEEN

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AUSTRALIA AND YUGOSLAVIA

- AUSTRALIA RECOGNISES THE EXISTENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA WITHIN THE SOCIALIST FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA AND BOGDANSKI'S STATUS AS PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC.
  
- 5. THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE HAS, HOWEVER, OCCASIONALLY CAUSED FRICTION IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GREECE. FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS GREECE HAS REFUSED ENTRY TO SOME HOLDERS OF AUSTRALIAN PASSPORTS WHOM IT DEEMS TO HOLD 'ANTI-GREEK' OR 'PRO-MACEDONIAN' VIEWS
  - SOME PEOPLE HAVE BEEN QUESTIONED OR DETAINED ON ARRIVAL IN GREECE, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF SUSPICIONS RELATING TO THEIR MACEDONIAN ORIGINS
  - REPRESENTATIONS BY AUSTRALIA (AND BY THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA ON BEHALF OF THEIR NATIONALS IN SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES) HAVE BEEN REJECTED BY GREECE.
  
- 6. THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT, IN KEEPING WITH ITS COMMITMENT TO MULTI-CULTURALISM, CONSIDERS THAT ETHNIC GROUPS IN AUSTRALIA HAVE THE RIGHT TO SELF-IDENTIFICATION
  - HENCE PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA MAY IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AND THEIR LANGUAGE AS 'MACEDONIAN'
    - : THIS POSITION, HOWEVER, SHOULD NOT/NOT BE INTERPRETED AS IMPLYING ANY FORM OF RECOGNITION BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT OF THE CLAIMS OR OBJECTIVES OF PARTICULAR GROUPS
  - THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ALSO FIRMLY ESPOUSES THE VIEW THAT THE SUCCESS OF MULTICULTURALISM WILL BE PUT AT RISK IF RIVALRIES AND ANIMOSITIES WHICH HAVE THEIR ORIGINS ELSEWHERE CONTINUE TO BE ACTED OUT IN AUSTRALIA. IN PRESERVING THEIR OWN TRADITIONS AND CULTURES, ALL GROUPS IN AUSTRALIA MUST RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS TO DO THE SAME, AND RESTRAIN THEIR ACTIONS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF AUSTRALIAN LAW.
  
- 7. YOU WILL BE AWARE OF THE VIOLENT PROTESTS IN SYDNEY IN NOVEMBER 1988 DURING THE VISIT OF THE GREEK PRESIDENT MR SARTZETAKIS
  - CONTROVERSY AROSE OVER THE INCLUSION OF THE WORD 'MACEDONIA' IN THE TITLE OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION SENT TO AUSTRALIA AS PART OF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE BICENTENNIAL
  - SECTIONS OF THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY IN AUSTRALIA WERE ANGERED AT THE USE OF THE WORD, GIVEN THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL TO ALLOW GREEK MACEDONIANS TO USE THE TERM THEMSELVES

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- THE GREEK GOVERNMENT INSISTED THAT THE EXHIBITION RELATED WHOLLY TO ANCIENT MACEDONIA, PRIOR TO THE MOVEMENT OF THE MODERN (SLAVIC) MACEDONIANS INTO THE AREA AND THAT THE USE OF THE TERM IN THE TITLE WAS ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE
- : THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT VIEWED THE INCIDENT AS REGRETTABLE AND AS DOING NOTHING TO ADVANCE THE CAUSE OF MULTICULTURALISM IN AUSTRALIA.
8. YOU SOUGHT OUR VIEWS ON WHETHER THE W.A. PREMIER OR A MINISTER NOMINATED BY HIM SHOULD OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW PREMISES OF THE 'MACEDONIAN SOCIETY OF W.A.', PARTICULARLY GIVEN THAT JESDIMIR BOGDANSKI WOULD ALSO BE PRESENT.
9. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE MACEDONIA UNITED SOCIETY OF W.A. WITH GEORGE VASSILEY (OMA PERTH) AND CARLOS STRANSKY (ETHNIC AFFAIRS DILGEA PERTH). OMA PERTH HAS ADVISED THAT IT IS A POLITICALLY ACTIVE, ALTHOUGH NOT EXTREMELY RADICAL, GROUP. IT IS NOT/NOT REGARDED AS A CHAMPION OF 'GREATER MACEDONIA'. IT IS LED BY SASHA CVETKOSKI AND ZORAN CORSESKI WHO HAVE, HOWEVER, BEEN ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN ANTI-GREEK PROPAGANDA IN W.A.
10. DILGEA PERTH REGARDS BOGDANSKI'S VISIT AS PART OF THE NORMAL EXPRESSION OF THE FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND AUSTRALIA, SPECIFICALLY BETWEEN THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITIES OF BOTH COUNTRIES. ALTHOUGH DILGEA PERTH EXPECTS A HOSTILE REACTION TO BOGDANSKI'S VISIT FROM THE GREEK COMMUNITY ('VITRIOLIC WRITING IN THE GREEK PRESS AND PERHAPS SOME PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION'), THEY CONSIDER THAT THERE WOULD BE NO/NO OBJECTION TO THE W.A. PREMIER'S PRESENCE AT THE CEREMONY.
11. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRIME MINISTER WILL ATTEND THE MEETING AND DELIVER A SHORT SPEECH.
12. ON THE QUESTION OF BOGDANSKI'S STATUS, WE RECOGNISE HIM AS PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA WITHIN THE YUGOSLAV FEDERATION. HIS RANK IS ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT TO THAT OF AN AUSTRALIAN STATE PREMIER. EVEN THOUGH BOGDANSKI WILL BE VISITING AUSTRALIA IN AN UNOFFICIAL CAPACITY, WE HAVE NO/NO IN PRINCIPLE OBJECTION TO THE PREMIER OR A DESIGNATED MINISTER MEETING HIM.
13. AT THIS STAGE WE CANNOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBLITY THAT THE NON-ATTENDANCE OF THE PREMIER OR DELEGATE AT THE OPENING OF THE COMPLEX MIGHT ALSO PROVOKE A PROTEST.
14. WE HAVE REQUESTED AN INTERIM THREAT ASSESSMENT FROM PROTECTIVE SERVICES. WE RECOMMEND THAT THE RELEVANT W.A. POLICE AUTHORITIES BE ADVISED OF THE 12 NOVEMBER OPENING DATE AND BE ASKED TO ASSESS POSSIBLE SECURITY RISKS.

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15. GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD PASS A COPY OF THIS CABLE TO THE PREMIER'S OFFICER.

ENDS.

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE

ACTION: WEB  
WEU  
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EEU  
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IDB  
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JALJ

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

YUGOSLAVIA: MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY OF WA

FROM FILE 73/6/3

FOLLOWING FOR YOUR INFORMATION

1. THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE OCCUPIES A COMPLEX AND CONTROVERSIAL PLACE IN GREEK AND BALKAN HISTORY. THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS CLAIMS AND COUNTERCLAIMS CONCERNING MACEDONIAN IDENTITY, HISTORY AND CULTURE ON THE PART OF GREECE, YUGOSLAVIA AND BULGARIA.

2. ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO TERRITORIAL DISPUTE BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND GREECE OVER THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE, IT IS NEVERTHELESS A SOURCE OF FRICTION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AS THE EXISTENCE IN YUGOSLAVIA OF A MACEDONIAN REPUBLIC IN WHICH THE MACEDONIAN LANGUAGE, IDENTITY AND CULTURE ARE FOSTERED IS SEEN BY GREECE AS ENCOURAGING SIMILAR ASPIRATIONS AMONG GREEK MACEDONIANS

- YUGOSLAV MACEDONIANS FEEL SOME CONCERN THAT FELLOW MACEDONIANS IN GREECE AND BULGARIA ARE NOT ALLOWED TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS MACEDONIANS
- HOWEVER, THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT IN ANY SENSE SUPPORTS OR CONDONES THOSE MACEDONIANS WHO ASPIRE TO THE CREATION OF A 'GREATER MACEDONIA'.

3. THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT HOLDS THE VIEW THAT THE CLAIMS AND COUNTERCLAIMS ON MACEDONIAN IDENTITY SHOULD BE RESOLVED BY THE PARTIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED

- AUSTRALIA DOES NOT/NOT RECOGNISE OR SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF A 'MACEDONIAN STATE' TRANSCENDING PRESENT BOUNDARIES OF YUGOSLAVIA, GREECE AND BULGARIA.

4. THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE HAS NOT BEEN A SOURCE OF FRICTION BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND YUGOSLAVIA

- AUSTRALIA RECOGNISES THE EXISTENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

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2-O.CH562548

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WITHIN THE SOCIALIST FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA AND BOGDANSKI'S STATUS AS PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC.

5. THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE HAS, HOWEVER, OCCASIONALLY CAUSED FRICTION IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GREECE. FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS GREECE HAS REFUSED ENTRY TO SOME HOLDERS OF AUSTRALIAN PASSPORTS WHOM IT DEEMS TO HOLD ''ANTI-GREEK'' OR ''PRO-MACEDONIAN'' VIEWS

- SOME PEOPLE HAVE BEEN QUESTIONED OR DETAINED ON ARRIVAL IN GREECE, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF SUSPICIONS RELATING TO THEIR MACEDONIAN ORIGINS
- REPRESENTATIONS BY AUSTRALIA (AND BY THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA ON BEHALF OF THEIR NATIONALS IN SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES) HAVE BEEN REJECTED BY GREECE.

6. THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT, IN KEEPING WITH ITS COMMITMENT TO MULTI-CULTURALISM, CONSIDERS THAT ETHNIC GROUPS IN AUSTRALIA HAVE THE RIGHT TO SELF-IDENTIFICATION

- HENCE PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA MAY IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AND THEIR LANGUAGE AS ''MACEDONIAN''
  - : THIS POSITION, HOWEVER, SHOULD NOT/NOT BE INTERPRETED AS IMPLYING ANY FORM OF RECOGNITION BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT OF THE CLAIMS OR OBJECTIVES OF PARTICULAR GROUPS
- THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ALSO FIRMLY ESPOUSES THE VIEW THAT THE SUCCESS OF MULTICULTURALISM WILL BE PUT AT RISK IF RIVALRIES AND ANIMOSITIES WHICH HAVE THEIR ORIGINS ELSEWHERE CONTINUE TO BE ACTED OUT IN AUSTRALIA. IN PRESERVING THEIR OWN TRADITIONS AND CULTURES, ALL GROUPS IN AUSTRALIA MUST RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS TO DO THE SAME, AND RESTRAIN THEIR ACTIONS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF AUSTRALIAN LAW.

7. YOU WILL BE AWARE OF THE VIOLENT PROTESTS IN SYDNEY IN NOVEMBER 1988 DURING THE VISIT OF THE GREEK PRESIDENT MR SARTZETAKIS

- CONTROVERSY AROSE OVER THE INCLUSION OF THE WORD ''MACEDONIA'' IN THE TITLE OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION SENT TO AUSTRALIA AS PART OF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE BICENTENNIAL
- SECTIONS OF THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY IN AUSTRALIA WERE ANGERED AT THE USE OF THE WORD, GIVEN THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL TO ALLOW GREEK MACEDONIANS TO USE THE TERM THEMSELVES
- THE GREEK GOVERNMENT INSISTED THAT THE EXHIBITION RELATED

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WHOLLY TO ANCIENT MACEDONIA, PRIOR TO THE MOVEMENT OF THE MODERN (SLAVIC) MACEDONIANS INTO THE AREA AND THAT THE USE OF THE TERM IN THE TITLE WAS ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE

: THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT VIEWED THE INCIDENT AS REGRETTABLE AND AS DOING NOTHING TO ADVANCE THE CAUSE OF MULTICULTURALISM IN AUSTRALIA.

8. YOU SOUGHT OUR VIEWS ON WHETHER THE W.A. PREMIER OR A MINISTER NOMINATED BY HIM SHOULD OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW PREMISES OF THE 'MACEDONIAN SOCIETY OF W.A.', PARTICULARLY GIVEN THAT JESDIMIR BOGDANSKI WOULD ALSO BE PRESENT.

9. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE MACEDONIA UNITED SOCIETY OF W.A. WITH GEORGE VASSILEY (OMA PERTH) AND CARLOS STRANSKY (ETHNIC AFFAIRS DILGEA PERTH). OMA PERTH HAS ADVISED THAT IT IS A POLITICALLY ACTIVE, ALTHOUGH NOT EXTREMELY RADICAL, GROUP. IT IS NOT/NOT REGARDED AS A CHAMPION OF 'GREATER MACEDONIA'. IT IS LED BY SASHA CVETKOSKI AND ZORAN CORSESKI WHO HAVE, HOWEVER, BEEN ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN ANTI-GREEK PROPAGANDA IN W.A.

10. DILGEA PERTH REGARDS BOGDANSKI'S VISIT AS PART OF THE NORMAL EXPRESSION OF THE FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND AUSTRALIA, SPECIFICALLY BETWEEN THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITIES OF BOTH COUNTRIES. ALTHOUGH DILGEA PERTH EXPECTS A HOSTILE REACTION TO BOGDANSKI'S VISIT FROM THE GREEK COMMUNITY ('VITRIOLIC WRITING IN THE GREEK PRESS AND PERHAPS SOME PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION'), THEY CONSIDER THAT THERE WOULD BE NO/NO OBJECTION TO THE W.A. PREMIER'S PRESENCE AT THE CEREMONY.

11. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRIME MINISTER WILL ATTEND THE MEETING AND DELIVER A SHORT SPEECH.

12. ON THE QUESTION OF BOGDANSKI'S STATUS, WE RECOGNISE HIM AS PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA WITHIN THE YUGOSLAV FEDERATION. HIS RANK IS ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT TO THAT OF AN AUSTRALIAN STATE PREMIER. EVEN THOUGH BOGDANSKI WILL BE VISITING AUSTRALIA IN AN UNOFFICIAL CAPACITY, WE HAVE NO/NO IN PRINCIPLE OBJECTION TO THE PREMIER OR A DESIGNATED MINISTER MEETING HIM.

13. AT THIS STAGE WE CANNOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBLITY THAT THE NON-ATTENDANCE OF THE PREMIER OR DELEGATE AT THE OPENING OF THE COMPLEX MIGHT ALSO PROVOKE A PROTEST.

14. WE HAVE REQUESTED AN INTERIM THREAT ASSESSMENT FROM PROTECTIVE SERVICES. WE RECOMMEND THAT THE RELEVANT W.A. POLICE AUTHORITIES BE ADVISED OF THE 12 NOVEMBER OPENING DATE AND BE ASKED TO ASSESS POSSIBLE SECURITY RISKS.

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OUT

15. GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD PASS A COPY OF THIS CABLE TO THE PREMIER'S OFFICER.

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE  
ASIO (C)

PRIME MINISTER  
DEP DEFENCE  
JIO T/T

MIN FOREIGN + TRADE  
DEP P M AND CABINET  
PSCC

MIN FOR TRADE NEGS  
ONA

ACTION: WEB  
EEB  
IDB

JALJ  
JAKI  
JAKB

SEC	DEPSEC-SMITH	DEPSEC-FIELD					
DEPSEC-COSTELLO	EXB	PPB	FAS(AED)	NZHC			
CN	PA(AED)	AMB	WEU	EUC	EEU		
EUT	FAS(ILD)	GLB	IOB	FAS(ETD)			
FAS(DND)	DFP	INP	DPB	FAS(PAD)	PMB		
SWS	FAS(CMD)	PA(CMD)	REGIONAL-DIRECTOR(S)				
ANKARA	BEIJING	BERNE	BONN	BRUSSELS	DUBLIN	GENEVA	LISBON
LONDON	MALTA	NICOSIA	ROME	THE HAGUE	VIENNA	WARSAW	

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FIRST**

ACTION: EUT.  
COPY NO. 1  
O.CH562499 JJMC

O.CH562499 1428 6.11.89 CLA FIRST

TO.  
PP : DFAT SYDNEY/

FM. : EEU, DFAT / M4

*BK*

**C O N F I D E N T I A L**

*F*

**YUGOSLAVIA : VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY PRESIDENT OF MACEDONIA**  
FROM FILE 73/6/3

ON 2 NOVEMBER THE YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR CALLED TO DISCUSS THE VISIT TO AUSTRALIA OF MR JEZDIMIR BOGDANSKI, PRESIDENT OF THE PRESIDENCY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA. MR BOGDANSKI'S STATUS IS EQUIVALENT TO THAT OF AN AUSTRALIAN STATE PREMIER. HE WILL BE IN AUSTRALIA FROM 11.11.89 TO 17.11.89.

2. ON THE GROUNDS THAT MR BOGDANSKI IS MAKING A PRIVATE VISIT TO AUSTRALIA AT THE INVITATION OF THE MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY OF WA, AND IN THE LIGHT OF OUR EMBASSY IN BELGRADE'S SUGGESTION THAT DFAT ORGANISE HIS PROGRAM, WE SOUGHT CLARIFICATION FROM THE AMBASSADOR OF THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY'S ROLE.

3. THE AMBASSADOR SAID MR BOGDANSKI'S PROGRAM IN PERTH AND MELBOURNE WOULD BE ORGANISED BY THE RELEVANT YUGOSLAV CONSULATES, AND THAT THE SYDNEY AND CANBERRA PROGRAMS WOULD BE ARRANGED BY THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY. WE AGREED TO ASSIST THE AMBASSADOR WITH OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS IN CANBERRA AND IN REQUESTING AN APPOINTMENT IN SYDNEY WITH EITHER THE PREMIER OR DEPUTY PREMIER

- GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD APPROACH THE PREMIER'S DEPARTMENT ON OUR BEHALF. AS YOU WILL SEE FROM PARA 4 BELOW, POSSIBLE TIMES ARE MORNING OF THURSDAY 16.11 FOLLOWING MEETING WITH MR UNSWORTH, AND FRIDAY 17.11 PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.

4. MR BOGDANSKI'S SYDNEY ITINERARY IS AS FOLLOWS : ETA (FROM CANBERRA) 1330 WEDNESDAY 15 NOVEMBER ON UN1219., ETD 1520 FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER ON TN493 FOR MELBOURNE. THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY (CONTACT MR BRAZANSKI 062-951458) HAS MADE THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS FOR MR BOGDANSKI

- WEDNESDAY 15.11.89: 1530 MR URI THEMAL, ETHNIC AFFAIRS COMMISSION., 1800 VISIT TO THE 'ST PETKA'S' CHURCH, ROCKDALE

*now 9am FRI 17/11*

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2-O.CH562499

FOLLOWED BY A MEETING WITH THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY OF SYDNEY AND DINNER AT 2030

- THURSDAY 16.11.89: 0900 MR UNSWORTH., 1300 CALL ON THE TRADE COMPANY 'MARCO POLO' AND TALKS WITH BUSINESSMEN OF MACEDONIAN ORIGIN AND REPRESENTATIVES OF YUGOSLAV COMPANIES IN SYDNEY FOLLOWED BY LUNCHEON., 1730 CALL ON DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR PROFESSOR B. LEIL, MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY., EVENING MEETING WITH YUGOSLAV COORDINATION COUNCIL OF NSW

- FRIDAY 17.11.89 FREE *X* *Yugo Env. advised 8/11 that appt with ethnic affairs commission had been changed to*

*FRI 17/11 at 9am*

5. YOU MAY WISH TO ADVISE THE PREMIER'S DEPARTMENT THAT WHILE IN CANBERRA MR BOGDANSKI WILL BE CALLING ON THE PRIME MINISTER. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRIME MINISTER WILL ALSO BE ATTENDING THE OPENING OF THE PREMISES OF THE MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY OF WA (REPEAT OF O.CH560437 PARAGRAPH 11 REFERS).

6. WE HAVE INFORMED PSCC OF THE VISIT AND HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT THE AFP ARE PROPOSING TO PROVIDE A SECURITY LIAISON OFFICER FOR MR BOGDANSKI. AFP CONTACT IS SERGEANT MIKE CASEY: 062-390749.

7. MR BOGDANSKI WILL BE ACCOMPANIED

- MR BORIS RIKALOVSKI, REPUBLICAN SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS OF MACEDONIA
- MR MIRCE KUKULOVSKI, INSPECTOR OF THE FEDERAL SECRETARIAT OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS (SECURITY OFFICER)
- MR ZIVKO KONDEV, CHIEF OF THE CABINET OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA
- MR BOJAN DIMITROV, INTERPRETER

8. THE DELEGATION AND THE YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT NO/NO FIREARMS MAY BE CARRIED.

9. WE ARE COPYING TO YOU O.CH560437 WHICH WAS PREPARED IN RESPONSE TO A QUERY FROM DFAT PERTH. WE WERE UNAWARE OF MR BOGDANSKI'S VISIT TO CANBERRA, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE UNTIL ADVISED BY THE POST ON 27.10.89.

- POST TODAY ADVISED THAT MR BOGDANSKI WILL BE CALLING ON EMBASSY IN BELGRADE SECOND HALF OF THIS WEEK PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR AUSTRALIA. GRATEFUL FOR EARLY ADVICE OF OUTCOME OF YOUR

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3-O.CH562499

APPROACH TO PREMIER'S DEPARTMENT.

ACTION: PSCC T/T

ACTION: EUC  
EEB  
EUT  
FA-S

LBBBB

T/T

SUPERFINE



BOND

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INFO: EUT  
COPY NO. 1

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

O.CH562552 SKPL

OUT

O.CH562552 1744 06.11.89 CLA FIRST

TO.  
PP BELGRADE/1711

FM. CANBERRA / M4 /

C O N F I D E N T I A L F

YUGOSLAVIA : VISIT BY PRESIDENT OF MACEDONIA TO AUSTRALIA

FROM FILE 73/6/3

REF O.BG52660, 52682, 52645, 52635 AND O.CH560437

FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF O.BG52645 AND O.BG52635 WE CALLED IN YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR ON 2 NOVEMBER TO DISCUSS VISIT TO AUSTRALIA OF MR JEZDIMIR BOGDANSKI, PRESIDENT OF THE PRESIDENCY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA.

2. GIVEN THAT MR BOGDANSKI WILL BE MAKING A PRIVATE VISIT TO AUSTRALIA AT THE INVITATION OF THE MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY OF WA (AND NOT/NOT AT THE INVITATION OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT, O.BG52660 REFERS), AND IN THE LIGHT OF YOUR SUGGESTION THAT DFAT ASSIST IN THE ORGANISATION OF HIS PROGRAM, WE SOUGHT CLARIFICATION FROM THE AMBASSADOR ON THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY'S ROLE.

3. THE AMBASSADOR SAID MR BOGDANSKI'S PROGRAM IN PERTH AND MELBOURNE WOULD BE ORGANISED BY THE YUGOSLAV CONSULATE AND CONSULATE-GENERAL RESPECTIVELY, AND THAT THE SYDNEY AND CANBERRA PROGRAMS WOULD BE ARRANGED BY THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY. WE AGREED TO ASSIST CIZELJ WITH OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS IN CANBERRA AND IN SEEKING AN APPOINTMENT IN SYDNEY WITH EITHER THE PREMIER OR DEPUTY PREMIER.

4. ALL DOMESTIC FLIGHTS FOR MR BOGDANSKI AND PARTY HAVE BEEN BOOKED BY THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY. THE AMBASSADOR ADVISED US OF THE FOLLOWING FLIGHT DETAILS:

- ETA PERTH 0305 11.11.89 QF008 (TO BE CONFIRMED)
- ETD PERTH 0935 14.11.89 TN005 TO MELBOURNE THEN AX174 TO CANBERRA
- ETA CANBERRA 1645 14.11.89 AX174

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2-O.CH562552

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- ETD CANBERRA 1240 15.11.89 UN1219 TO SYDNEY
- ETA SYDNEY 1330 15.11.89 UN1219
- ETD SYDNEY 1520 17.11.89 TN493 TO MELBOURNE
- ETA MELBOURNE 1635 17.11.89 TN493
- ETD MELBOURNE 1650 19.11.89 JU581.

5. MR BOGDANSKI'S CANBERRA PROGRAM IS AS FOLLOWS FOR WEDNESDAY 15.11.89:

- 0800 LORD MAYOR OF QUEANBEYAN AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY IN QUEANBEYAN
  - 1000 DEPUTY SECRETARY AND AS, POLICY SECRETARIAT, DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ETHNIC AFFAIRS (MEETING AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE)
  - 1030 PRIME MINISTER
  - 1100 SENATOR THE HON KERRY SIBRAA
- : APPOINTMENTS WERE SOUGHT WITH SENATOR EVANS, SENATOR RAY AND THE SECRETARY OF DILGEA BUT THEY WILL NOT BE IN CANBERRA ON 15.11.

6. THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY HAS ADVISED THAT THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE IN SYDNEY FOR MR BOGDANSKI

- WEDNESDAY 15.11.89: 1530 MR URI THEMAL, NSW ETHNIC AFFAIRS COMMISSION., 1800 VISIT TO THE ''ST PETKA'S'' CHURCH, ROCKDALE FOLLOWED BY A MEETING WITH THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY OF SYDNEY AND DINNER AT 2030
- THURSDAY 16.11.89: 0900 MR UNSWORTH., 1300 CALL ON THE TRADE COMPANY ''MARCO POLO'' AND TALKS WITH BUSINESSMEN OF MACEDONIAN ORIGIN AND REPRESENTATIVES OF YUGOSLAV COMPANIES IN SYDNEY FOLLOWED BY LUNCHEON., 1730 CALL ON DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR PROFESSOR B. LEIL, MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY., EVENING MEETING WITH YUGOSLAV COORDINATION COUNCIL OF NSW

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- FRIDAY 17.11.89 FREE

: WE WILL ADVISE APPOINTMENT WITH PREMIER OF DEPUTY PREMIER  
WHEN KNOWN.

7. WE CONFIRMED WITH AMBASSADOR THAT MR BOGDANSKI AND PARTY ARE  
NOT/NOT ALLOWED TO CARRY FIREARMS. WE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT WE COULD  
NOT/NOT RULE OUT A REACTION TO THE VISIT BY THE GREEK MACEDONIAN  
COMMUNITY *de l'ete.*

- YOU MAY ADVISE BOGDANSKI THAT THE FEDERAL AND STATE AUTHORITIES  
WILL BE PROVIDING APPROPRIATE SECURITY MEASURES FOR THE PARTY  
INCLUDING, AS NECESSARY, THE PROVISION OF POLICE ESCORT OFFICERS.

8. WE ARE COPYING TO YOU O.CH560437 WHICH WAS PREPARED IN RESPONSE  
TO A QUERY FROM DFAT PERTH. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRIME MINISTER  
WILL BE ATTENDING THE OPENING OF THE MACEDONIAN SOCIETY OF WA  
PREMISES.

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE  
DEP P M AND CABINET  
ASIO (C)  
CERHOS

PRIME MINISTER  
MIN FOR TRADE NEGS  
D.I.L.G.E.A.(C)  
JIO T/T  
TRANSPORT + COMM

MIN FOREIGN + TRADE  
DEP ADMIN SVCS  
CIVIL AVIATION AUTH  
PSCC

MIN. FOR I.L.G.E.A  
DEP DEFENCE  
ONA  
PRESIDING OFFICERS

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ACTION: EEB

LBBBB  
JAKI

FA-M1	T/T
FA-P1	T/T
FA-S1	T/T

SEC	DEPSEC-SMITH	DEPSEC-LIGHTOWLER			
DEPSEC-FIELD		DEPSEC-COSTELLO	SPECIAL-ADVISER		
EXB	PPB	FAS(AED)	NZHC	CN	PA(AED)
WEB	EEU	EUT	FAS(ILD)	GLB	IOB
FAS(DND)	IDB	DPB	FAS(PAD)	OIB	PMB
SWS	PRB	FAS(CMD)	REGIONAL-DIRECTOR(S)		
DG-ADAB					

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Fax: (062) 612176  
Tel: (062) 61 3361



Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Canberra

FACSIMILE MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED Date 6/11/89

To PSCC Fax No. 702255

Attention JOHN FOSTER Pages Following 4

From BARBARA KELLY EAST EUROPE SECTION File No. \_\_\_\_\_

Subject VISIT OF PRESIDENT OF MACEDONIA,  
MR BOGDANSKI

COMMENTS:

*Hope the attached is of some use.*

*B Kelly*  
*61.3361*

1. PLEASE FIND ATTACHED A PROVISIONAL PROGRAM RECEIVED FROM THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY ON 2.11.89. THE EMBASSY HAS TODAY CONFIRMED SOME OF THE APPOINTMENTS (SEE BELOW) AND HOPES TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE A MORE DEFINITE PROGRAM BY TOMORROW.

2. THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION MAY BE OF USE:

3. BIODATA: JEZDIMIR BOGDANSKI, BORN 1930. GRADUATE OF THE SCHOOL OF SOCIOLOGY. MEMBER OF THE LEAGUE OF COMMUNISTS SINCE 1948. REPUBLICAN SECRETARY FOR LABOUR, HEALTH AND SOCIAL POLICY. DEPUTY OF THE REPUBLICAN PARLIAMENT. MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE LEAGUE OF COMMUNISTS OF MACEDONIA.

4. MR BOGDANSKI WILL BE ACCOMPANIED

- MR BORIS RIKALOVSKI, REPUBLICAN SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS OF MACEDONIA
- MR MIRCE KUKULOVSKI, INSPECTOR OF THE FEDERAL SECRETARIAT OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS (SECURITY OFFICER)
- MR ZIVKO KONDEV, CHIEF OF THE CABINET OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA
- MR BOJAN DIMITROV, INTERPRETER.

5. ALL DOMESTIC FLIGHTS FOR MR BOGDANSKI AND PARTY HAVE BEEN BOOKED BY THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY. THE AMBASSADOR ADVISED US THAT THE FOLLOWING FLIGHT DETAILS:

- ETA PERTH 0305 11.11.89 QF008 (TO BE CONFIRMED)
- ETD PERTH 0935 14.11.89 TN005 TO MELBOURNE THEN AX174 TO CANBERRA
- ETA CANBERRA 1645 14.11.89 AX174
- ETD CANBERRA 1240 14.11.89 UN1219 TO SYDNEY
- ETA SYDNEY 1330 15.11.89 UN1219
- ETD SYDNEY 1520 17.11.89 TN493 TO MELBOURNE
- ETA MELBOURNE 1635 17.11.89 TN493
- ETD MELBOURNE 1650 19.11.89 JU581.

6. THE YUGOSLAV EMBASSY (CONTACT MR BRAZANSKI 062-951458) HAS MADE THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS IN SYDNEY FOR MR BOGDANSKI

- WEDNESDAY 15.11.89: 1530 MR URI THEMAL, ETHNIC AFFAIRS COMMISSION; 1800 VISIT TO THE "ST PETKA'S" CHURCH, ROCKDALE FOLLOWED BY A MEETING WITH THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY OF SYDNEY AND DINNER AT 2030
- THURSDAY 16.11.89: 0900 MR UNSWORTH; 1300 CALL ON THE TRADE COMPANY "MARCO POLO" AND TALKS WITH



BUSINESSMEN OF MACEDONIAN ORIGIN AND REPRESENTATIVES OF YUGOSLAV COMPANIES IN SYDNEY FOLLOWED BY LUNCHEON; 1730 CALL ON DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLOR PROFESSOR B. LEIL, MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY; EVENING MEETING WITH YUGOSLAV COORDINATION COUNCIL OF NSW

- FRIDAY 17.11.89 FREE PRIOR TO DEPARTURE
- WE WILL ADVISE OF APPOINTMENT WITH NSW PREMIER OR DEPUTY PREMIER.

7. MR BOGDANSKI'S OFFICIAL CANBERRA PROGRAM IS AS FOLLOWS FOR WEDNESDAY 15.11.89

- 1000 DEPUTY SECRETARY AND AS, POLICY SECRETARIAT, DILGEA (TO BE HELD IN A COMMITTEE ROOM IN PARLIAMENT HOUSE ~~TBA~~ : SENATE COMMITTEE ROOM 11)
- 1030 PRIME MINISTER, PARLIAMENT HOUSE
- 1100 SENATOR THE HON KERRY SIBRAA, PARLIAMENT HOUSE.

8-9 *Amelia*

Received 2/11/89 196  
Jan Yugoslav Embassy

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

VISIT OF THE DELEGATION OF SR MACEDONIA TO AUSTRALIA, 11 -14 NOVEMBER 1989

MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION: Jezdimir Bogdanovski, President of the Presidency of the SR Macedonia, head of Delegation  
Boris Rikalovski, Secretary for International Affairs of SR Macedonia  
Secretary-interpreter and security officer (names to be given later)

PERTH Saturday, 11 November - Tuesday, 14 November 1989

LIAISON OFFICER: Saso Brazanski, Third Secretary at the Embassy (tel: 95 1458 office, 95 0409 home)

ARRIVAL: 11 November, flight QF 008, at 03.05 a.m. (not confirmed yet)

1. talks with representatives of the Macedonian ethnic community (Saturday afternoon)
2. visit and talks with representatives of the Yugoslav ethnic community at the Yugoslav Center (Saturday evening)
3. opening of the Macedonian Cultural Centre (Sunday)
4. P Dowding, Premier of Western Australia (Monday morning)
5. G. Hill, Department of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs (Monday morning)
6. Dinner hosted by Mr. Tomisic, Consul of the SFR of Yugoslavia, in Perth (Monday evening)

DEPARTURE: 14 November, flight TN 005, at 09.35 a.m.

CANBERRA Tuesday, 14 November - Wednesday, 15 November 1989

ARRIVAL: flight <sup>R</sup>AX 174, at 5.45 (confirmed)

1. buffet dinner at the Ambassador's residence (tuesday, 8.30 p.m.)
2. P S. Field, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade
3. R. Ray, Minister for Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs (Wed. morning)
4. K.W. Sibraa, President of the Senate (Wednesday morning)
5. D. Madew, Lordmayor of Queanbeyan (Wednesday morning - 8.00 -9.00 a.m.) and representatives of Macedonian community in Queanbeyan
6. Visit to St, Kliment Ohridski church (Tuesday evening, 7.00 - 8.30 p.m.)

DEPARTURE: FLIGHT UN 1219, at 12.40 p.m. (confirmed)

Received 2/11/89 195  
from Yugoslav Embassy

Sydney Wednesday 15 November - Friday 17 November 1989

Arrival at 1,30 p.m. flight UN 1219 (confirmed)

- Mr. S. Cescherian, Ethnic Affairs Commission (afternoon 3,30-4,30 p.m.)
- Visit to the Church "St. Petka", Rockdale, and meeting with Macedonian Community of Sydney (Wednesday evening)
- Premier or Deputy Premier Mr N. Greiner or Mr W. Murrey (Thursday morning)
- B. Unsworth, Parliament of NSW (Thursday morning)
- Visit Trade company "Marco Polo" and talks with businessmen of macedonian origin and representatives of Yugoslav companies in Sydney (Thursday noon)
- Visit to Deputy Vice Chancellor prof B. Leil, Macquarie University (Thursday from 5 p.m.), to be followed by presentation of Macedonian books and Recital of Macedonian poetry

Departure at 3,20 p.m. flight TN 493 (confirmed)

Melbourne Friday 17 November - Sunday 19 November 1989

Arrival at 4,35 p.m. flight TN 493 (confirmed)

- Premier or Deputy Premier (short reception, Friday afternoon)
- Ethnic Affairs Commission (Saturday morning)
- Cocktail and talks at the Consulate General of SFRY with Coordination Committee of Yugoslav organisations, AU-YU Chamber of Commerce and Macedonian Ethnic organisation (Saturday 11-1 p.m.)

Depart JU 581  
Sunday 1650 en Melbourne

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INFO: EEB  
COPY NO. 1

INWARD CABLEGRAM

O.BG52696 LSFA  
TOR 00.49 07.11.89

O.BG52696 1415 6.11.89 CLA FIRST

TO.  
PP CANBERRA/7630

FM. BELGRADE / FA REF O.CH562256

BK

RESTRICTED

THREAT ASSESSMENT: VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY THE PRESIDENT OF MACEDONIA  
FROM FILE 405/3 TO FILE 659/1/10

WE ARE UNAWARE OF ANY THREATS TO MR BOGDANSKI

2. WE WOULD NOT EXPECT THE VISIT TO AROUSE ANY VIOLENT ACTIONS ON THE PART OF ETHNIC GROUPS IN AUSTRALIA. REGARDING POTENTIAL THREATS, WE INDICATED IN O.BG52635 PARA 5 THAT WHILE THE VISIT MAY AROUSE SOME REACTION FROM THE GREEK MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY, WE DO NOT THINK THAT BOGDANSKI WILL DELIBERATELY STIR UP THE MACEDONIAN QUESTION FURTHER, THOUGH HE IS LIKELY TO REFER TO IT IN PASSING.

3. WE WOULD NOT EXPECT THAT THE VISIT WOULD BE AS CONTROVERSIAL AS THAT OF THE THEN GREEK PRESIDENT SARTZETAKIS IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR, NOR WOULD WE EXPECT DEMONSTRATIONS ON THE SCALE OF THOSE SURROUNDING THE OPENING OF THE ANCIENT MACEDONIA EXHIBITION IN MELBOURNE AND SUBSEQUENTLY IN SYDNEY IN MAY THIS YEAR. ASSESSMENTS OF THE LATTER EVENTS WERE THAT TENSIONS WERE EXACERBATED BECAUSE PRESIDENT SARTZETAKIS USED THE EXHIBITION TO PROPAGATE GREEK VIEWS ON MACEDONIA AND THE MACEDONIANS RESPONDED TO PROVOCATION.

4. AN UNLIKELY, BUT POTENTIAL THREAT COULD COME FROM THE ALBANIAN COMMUNITY IN AUSTRALIA, WHO COULD USE THE VISIT TO VENT GRIEVANCES REGARDING THE RESURGENCE OF UNREST IN KOSOVO RELATED TO THE TRIAL OF AZEM VLASI, AND ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE ALBANIAN MINORITY IN MACEDONIA. HOWEVER WE WOULD ASSESS THAT ANY THREAT TO MR BOGDANSKI FROM THIS GROUP WOULD BE EXTREMELY LOW.

5. THE ONLY THREE SIGNIFICANT EVENTS WHICH ARE IMMINENT AND COULD BE USED AS OCCASIONS FOR DEMONSTRATIONS OCCUR AFTER BOGDANSKI'S DEPARTURE FROM AUSTRALIA

. THE YUGOSLAV NATIONAL DAY, NOVEMBER 29

.../2

RESTRICTED  
FIRST

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

IN

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2-O.BG52696

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- THE PROPOSED NATIONAL HOLIDAY ON DECEMBER 1, THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE FORMATION OF THE KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES IN 1918
- THE PROPOSAL IS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION BUT HAS BEEN STRONGLY OPPOSED BY THE MACEDONIANS
- NOR DOES BOGDANSKI'S VISIT COINCIDE WITH THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE SYDNEY SHOOTING INCIDENT.

6. POLITICAL TENSIONS BETWEEN MACEDONIA AND SERBIA ARE AT AN ALL-TIME LOW FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS, INCLUDING

- THE PROPOSED HOLIDAY ON DECEMBER 1, WHICH THE MACEDONIANS VIEW AS THE ANNIVERSARY ONLY OF THEIR OCCUPATION AND COLONISATION BY SERBIA
- THE REFUSAL OF THE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH TO RECOGNISE THE MACEDONIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH.

7. WE CONSIDER IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT THE SERBIAN COMMUNITY IN AUSTRALIA WOULD USE BOGDANSKI'S VISIT FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES.

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE

ASIO (C) PSCC

ACTION: IDB

AEB

SEC	DEPSEC-SMITH	DEPSEC-LIGHTOWLER		
DEPSEC-COSTELLO	SPECIAL-ADVISER	EXB	PPB	
FAS(AED)	PA(AED)	EEB	FAS(DND)	INP
SWS	PRB	RLB	MNL	FAS(SPD)
				SCB

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DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

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FIRST

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FIRST

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COPY NO. 1

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

OUT

O.CH562256 SKPL

O.CH562256 1028 03.11.89 CLA FIRST

TO.  
PP BELGRADE/1694  
FM. CANBERRA / A5

R E S T R I C T E D

THREAT ASSESSMENT : VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE  
MACEDONIA, YUGOSLAVIA

FROM FILE 659/1/10

WE HAVE RECEIVED A CABLE FROM ASIO SEEKING A CONTRIBUTION TO A  
THREAT ASSESSMENT ON THE VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE  
MACEDONIA, YUGOSLAVIA, MR JEZDIMIR BOGDANSKI DURING NOV 1989.

2. ASIO WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS BY COB 7 NOV OF ANY KNOWN OR  
POTENTIAL THREAT FROM OVERSEAS GROUPS TO THE DIGNITARY WHILE IN  
AUSTRALIA.

3. REGRET SHORT NOTICE.

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE

ASIO (C) PSCC

ACTION: IDB

AEB

SEC	DEPSEC-SMITH	DEPSEC-LIGHTOWLER		
DEPSEC-COSTELLO	SPECIAL-ADVISER	EXB	PPB	
FAS(AED)	PA(AED)	EEB	FAS(DND)	INP
SWS	PRB	RLB	FAS(SPD)	SCB

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

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FIRST

OUT

73/6/3

8 November 1989

Visit of President of Macedonia

Mr Conroy

Grateful if you would advise the Yugoslav Ambassador

- the Flight Deck Lounge has been booked for the party's use on arrival and departure from Canberra. There is no charge for the Lounge and drinks and a buffet are available free of charge
  - : on arrival at the airport the Ambassador should go to Australian Airlines Flight Deck where he will be shown to the Lounge
  - : the visitors will disembark and enter the airport through the normal arrival door
  - : the Ambassador should meet them at the arrival door and escort them to the Lounge
  - : please advise that the maximum capacity of the Lounge is 10 persons
  - : airport contact is Leah on 461804
- we are awaiting advice from DFAT Sydney re a VIP Lounge at Sydney airport and an appointment with the Premier or Deputy Premier
- as Mr Bogdanski is not a guest of Government he will not be met at Canberra airport by Australian officials
- Mr Field is unavailable on 15/11
- a Commonwealth car and driver will collect Mr Bogdanski (plus 3) at 7.30 am on Wednesday 15 November from the Pavillion Hotel, Canberra Avenue. The car will be available as directed until the party's departure at 1240 (DFAT booking officer is David on x2238).

*B Kelly*  
 B. Kelly

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INFO: EUT  
COPY NO. 1

INWARD CABLEGRAM

O.BG52682 ASCL  
TOR 20.47 03.11.89

O.BG52682 1100 03.11.89 CLA

TO.  
PP CANBERRA/7617

FM. BELGRADE/FA / REF O.BG52645

*BK*  
*Action pls*

C O N F I D E N T I A L

YUGOSLAVIA : VISIT BY PRESIDENT OF MACEDONIA TO AUSTRALIA  
FROM FILE 405-3

GRATEFUL ANY INFORAMTION YOU CAN LET US HAVE EARLY NEXT WEEK ON  
CALLS BEING ARRANGED FOR THE PRESIDENT ON STATE AND FEDERAL MINISTERS  
AND OFFICIALS, AND ANY OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO THE PROGRAM.  
BOGDANSKI WILL BE IN BELGRADE IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE WEEK.

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE  
DEP P M AND CABINET  
CERHOS

PRIME MINISTER	MIN FOREIGN + TRADE	MIN. FOR I.L.G.E.A
MIN IND TECH + COMM	MIN RESOURCES	MIN PRIMIND & ENERGY
MIN FOR TRADE NEGS	DEP DEFENCE	D.I.L.G.E.A.(C)
DEP IND TECH + COMM	DEP PRIMIND & ENERGY	AUSTRADE
PRESIDING OFFICERS	IMMIG PERTH AIRPORT	

ACTION: WEB  
EEB  
REGIONAL-DIRECTOR(P) T/T  
LBBBB

SEC	DEPSEC-SMITH	DEPSEC-LIGHTOWLER	
DEPSEC-FIELD	DEPSEC-COSTELLO	SPECIAL-ADVISER	
EXB	PPB	FAS(ASD)	PA(ASD) MAS
FAS(AED)	PA(AED)	WEU	EUC EEU EUT
GLB	FAS(ETD)	PA(ETD)	REC TSB TCB
FAS(MTD)	PA(MTD)	FAS(PAD)	OIB PMB
SWS	PRB	REGIONAL-DIRECTOR(M)	
REGIONAL-DIRECTOR(S)		DG-ADAB	

CONFIDENTIAL

IN

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

IN





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INFO: EUT  
COPY NO. 1

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

O.CE798760 WJKI

OUT

O.CE798760 1754 03.11.89 CLA

TO.  
PP BELGRADE/1704

BK

FM. CANBERRA / PF REF O.BG52635 O.BG52645

C O N F I D E N T I A L

YUGOSLAVIA : VISIT BY PRESIDENT OF MACEDONIA TO AUSTRALIA

PFAT157 TO FILE 405/3 FM FILE 46/4/67

FROM REGIONAL DIRECTOR, DFAT PERTH

PLEASE COPY TO: EAST EUROPE AND PROTOCOL BRANCHES

THE YUGOSLAV CONSUL FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA, DRAGAN TOMISIC, CALLED ON ME ON 2 NOVEMBER TO DISCUSS LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR BOGDANSKI'S VISIT.

. TOMISIC SAID THAT AMBASSADOR CIZELJ HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH HIM ABOUT THE VISIT, AND THAT THE YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES WERE KEEN THAT IT SHOULD BE A SUCCESS, EVEN THOUGH IT HAD ORIGINALLY BEEN INITIATED BY THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITIES IN AUSTRALIA AND PROGRAM ARRANGEMENTS WERE NOW BEING INITIATED AT RATHER SHORT NOTICE.

2. I NOTED THAT VISAS FOR THE PARTY HAD BEEN APPLIED FOR IN BELGRADE AND WERE EXPECTED TO BE ISSUED SHORTLY (REF FIRST REFTEL, PARA 7).

3. I SUGGESTED THAT TOMISIC APPROACH THE WA PREMIER'S DEPARTMENT FOR ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING POSSIBLE CALLS FOR BOGDANSKI ON PREMIER DOWDING, LT-GOVERNOR BURT, AND RELEVANT STATE MINISTERS AND SENIOR TRADE OFFICIALS.

. I SAID THAT THE PREMIER'S DEPARTMENT WOULD ALSO BE THE APPROPRIATE CHANNEL THROUGH WHOM TO REQUEST STATE POLICE PROTECTION MEASURES FOR THE DELEGATION

. I UNDERTOOK TO REQUEST STANDARD AIRPORT FACILITATION FOR THE DELEGATION'S ARRIVAL (ON RECEIPT OF FORMAL ADVICE OF DELEGATION DETAILS FROM THE YUGOSLAV CONSULATE OR WA PREMIER'S DEPARTMENT).

4. TOMISIC HAS SINCE MADE CONTACT WITH PREMIER'S DEPT WHO HAVE UNDERTAKEN TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE, WHILE MAKING IT CLEAR THAT SINCE BOGDANSKI IS NOT AN OFFICIAL VISITOR THE STATE GOVT WILL NOT/NOT BE ABLE TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DETAILED ARRANGE-

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DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

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OUT

MENTS AND COORDINATION OF HIS PROGRAM IN PERTH.

. PREMIER'S DEPT IS HOWEVER WILLING TO MAKE ONE OF THEIR OFFICERS AVAILABLE TO ASSIST WITH AIRPORT TRANSFER ARRANGEMENTS.

5. TOMISIC SAID THAT THE DELEGATION HAD BEEN RE-BOOKED TO DEPART PERTH ON 14 NOVEMBER ON TN005 ETD 0935, CONNECTING IN MELBOURNE WITH RX174 (?) ETA CANBERRA 1745.

6. TOMISIC NOTED THE PROPOSED INCLUSION OF A SECURITY OFFICER IN BOGDANSKI'S DELEGATION AND ASKED ON A PERSONAL BASIS WHETHER I FELT THIS WAS NECESSARY. I SAID THAT WAS FOR THE VISITORS THEMSELVES TO DECIDE, BUT EMPHASISED THAT UNDER COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT POLICY (REF PARA 6 OF SECOND REFTEL) THE SECURITY OFFICER WOULD NOT/NOT BE PERMITTED TO CARRY A FIREARM.

7. WE HAVE PROVIDED A BACKGROUND BRIEFING NOTE TO THE WA GOVT BASED ON O.CH560437 OF 20 OCTOBER (WHICH WE UNDERSTAND WAS TO BE COPIED TO BELGRADE).

**ACTION:** DEP FOREIGN + TRADE  
DEP P M AND CABINET  
CERHOS  
D.I.L.G.E.A.(P)  
IMMIG PERTH AIRPORT

BOND

PRIME MINISTER  
MIN RESOURCES  
DEP DEFENCE  
DEP PRIMIND & ENERGY  
ONA  
PRESIDING OFFICERS

MIN FOREIGN + TRADE  
MIN FOR TRADE NEGS  
D.I.L.G.E.A.(C)  
CIVIL AVIATION AUTH  
JIO T/T  
TRANSPORT + COMM

MIN. FOR I.L.G.E.A  
DEP ADMIN SVCS  
DEP IND TECH + COMM  
AUSTRADE  
PSCC

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

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OUT

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OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

OUT

3-O.CE798760

ACTION: WEB  
EEB  
PRB  
REGIONAL-DIRECTOR(P) T/T

LBBBB  
JAKI  
EGA  
EGA

SEC	DEPSEC-SMITH	DEPSEC-LIGHTOWLER			
DEPSEC-FIELD		DEPSEC-COSTELLO	SPECIAL-ADVISER		
EXB	PPB	FAS(ASD)	PA(ASD)	MAS	GS
FAS(AED)	NZHC	CN	PA(AED)	WEU	EEU
EUT	FAS(ILD)	GLB	IOB	ENB	FAS(ETD)
PA(ETD)	EOB	FAS(MTD)	PA(MTD)		FAS(DND)
IDB	DPB	FAS(PAD)	OIB	PMB	SWS
PRS	FAS(CMD)	PA(CMD)			REGIONAL-DIRECTOR(S)
DG-ADAB	DDG(CCIP)				

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

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OUT

Sydney

ETD Canberra

Wed 15/11 UN1219  
at 12.40 pm

Wed  
15/11

ETA Sydney

13.30 15/11

3.30-4.30 Ethnic Affairs Commission.

Thurs 16

9 AM

Muswell

13.00

Muswell

Fri 17

ETD 3.20 pm.

FAX

JOHN FOSTER

70 22 55

73/6/3

184

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ACTION: EUT  
COPY NO. 1  
O.CH561987 CWCH

O.CH561987 1847 1.11.89 CLA

TO.  
PP : PSCC/

FM. : DFAT, CANBERRA / Q2

C O N F I D E N T I A L

YUGOSLAVIA : MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY OF WA  
FROM FILE 73/6/3

FOLLOWING FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

.....BEGINS

O.CH560437 20.10.89 1856 CLA

TO.  
PP : DFAT PERTH/  
PP : DILGEA PERTH/

FM. : CANBERRA / Q2

C O N F I D E N T I A L

MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY OF WA  
FROM FILE 73/6/3

FROM EUB AND WEB (DFAT), ENTRY CONTROL AND ETHNIC AFFAIRS  
SECTIONS (DILGEA) AND P M AND C

CABLES O.CH556175, O.CE780760 AND O.BG52459 REFER.

1. THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE OCCUPIES A COMPLEX AND CONTROVERSIAL PLACE IN GREEK AND BALKAN HISTORY. THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS CLAIMS AND COUNTERCLAIMS CONCERNING MACEDONIAN IDENTITY, HISTORY AND CULTURE ON THE PART OF GREECE, YUGOSLAVIA AND BULGARIA.
2. ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO TERRITORIAL DISPUTE BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND GREECE OVER THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE, IT IS NEVERTHELESS A SOURCE OF FRICTION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AS THE EXISTENCE IN YUGOSLAVIA OF A MACEDONIAN REPUBLIC IN WHICH THE MACEDONIAN LANGUAGE, IDENTITY AND CULTURE ARE FOSTERED IS SEEN BY GREECE AS ENCOURAGING SIMILAR ASPIRATIONS AMONG GREEK MACEDONIANS

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- YUGOSLAV MACEDONIANS FEEL SOME CONCERN THAT FELLOW MACEDONIANS IN GREECE AND BULGARIA ARE NOT ALLOWED TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS MACEDONIANS
  - HOWEVER, THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT IN ANY SENSE SUPPORTS OR CONDONES THOSE MACEDONIANS WHO ASPIRE TO THE CREATION OF A ''GREATER MACEDONIA''.
3. THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT HOLDS THE VIEW THAT THE CLAIMS AND COUNTERCLAIMS ON MACEDONIAN IDENTITY SHOULD BE RESOLVED BY THE PARTIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED
- AUSTRALIA DOES NOT/NOT RECOGNISE OR SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF A ''MACEDONIAN STATE'' TRANSCENDING PRESENT BOUNDARIES OF YUGOSLAVIA, GREECE AND BULGARIA.
4. THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE HAS NOT BEEN A SOURCE OF FRICTION BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND YUGOSLAVIA
- AUSTRALIA RECOGNISES THE EXISTENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA WITHIN THE SOCIALIST FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA AND BOGDANSKI'S STATUS AS PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC.
5. THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE HAS, HOWEVER, OCCASIONALLY CAUSED FRICTION IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GREECE. FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS GREECE HAS REFUSED ENTRY TO SOME HOLDERS OF AUSTRALIAN PASSPORTS WHOM IT DEEMS TO HOLD ''ANTI-GREEK'' OR ''PRO-MACEDONIAN'' VIEWS
- SOME PEOPLE HAVE BEEN QUESTIONED OR DETAINED ON ARRIVAL IN GREECE, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF SUSPICIONS RELATING TO THEIR MACEDONIAN ORIGINS
  - REPRESENTATIONS BY AUSTRALIA (AND BY THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA ON BEHALF OF THEIR NATIONALS IN SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES) HAVE BEEN REJECTED BY GREECE.
6. THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT, IN KEEPING WITH ITS COMMITMENT TO MULTI-CULTURALISM, CONSIDERS THAT ETHNIC GROUPS IN AUSTRALIA HAVE THE RIGHT TO SELF-IDENTIFICATION
- HENCE PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA MAY IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AND THEIR LANGUAGE AS ''MACEDONIAN''
  - : THIS POSITION, HOWEVER, SHOULD NOT/NOT BE INTERPRETED AS IMPLYING ANY FORM OF RECOGNITION BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT OF THE CLAIMS OR OBJECTIVES OF PARTICULAR GROUPS
  - THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ALSO FIRMLY ESPOUSES THE VIEW THAT THE SUCCESS OF MULTICULTURALISM WILL BE PUT AT RISK IF RIVALRIES AND ANIMOSITIES WHICH HAVE THEIR ORIGINS ELSEWHERE CONTINUE TO BE

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ACTED OUT IN AUSTRALIA. IN PRESERVING THEIR OWN TRADITIONS AND CULTURES, ALL GROUPS IN AUSTRALIA MUST RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS TO DO THE SAME, AND RESTRAIN THEIR ACTIONS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF AUSTRALIAN LAW.

7. YOU WILL BE AWARE OF THE VIOLENT PROTESTS IN SYDNEY IN NOVEMBER 1988 DURING THE VISIT OF THE GREEK PRESIDENT MR SARTZETAKIS

- CONTROVERSY AROSE OVER THE INCLUSION OF THE WORD ''MACEDONIA'' IN THE TITLE OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION SENT TO AUSTRALIA AS PART OF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE BICENTENNIAL
- SECTIONS OF THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY IN AUSTRALIA WERE ANGERED AT THE USE OF THE WORD, GIVEN THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL TO ALLOW GREEK MACEDONIANS TO USE THE TERM THEMSELVES
- THE GREEK GOVERNMENT INSISTED THAT THE EXHIBITION RELATED WHOLLY TO ANCIENT MACEDONIA, PRIOR TO THE MOVEMENT OF THE MODERN (SLAVIC) MACEDONIANS INTO THE AREA AND THAT THE USE OF THE TERM IN THE TITLE WAS ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE
- : THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT VIEWED THE INCIDENT AS REGRETTABLE AND AS DOING NOTHING TO ADVANCE THE CAUSE OF MULTICULTURALISM IN AUSTRALIA.

8. YOU SOUGHT OUR VIEWS ON WHETHER THE W.A. PREMIER OR A MINISTER NOMINATED BY HIM SHOULD OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW PREMISES OF THE ''MACEDONIAN SOCIETY OF W.A. '', PARTICULARLY GIVEN THAT JESDIMIR BOGDANSKI WOULD ALSO BE PRESENT.

9. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE MACEDONIA UNITED SOCIETY OF W.A. WITH GEORGE VASSILEY (OMA PERTH) AND CARLOS STRANSKY (ETHNIC AFFAIRS DILGEA PERTH). OMA PERTH HAS ADVISED THAT IT IS A POLITICALLY ACTIVE, ALTHOUGH NOT EXTREMELY RADICAL, GROUP. IT IS NOT/NOT REGARDED AS A CHAMPION OF ''GREATER MACEDONIA''. IT IS LED BY SASHA CVETKOSKI AND ZORAN CORSESKI WHO HAVE, HOWEVER, BEEN ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN ANTI-GREEK PROPAGANDA IN W.A.

10. DILGEA PERTH REGARDS BOGDANSKI'S VISIT AS PART OF THE NORMAL EXPRESSION OF THE FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND AUSTRALIA, SPECIFICALLY BETWEEN THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITIES OF BOTH COUNTRIES. ALTHOUGH DILGEA PERTH EXPECTS A HOSTILE REACTION TO BOGDANSKI'S VISIT FROM THE GREEK COMMUNITY (''VITRIOLIC WRITING IN THE GREEK PRESS AND PERHAPS SOME PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION''), THEY CONSIDER THAT THERE WOULD BE NO/NO OBJECTION TO THE W.A. PREMIER'S PRESENCE AT THE CEREMONY.

11. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRIME MINISTER WILL ATTEND THE MEETING AND DELIVER A SHORT SPEECH.

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DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK



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COPY NO. 1  
4-O.CH561987

12. ON THE QUESTION OF BOGDANSKI'S STATUS, WE RECOGNISE HIM AS PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA WITHIN THE YUGOSLAV FEDERATION. HIS RANK IS ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT TO THAT OF AN AUSTRALIAN STATE PREMIER. EVEN THOUGH BOGDANSKI WILL BE VISITING AUSTRALIA IN AN UNOFFICIAL CAPACITY, WE HAVE NO/NO IN PRINCIPLE OBJECTION TO THE PREMIER OR A DESIGNATED MINISTER MEETING HIM.

13. AT THIS STAGE WE CANNOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBLITY THAT THE NON-ATTENDANCE OF THE PREMIER OR DELEGATE AT THE OPENING OF THE COMPLEX MIGHT ALSO PROVOKE A PROTEST.

14. WE HAVE REQUESTED AN INTERIM THREAT ASSESSMENT FROM PROTECTIVE SERVICES. WE RECOMMEND THAT THE RELEVANT W.A. POLICE AUTHORITIES BE ADVISED OF THE 12 NOVEMBER OPENING DATE AND BE ASKED TO ASSESS POSSIBLE SECURITY RISKS.

15. GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD PASS A COPY OF THIS CABLE TO THE PREMIER'S OFFICER.

ACTION: PSCC T/T

ACTION: EEB  
EUT

JAKI  
JAMK

SUPERFINE



BOND

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

73/6/3

RESTRICTED

ACTION: EUT  
COPY NO. 1

AMENDED COPY

O.CE797199 JJMC

O.CE797199 1217 01.11.89 CLA

TO.  
PP : FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE GEN 05827/  
FM.: ASIO / AS

R E S T R I C T E D

THREAT ASSESSMENT

INTELLIGENCE LIAISON SECTION FOR INFO

THREAT ASSESSMENT: VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE  
MACEDONIA, YUGOSLAVIA, MR JEZDIMIR BOGDANSKI NOV 1989.

1. THE PROTECTIVE SERVICES COORDINATION CENTRE (PSCC) HAS REQUESTED  
A THREAT ASSESSMENT FOR THE VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT TO AUSTRALIA. IT  
WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF YOU WOULD INITIATE ENQUIRIES WITH THE  
APPROPRIATE MISSION AND ADVISE OF ANY KNOWN OR POTENTIAL THREAT FROM  
OVERSEAS GROUPS TO THE DIGNITARY WHILE IN AUSTRALIA.

2. YOUR REPLY FOR INCLUSION IN THE THREAT ASSESSMENT WOULD BE  
APPRECIATED BY COB TUE 7 NOV 1989.

FOI ACT 1982: SECTION 16(2) AND SECTION 25(1) MAY APPLY TO THIS  
DOCUMENT.

011100 ESST NOVEMBER 1989

ACTION: EEB<  
EEU<  
EUT  
IDB<  
DFP<  
INP<  
SCB<  
DSS<

LBBBB

AEB

RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

RESTRICTED

ACTION: EEB  
COPY NO. 1  
O.CE797199 TLIN

O.CE797199 1217 01.11.89 CLA

TO.  
PP : FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE GEN 05827/  
FM.: ASIO / AS

R E S T R I C T E D

THREAT ASSESSMENT

INTELLIGENCE LIAISON SECTION FOR INFO

THREAT ASSESSMENT: VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE  
MACEDONIA, YUGOSLAVIA, MR JEZDIMIR BOGDANSKI NOV 1989.

1. THE PROTECTIVE SERVICES COORDINATION CENTRE (PSCC) HAS REQUESTED  
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	EEU	
	IDB	
	DFP	
	INP	
	SCB	AEB
	DSS	

RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

FIRST

ACTION: EEB  
COPY NO. 1

INWARD CABLEGRAM

IN

O.BG52660 APBO  
TOR 01.36 02.11.89

O.BG52660 1530 01.11.89 UNC FIRST

TO.  
PP CANBERRA/7597 LONDON/9932  
FM. BELGRADE/IM /

U N C L A S S I F I E D

MACEDONIAN DELEGATION TEMPRES

FROM 89/2763 TEV

FOR DFAT CANBERRA  
FOR DILGEA CANBERRA  
FOR SCORPION CANBERRA  
FOR SLO LONDON

FOLLOWING FIVE PERSONS ARE MEMBERS OF MACEDONIAN OFFICIAL DELEGATION TRAVELLING TO A/A ON INVITATION OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNEMENT. THEIR PROPOSED DEPARTURE FOR A/A IS 9.11.89 AND PERIOD OF STAY UNTIL 19.11.89. DURING THEIR STAY IN A/A THEY WILL VISIT PERTH, CANBERRA AND SYDNEY AND THEY WILL MEET REPRESENTATIVES OF MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATIONS.

2. IN VIEW OF THE IMPORATANCE OF THE VISIT HOM DISCRETION HAS BEEN EXERCISED AND VISAS CATEGORY V 11 B 1 ISSUED TODAY.

3. FOLLOWING ARE THEIR PARTICULARS:

- 4A. BOGDANSKI/BOGDANSKI JEZDIMIR
- B. 17.11.30 KUMANOVO, YUGOSLAVIA
- C. NIL, MALE, MARRIED, YUGOSLAV
- D. PRESIDENT OF THE PRESIDENCY OF SR MACEDONIA
- E. D010310

- 5A. RIKALOVSKI/RIKALOVSKI BORIS
- B. 09.02.40 SKOPLJE, YUGOSLAVIA
- C. NIL, MALE, MARRIED, YUGOSLAV
- D. REPUBLICAN SECRETARY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS OF MACEDONIA
- E. D009779

- 6A. KUKULOVSKI/KUKULOVSKI MIRCE
- B. 25.07.49 SKOPLJE, YUGOSLAVIA
- C. NIL, MALE, MARRIED, YUGOSLAV
- D. INSPECTOR IN THE FEDERAL SECRETARIAT OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS
- E. D005966

.../2

FIRST

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

IN

FIRST

ACTION: EEB  
COPY NO. 1

INWARD CABLEGRAM

2-O.BG52660

IN

7A. KONDEV/KONDEV ZIVKO  
B. 02.03.48 KRATOVO, YUGOSLAVIA  
C. NIL, MALE, MARRIED, YUGOSLAV  
D. CHIEF OF THE CABINET OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PRESIDENCY OF SR  
MACEDONIAE. D010311

8A. DIMITROV/DIMITROV BOJAN  
B. 18.07.44 SKOPLJE, YUGOSLAVIA  
C. NIL, MALE, MARRIED, YUGOSLAV  
D. INTERPRETER  
E. S012955

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE  
D.I.L.G.E.A.(C) T/T  
ASIO (C) T/T

DEP P M AND CABINET

ACTION: EEB  
GLB

ICAC

SEC	DEPSEC-SMITH	DEPSEC-HALL
DEPSEC-COSTELLO	EXB	PPB FAS(AED)
PA(AED)	EEU	EUT FAS(ILD) RIA
FAS(PAD)	SWS	PRB FA-P FA-S

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

FIRST

IN

Deputy Secretary  
Kaye. M. Tony  
Harris  
Sis  
642522

Mr Brown in Melb

? Secretary 176  
- R.L. Brown  
tel: 642560

Wednesday 15 November

10.00  
~~9.30~~

Plus M. Tony Harris Dep Sec  
or Mr Wayne Gibbons as Dep Sec  
Sue Ingram AS | Policy Secretariat  
Branch

✓ 10-30 am

Mr. Hawke.

✓ 11-00 Tentatively  
(will see him  
if he's here)

Senator Sibraa  
Ms Troy Overy 773300  
Sibraa's Syd Office: 02 9811811

Briefing & brief notes  
for Sibraa

Evans + Kay are away

Tuesday 14 Nov.

arrives 5-45 pm.

Wed 15 Nov.

<del>Field</del>	Ray	Sibrae
Evans		

9.30 -  
11.30

Kerrin Morris  
777860

Won't be in  
Canberra Tues  
Wed.

9.30  
10.00  
10.30 PM. Hawke.

11.00 ~~AS~~ ~~Evans~~ Sibrae

Sibrae 773300

Ms. Troy Avery

Chris. Neville 3098

Evans.  
In Sydney

Andy C. only yesterday we got confirmation.  
- we be

Sibrae would be happy  
to see him.

fly up within in last -  
being looked after.  
- all confirmed, except  
QF fly to Perth not yet confirmed.

Consulates in Perth & Melb  
will expense P + M.

7:30 AM

Wed

PAVILLION

Just Wed;

Starty from Hedel

- We will provide a

car in Canberra with driver.

we will raise ques of one car  
with Paine's dept



FIRST

INFO: EUT  
COPY NO. 1

INWARD CABLEGRAM

O.BG52660 APBO  
TOR 01.36 02.11.89

IN

O.BG52660 1530 01.11.89 UNC FIRST

TO.  
PP CANBERRA/7597 LONDON/9932

FM. BELGRADE/IM /

U N C L A S S I F I E D

MACEDONIAN DELEGATION TEMPRES

FROM 89/2763 TEV

FOR DFAT CANBERRA  
FOR DILGEA CANBERRA  
FOR SCORPION CANBERRA  
FOR SLO LONDON

73/6/3  
SK

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FIRST

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

IN

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INFO: EUT  
COPY NO. 1

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ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE  
 D.I.L.G.E.A.(C) T/T  
 ASIO (C) T/T

DEP P M AND CABINET

ACTION: EEB  
 GLB

ICAC

SEC	DEPSEC-SMITH	DEPSEC-HALL		
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PA(AED)	EEU	EUT	FAS(ILD)	RIA
FAS(PAD)	SWS	PRB	FA-P	FA-S

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

FIRST

IN

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

VISIT OF THE DELEGATION OF SR MACEDONIA TO AUSTRALIA, 11 -14 NOVEMBER 1989

MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION: Jezdimir Bogdanovski, President of the Presidency of the SR Macedonia, head of Delegation  
Boris Rikalovski, Secretary for International Affairs of SR Macedonia  
Secretary-interpreter and security officer (names to be given later)

PERTH Saturday, 11 November - Tuesday, 14 November 1989

LIAISON OFFICER: Saso Brazanski, Third Secretary at the Embassy (tel: 95 1458 office, 95 0409 home)

ARRIVAL: 11 November, flight QF 008, at 03.05 a.m. (not confirmed yet)

- 1. talks with representatives of the Macedonian ethnic community (Saturday afternoon)
- 2. visit and talks with representatives of the Yugoslav ethnic community at the Yugoslav Center (Saturday evening)
- 3. opening of the Macedonian Cultural Centre (Sunday)
- 4. P Dowding, Premier of Western Australia (Monday morning)
- 5. G. Hill, Department of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs (Monday morning)
- 6. Dinner hosted by Mr. Tomisic, Consul of the SFR of Yugoslavia, in Perth (Monday evening)

DEPARTURE: 14 November, flight TN 005, at 09.35 a.m. *to Melbourne*

CANBERRA Tuesday, 14 November - Wednesday, 15 November 1989

*Parillan*

ARRIVAL: flight AX 174, at 5.45 (confirmed)

- 1. buffet dinner at the Ambassador's residence (tuesday, 8.30 p.m.)
- 2. P.S. Field, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade
- ① 3. R. Ray, Minister for Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs (Wed. morning)
- ✓ 4. K.W. Sibraa, President of the Senate (Wednesday morning)
- 5. D. Madew, Lordmayor of Queanbeyan (Wednesday morning - 8.00 - 9.00 a.m.) and representatives of Macedonian community in Queanbeyan
- 6. Visit to St, Kliment Ohridski church (Tuesday evening, 7.00 - 8.30 p.m.)

DEPARTURE: FLIGHT UN 1219, at 12.40 p.m. (confirmed)

*Cancelled*

(12)  
(11)

9.30  
10.00  
10.30 P.M.  
11.00

Sydney Wednesday 15 November - Friday 17 November 1989

Arrival at 1,30 p.m. flight UN 1219 (confirmed)

- Mr.S.Cescherian,Ethnic Affairs Commision(afternoon 3,30-4,30 p.m.)
- Visit to the Church "St.Petka",Rockdale,and meeting with Macedonian Community of Sydney (Wednesday evening)
- Premier od Deputy Premier Mr N.Greiner or Mr W.Murrey(Thursday morn
- B.Unsworth,Parlament of NSW (Thursday morning)
- Visit Trade company "Marco Polo" and talks with bussinesmen of macedonian origin and representativs of Yugoslav companies in Sydney (Thursday noon)
- Visit to Deputy Vice Chancelor prof B.Leil,Macquarie University (Thursday from 5 p.m.),to be followed by presentation of Macedonian books and Recital of Macedonian poetry

Departure at 2,20 p.m. flight TN 493 (confirmed)

Melbourne Friday 17 November - Sunday 19 November 1989

Arrival at 4,35 p.m. flight TN 493 (confirmed)

- Premier or Deputy Premier (short reception,Friday afternoon)
- Ethnic Affairs Commision (Saturday morning)
- Coctail and talks at the Consulate General of SFRY with Coordination Committee of Yugoslav organisations,AU-YU Chember of Commerce and Macedonian Ethnic organisation (Saturday 11-1 p.m.)

Depart JU 581  
 Sunday 1650 en Melbourne

051

Mr Conroy

Grateful  
clearance of your  
attached 2 related  
nephees. Ethnic Affairs  
has advised that the  
Committee is a separatist  
organisation BK 11)

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

VISIT OF THE DELEGATION OF SR MACEDONIA TO AUSTRALIA, 11 -14 NOVEMBER 1989

MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION: Jezdimir Bogdanovski, President of the Presidency of the SR Macedonia, head of Delegation  
Boris Rikalovski, Secretary for International Affairs of SR Macedonia  
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5. G. Hill, Department of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs (Monday morning)
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DEPARTURE: <sup>Tuesday</sup> 14 November, flight TN 005, at 09.35 a.m.  
*Perth to Melb. ~~to~~*

CANBERRA Tuesday, 14 November - Wednesday, 15 November 1989

ARRIVAL: flight AX 174, at 5.45 (confirmed)

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2. P.S. Field, <sup>as highonler</sup> Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade
3. R. Ray, Minister for Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs (Wed. morning) 9.30-10.30
4. K.W. Sibraa, President of the Senate (Wednesday morning) 10.30-11.00
5. D. Madew, Lordmayor of Queanbeyan (Wednesday morning - 8.00 -9.00 a.m.) and representatives of Macedonian community in Queanbeyan 9.30-11.50
6. Visit to St, Kliment Ohridski church (Tuesday evening, 7.00 - 8.30 p.m.)

DEPARTURE: FLIGHT UN 1219, at 12.40 p.m. (confirmed) 15/11

DFAT  
DFAT  
- no time fixed  
- no time fixed

Sydney Wednesday 15 November - Friday 17 November 1989

Arrival at 1,30 p.m. flight UN 1219 (confirmed)

3.30-4.30 Wed 15/11  
Deputy Vice Consul  
take Wed or all Thursday  
DFAT  
on Friday morning

- Mr. S. Cescherian, Ethnic Affairs Commission (afternoon 3,30-4,30 p.m.)
- Visit to the Church "St. Petka", Rockdale, and meeting with Macedonian Community of Sydney (Wednesday evening)
- Premier or Deputy Premier Mr N. Greiner or Mr W. Murrey (Thursday morning 16/11)
- B. Unsworth, Parliament of NSW (Thursday morning)
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- Ethnic Affairs Commission (Saturday morning)
- Coctail and talks at the Consulate General of SFRY with Coordination Committee of Yugoslav organisations, AU-YU Chamber of Commerce and Macedonian Ethnic organisation (Saturday 11-1 p.m.)

JU581

Mr Unsworth      Thurs 16/11      9 am. or 1 p.m.

3-30pm

Yugo Emb FAY      396178

John Mahoney PRO 167  
advised 2/11

AFP will put a  
Body Guard on him  
Full Free

- States

Needs an itinerary to Foster ASAP



73/6/3

2 November 1989

VISIT BY PRESIDENT OF MACEDONIA, MR BOG88DANSKI  
11-19 NOVEMBER 1989

Mr Conroy

1. Attached is a provisional itinerary which may be given to the Ambassador.
2. The Ambassador should be advised
  - that no firearms should be carried by any member of the party
  - that we cannot rule out a reaction from the Greek Macedonian community
  - that the PSCC have been advised of the visit (contact: John Foster tel. 702207) and are alerting AFP and State offices. PSCC are responsible for security for official and non-official visitors
    - : for your information PSCC has tentatively indicated they may provide a bodyguard for Mr Bogdanski and will confirm this with PRO this afternoon
  - no flight bookings have been made by us
  - ~~the Governor-General is away from Canberra the whole week and is unable to see Mr Bogdanski~~
  - an appointment has been sought with Senator Evans on Tuesday 14 November and we are awaiting a response. As 14/11 is a Cabinet day we do not expect Senator Evans to be free, if at all, until late in the afternoon
  - an appointment with Senator Ray has been made and confirmed for Friday 17 November at 2.30 p.m. in Melbourne.

3. Our Embassy in Belgrade has been approached by Mr Alexander Dimitrov from the Macedonian Republic Protocol Office, the Assistant Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr Djukic, and Mr Rikalovski, the Republican Secretary for Foreign Relations. It has been suggested that calls should be made by Mr Bodganski on

- the Prime Minister (PM&C are considering this)
- relevant State Premiers/ Governors
- Confederation of Australian Industry
- John Benedek (Australia-Yugoslav Business Council, Sydney)
- Lord Mayors of Perth, Sydney and Melbourne (if time permits).

*OK*

B. Kelly

UNOFFICIAL VISIT TO AUSTRALIA BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE  
REPUBLICAN PRESIDENCY OF MACEDONIA, MR JESDIMIR BOGDANSKI

The President will be accompanied by:

- Mr Zivko Kondev, Chief of the President's Cabinet and Secretary to the delegation
- Mr Kukulovski, Security Officer
- Mr Bojan Dimitrov, Interpreter

Provisional itinerary:

Saturday 11 November on QF8 at 0300	arrive Perth from Singapore
Sunday 12 November in Perth and meeting with community	opening of Cultural Centre
Monday 13 November Government and Parliamentary representatives; Canberra	a.m. meetings with p.m. flight to Canberra
Tuesday 14 November representatives in Canberra; community	meetings with Federal meeting with Macedonian
Wednesday 15 November	fly to Sydney
Thursday 16 November Government and Parliamentary representatives; Macedonian community in Rockdale	meetings with State meeting with
Friday 17 November meetings with State Government and Parliamentary representatives	fly to Melbourne;
Saturday 18 November community	meeting with Macedonian
Sunday 19 November Yugoslavia (JAT)	depart by air for

The following flight bookings, or close alternative bookings,  
have been requested:

<del>14</del> .11.89	<sup>0935</sup> 1200	<sup>005</sup> TN33 to Canberra
15.11.89	0930	AN354 to Sydney
17.11.89	0830	AN07 to Melbourne
19.11.89	1650	JU581 depart Melbourne

MR. BOGDANSKI

President of the  
Republic of Macedonia

Canberra Tuesday 14 November

Governor - general - in Broken Hill  
all of that week

Senator Evans

Chris Neville  
will phone back

Senator Ray  
777860

Kerrin will phone  
back

NO FIREARMS

either 14/11

or FR. 17/11

Markham has spoken  
to PSCC they are not possible  
have to

JOHN FOSTER  
PSCC 702207

73/6/3 162

CONFIDENTIAL

INFO: EUT  
COPY NO. 1

INWARD CABLEGRAM

O.BG52645 AJFE  
TOR 23.17 31.10.89

O.BG52645 1215 31.10.89 CLA

TO.  
PP CANBERRA/7585

FM. BELGRADE/FA / REF O.BG52635

C O N F I D E N T I A L

YUGOSLAVIA : VISIT BY PRESIDENT OF MACEDONIA TO AUSTRALIA

FROM FILE 405-3

MR ALEXANDER DIMITROV FROM THE MACEDONIAN REPUBLIC PROTOCOL OFFICE CALLED AT THE EMBASSY ON 30 OCTOBER WITH SOME ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE MACEDONIAN PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO AUSTRALIA.

2. THE PARTY WILL ARRIVE IN PERTH ON 11 NOVEMBER ON QF8 AT 0300. SUBSEQUENT FLIGHT BOOKINGS HAVE BEEN SOUGHT AS FOLLOWS:

13.11.89 1200 TN33 TO CANBERRA

15.11.89 0930 AN354 TO SYDNEY

17.11.89 0800 AN07 TO MELBOURNE

19.11.89 1650 JU581 DEPART.

*17/11/89 2.30pm  
in Melbourne  
to see Ray*

AS PREVIOUSLY ADVISED, THEY WOULD APPRECIATE ASSISTANCE IN SECURING THESE, OR CLOSE ALTERNATIVE BOOKINGS.

3. THE PARTY HAS CHANGED SLIGHTLY. MRS OGNENOVA HAS BEEN REPLACED BY MR ZIVKO KONDEV, THE CHIEF OF THE PRESIDENT'S CABINET. HE WILL ACT AS SECRETARY OF THE DELEGATION. THE INTERPRETER'S NAME IS MR BOJAN DIMITROV.

4. IF IT CAN BE FITTED INTO THE PROGRAM, MR BOGDANSKI WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CALL ON THE PRIME MINISTER. (THE YUGOSLAVS UNDERSTAND THAT THE PRIME MINISTER MAY POSSIBLY BE IN PERTH DURING THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT THERE). SIMILARLY, IF POSSIBLE, CALLS ON THE RELEVANT STATE PREMIER'S WOULD BE APPRECIATED. MR BOGDANSKI IS ALSO INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING POSSIBILITIES FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND MACEDONIA AND WOULD THEREFORE BE GLAD TO HAVE APPROPRIATE MEETINGS IN THIS FIELD, E.G. WITH THE CONFEDERATION OF AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRY AND WITH JOHN BENEDEK (AUSTRALIA-YUGOSLAVIA BUSINESS COUNCIL SYDNEY). FINALLY, THE MACEDONIANS ALSO EXPRESSED INTEREST IN CALLING UPON THE LORD MAYORS OF PERTH, SYDNEY AND

*NO*

.../2

CONFIDENTIAL

IN

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

IN

# CONFIDENTIAL

INFO: EUT  
COPY NO. 1

## INWARD CABLEGRAM

2-0.BG52645

IN

MELBOURNE IF TIME PERMITS.

5. THE YUGOSLAVS ARE CLEARLY ANXIOUS THAT THE VISIT SHOULD BE SUCCESSFUL. THE ASSISTANT FEDERAL SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DJUKIC, CALLED THE AMBASSADOR TO UNDERLINE THEIR INTEREST IN SEEING THE VISIT GO WELL AND SOUGHT OUR ASSISTANCE TO THIS END.

6. WE EXPLAINED TO DIMITROV OUR FIRM POLICY AGAINST VISITING SECURITY OFFICERS CARRYING WEAPONS IN AUSTRALIA AND THAT OUR OWN SECURITY AUTHORITIES WOULD TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO ENSURE THE PARTY'S SAFETY. NEVERTHELESS, FROM HIS RESPONSE IT APPEARS LIKELY THE YUGOSLAVS WILL SEEK AN EXCEPTION, AND WILL PURSUE THIS THROUGH THEIR EMBASSY IN CANBERRA.

**ACTION:** DEP FOREIGN + TRADE  
D.I.L.G.E.A.(C) T/T  
DEP P M AND CABINET T/T  
AUSTRADE  
ASIO (C) T/T  
CERHOS T/T  
D.I.L.G.E.A.(P) T/T  
IMMIG PERTH AIRPORT T/T

PRIME MINISTER  
MIN IND TECH + COMM  
MIN FOR TRADE NEGS  
DEP IND TECH + COMM  
ONA  
PRESIDING OFFICERS

MIN FOREIGN + TRADE  
MIN RESOURCES  
DEP ADMIN SVCS  
DEP PRIMIND & ENERGY  
JIO T/T  
TRANSPORT + COMM

MIN. FOR I.L.G.E.A  
MIN PRIMIND & ENERGY  
DEP DEFENCE  
CIVIL AVIATION AUTH  
PSCC

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

SUPERFINE

.../3

# CONFIDENTIAL

IN

CONFIDENTIAL

INFO: EUT  
COPY NO. 1

INWARD CABLEGRAM

3-0.BG52645

IN

ACTION: MAS  
EEB

EGA  
LBBBB  
JAKI  
EGA

REGIONAL-DIRECTOR(P) T/T

SEC	DEPSEC-SMITH	DEPSEC-LIGHTOWLER			
DEPSEC-HALL	DEPSEC-COSTELLO	SPECIAL-ADVISER			
EXB	PPB	FAS(AED)	NZHC	CN	PA(AED)
EEU	EUT	FAS(ILD)	GLB	IOB	FAS(ETD)
PA(ETD)	TAB	REC	TSB	TCB	EOB
FAS(MTD)	PA(MTD)	GTB	RAB	RBB	
FAS(DND)	IDB	DPB	FAS(PAD)	OIB	PMB
SWS	PRB	FAS(CMD)	PA(CMD)	FAS(SPD)	
SCB	REGIONAL-DIRECTOR(M)		REGIONAL-DIRECTOR(S)		
DG-ADAB					

BEIJING BONN GENEVA LONDON ROME VIENNA WARSAW



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DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

IN

CONFIDENTIAL

73/6/3

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FIRST

ACTION: EUT  
COPY NO. 1  
O.CH561798 TLIN

O.CH561798 1841 31.10.89 CLA FIRST

TO.  
PP : PRIME MINISTER CABINET/  
PP : DILGEA CANBERRA ENTRY CONTROL ETHNIC AFF SCTN/  
FM.: DFAT, CANBERRA / Q2 REF O.CH560437/MAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L  
MACEDONIAN SOCIETY OF WA  
BEGINS

O.CH560437 20.10.89 1856 CLA

TO.  
PP : DFAT PERTH/  
PP : DILGEA PERTH/

FM. : CANBERRA / Q2

C O N F I D E N T I A L  
MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY OF WA  
FROM FILE 73/6/3

FROM EUB AND WEB (DFAT), ENTRY CONTROL AND ETHNIC AFFAIRS  
SECTIONS (DILGEA) AND P M AND C

CABLES O.CH556175, O.CE780760 AND O.BG52459 REFER.

1. THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE OCCUPIES A COMPLEX AND CONTROVERSIAL PLACE  
IN GREEK AND BALKAN HISTORY. THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS CLAIMS AND  
COUNTERCLAIMS CONCERNING MACEDONIAN IDENTITY, HISTORY AND CULTURE ON  
THE PART OF GREECE, YUGOSLAVIA AND BULGARIA.

2. ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO TERRITORIAL DISPUTE BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND  
GREECE OVER THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE, IT IS NEVERTHELESS A SOURCE OF  
FRICTION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AS THE EXISTENCE IN YUGOSLAVIA OF  
A MACEDONIAN REPUBLIC IN WHICH THE MACEDONIAN LANGUAGE, IDENTITY AND  
CULTURE ARE FOSTERED IS SEEN BY GREECE AS ENCOURAGING SIMILAR  
ASPIRATIONS AMONG GREEK MACEDONIANS

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- YUGOSLAV MACEDONIANS FEEL SOME CONCERN THAT FELLOW MACEDONIANS IN GREECE AND BULGARIA ARE NOT ALLOWED TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS MACEDONIANS
  - HOWEVER, THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT IN ANY SENSE SUPPORTS OR CONDONES THOSE MACEDONIANS WHO ASPIRE TO THE CREATION OF A 'GREATER MACEDONIA'.
3. THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT HOLDS THE VIEW THAT THE CLAIMS AND COUNTERCLAIMS ON MACEDONIAN IDENTITY SHOULD BE RESOLVED BY THE PARTIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED
- AUSTRALIA DOES NOT/NOT RECOGNISE OR SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF A 'MACEDONIAN STATE' TRANSCENDING PRESENT BOUNDARIES OF YUGOSLAVIA, GREECE AND BULGARIA.
4. THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE HAS NOT BEEN A SOURCE OF FRICTION BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND YUGOSLAVIA
- AUSTRALIA RECOGNISES THE EXISTENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA WITHIN THE SOCIALIST FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA AND BOGDANSKI'S STATUS AS PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC.
5. THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE HAS, HOWEVER, OCCASIONALLY CAUSED FRICTION IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GREECE. FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS GREECE HAS REFUSED ENTRY TO SOME HOLDERS OF AUSTRALIAN PASSPORTS WHOM IT DEEMS TO HOLD 'ANTI-GREEK' OR 'PRO-MACEDONIAN' VIEWS
- SOME PEOPLE HAVE BEEN QUESTIONED OR DETAINED ON ARRIVAL IN GREECE, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF SUSPICIONS RELATING TO THEIR MACEDONIAN ORIGINS
  - REPRESENTATIONS BY AUSTRALIA (AND BY THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA ON BEHALF OF THEIR NATIONALS IN SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES) HAVE BEEN REJECTED BY GREECE.
6. THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT, IN KEEPING WITH ITS COMMITMENT TO MULTI-CULTURALISM, CONSIDERS THAT ETHNIC GROUPS IN AUSTRALIA HAVE THE RIGHT TO SELF-IDENTIFICATION
- HENCE PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA MAY IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AND THEIR LANGUAGE AS 'MACEDONIAN'
- : THIS POSITION, HOWEVER, SHOULD NOT/NOT BE INTERPRETED AS IMPLYING ANY FORM OF RECOGNITION BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

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3-O.CH561798

OF THE CLAIMS OR OBJECTIVES OF PARTICULAR GROUPS

- THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ALSO FIRMLY ESPOUSES THE VIEW THAT THE SUCCESS OF MULTICULTURALISM WILL BE PUT AT RISK IF RIVALRIES AND ANIMOSITIES WHICH HAVE THEIR ORIGINS ELSEWHERE CONTINUE TO BE ACTED OUT IN AUSTRALIA. IN PRESERVING THEIR OWN TRADITIONS AND CULTURES, ALL GROUPS IN AUSTRALIA MUST RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS TO DO THE SAME, AND RESTRAIN THEIR ACTIONS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF AUSTRALIAN LAW.

7. YOU WILL BE AWARE OF THE VIOLENT PROTESTS IN SYDNEY IN NOVEMBER 1988 DURING THE VISIT OF THE GREEK PRESIDENT MR SARTZETAKIS

- CONTROVERSY AROSE OVER THE INCLUSION OF THE WORD ''MACEDONIA'' IN THE TITLE OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION SENT TO AUSTRALIA AS PART OF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE BICENTENNIAL
- SECTIONS OF THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY IN AUSTRALIA WERE ANGERED AT THE USE OF THE WORD, GIVEN THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL TO ALLOW GREEK MACEDONIANS TO USE THE TERM THEMSELVES
- THE GREEK GOVERNMENT INSISTED THAT THE EXHIBITION RELATED WHOLLY TO ANCIENT MACEDONIA, PRIOR TO THE MOVEMENT OF THE MODERN (SLAVIC) MACEDONIANS INTO THE AREA AND THAT THE USE OF THE TERM IN THE TITLE WAS ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE
  - : THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT VIEWED THE INCIDENT AS REGRETTABLE AND AS DOING NOTHING TO ADVANCE THE CAUSE OF MULTICULTURALISM IN AUSTRALIA.

8. YOU SOUGHT OUR VIEWS ON WHETHER THE W.A. PREMIER OR A MINISTER NOMINATED BY HIM SHOULD OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW PREMISES OF THE ''MACEDONIAN SOCIETY OF W.A. '', PARTICULARLY GIVEN THAT JESDIMIR BOGDANSKI WOULD ALSO BE PRESENT.

9. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE MACEDONIA UNITED SOCIETY OF W.A. WITH GEORGE VASSILEY (OMA PERTH) AND CARLOS STRANSKY (ETHNIC AFFAIRS DILGEA PERTH). OMA PERTH HAS ADVISED THAT IT IS A POLITICALLY ACTIVE, ALTHOUGH NOT EXTREMELY RADICAL, GROUP. IT IS NOT/NOT REGARDED AS A CHAMPION OF ''GREATER MACEDONIA''. IT IS LED BY SASHA CVETKOSKI AND ZORAN CORSESKI WHO HAVE, HOWEVER, BEEN ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN ANTI-GREEK PROPAGANDA IN W.A.

10. DILGEA PERTH REGARDS BOGDANSKI'S VISIT AS PART OF THE NORMAL EXPRESSION OF THE FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND

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DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

# CONFIDENTIAL FIRST

ACTION: EUT  
COPY NO. 1  
4-O.CH561798

AUSTRALIA, SPECIFICALLY BETWEEN THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITIES OF BOTH COUNTRIES. ALTHOUGH DILGEA PERTH EXPECTS A HOSTILE REACTION TO BOGDANSKI'S VISIT FROM THE GREEK COMMUNITY ('VITRIOLIC WRITING IN THE GREEK PRESS AND PERHAPS SOME PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION'), THEY CONSIDER THAT THERE WOULD BE NO/NO OBJECTION TO THE W.A. PREMIER'S PRESENCE AT THE CEREMONY.

11. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRIME MINISTER WILL ATTEND THE MEETING AND DELIVER A SHORT SPEECH.

12. ON THE QUESTION OF BOGDANSKI'S STATUS, WE RECOGNISE HIM AS PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA WITHIN THE YUGOSLAV FEDERATION. HIS RANK IS ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT TO THAT OF AN AUSTRALIAN STATE PREMIER. EVEN THOUGH BOGDANSKI WILL BE VISITING AUSTRALIA IN AN UNOFFICIAL CAPACITY, WE HAVE NO/NO IN PRINCIPLE OBJECTION TO THE PREMIER OR A DESIGNATED MINISTER MEETING HIM.

13. AT THIS STAGE WE CANNOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBLITY THAT THE NON-ATTENDANCE OF THE PREMIER OR DELEGATE AT THE OPENING OF THE COMPLEX MIGHT ALSO PROVOKE A PROTEST.

14. WE HAVE REQUESTED AN INTERIM THREAT ASSESSMENT FROM PROTECTIVE SERVICES. WE RECOMMEND THAT THE RELEVANT W.A. POLICE AUTHORITIES BE ADVISED OF THE 12 NOVEMBER OPENING DATE AND BE ASKED TO ASSESS POSSIBLE SECURITY RISKS.

15. GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD PASS A COPY OF THIS CABLE TO THE PREMIER'S OFFICER.

ENDS

ACTION: D.I.L.G.E.A.(C) T/T  
DEP P M AND CABINET T/T

ACTION: EEB  
EUT



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DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

73/6/3

DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET  
(INTERNATIONAL DIVISION)

TO: BARBARA KELLY

FROM: ALISON BURROWS  
TELEPHONE (062) 715559 FACSIMILE (062) 715558

MESSAGE: AS DISCUSSED, GRATEFUL YOU  
DELETE PARA 9 OF YOUR DRAFT  
CABLE AND REPLACE WITH THE FOLLOWING  
THREE PARAS.

Number of pages including this one 2

Date 19/10/89

9. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE MACEDONIA UNITED SOCIETY OF WA WITH GEORGE VASSILEY (OMA PERTH) AND CARLO STRANSKY (ETHNIC AFFAIRS DILGEA PERTH). OMA PERTH HAS ADVISED THAT IT IS A POLITICALLY ACTIVE, ALTHOUGH NOT EXTREMELY RADICAL, GROUP. IT IS NOT REGARDED AS A CHAMPION OF "GREATER MACEDONIA". IT IS LED BY SASHA CVETKOSKI AND ZORAN CORSESKI WHO HAVE, HOWEVER, BEEN ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN ACTIVITIES AGAINST GREEKS IN WA.

9A. DILGEA PERTH REGARDS BOGDANSKI'S VISIT AS PART OF THE NORMAL EXPRESSION OF THE FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND AUSTRALIA, SPECIFICALLY BETWEEN THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITIES OF BOTH COUNTRIES. ALTHOUGH DILGEA PERTH EXPECTS A HOSTILE REACTION TO BOGDANSKI'S VISIT FROM THE GREEK COMMUNITY ("VITRIOLIC WRITING IN THE GREEK PRESS AND PERHAPS SOME PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION"), THEY CONSIDER THAT THERE WOULD BE NO OBJECTION TO THE WA PREMIER'S PRESENCE AT THE CEREMONY.

9B. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRIME MINISTER WILL ATTEND THE MEETING AND DELIVER A SHORT SPEECH.

DRAFT

Flynn says ~~153~~  
Ethnic Affairs has  
approved this -

73/6/3

FROM EUB AND WEB (DFAT), ENTRY CONTROL AND ETHNIC AFFAIRS  
SECTIONS (DILGEA) AND PM&C.

CABLES 0.CH556175, 0.CE780760 AND 0.BC

1. THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE OCCUPIES A  
PLACE IN GREEK AND BALKAN HISTORY. THE  
CLAIMS AND COUNTERCLAIMS CONCERNING  
HISTORY AND CULTURE ON THE PART OF GREECE  
AND BULGARIA.

2. ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO TERRITORIAL  
DISPUTE BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND GREECE OVER THE MACEDONIAN  
NEVERTHELESS A SOURCE OF FRICTION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES  
THE EXISTENCE IN YUGOSLAVIA OF A MACEDONIAN  
THE MACEDONIAN LANGUAGE, IDENTITY AND  
SEEN BY GREECE AS ENCOURAGING SIMILAR  
MACEDONIANS

- YUGOSLAV MACEDONIANS FEEL SOME  
MACEDONIANS IN GREECE AND BULGARIA  
IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS MACEDONIANS
- HOWEVER, THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE YUGOSLAV  
GOVERNMENT IN ANY SENSE SUPPORTS OR CONDONES THOSE  
MACEDONIANS WHO ASPIRE TO THE CREATION OF A "GREATER  
MACEDONIA".

3. THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT HOLDS THE VIEW THAT THE CLAIMS  
AND COUNTERCLAIMS ON MACEDONIAN IDENTITY SHOULD BE RESOLVED BY  
THE PARTIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED

- AUSTRALIA DOES NOT/NOT RECOGNISE OR SUPPORT THE  
CONCEPT OF A "MACEDONIAN STATE" TRANSCENDING PRESENT  
BOUNDARIES OF YUGOSLAVIA, GREECE AND BULGARIA.

4. THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE HAS NOT BEEN A SOURCE OF FRICTION  
BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND YUGOSLAVIA

- AUSTRALIA RECOGNISES THE EXISTENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
MACEDONIA WITHIN THE SOCIALIST FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF  
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NUMBER OF YEARS GREECE HAS REFUSED ENTRY TO SOME HOLDERS OF  
AUSTRALIAN PASSPORTS WHOM IT DEEMS TO HOLD "ANTI-GREEK" OR  
"PRO-MACEDONIAN" VIEWS

- SOME PEOPLE HAVE BEEN QUESTIONED OR DETAINED ON  
ARRIVAL IN GREECE, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF SUSPICIONS  
RELATING TO THEIR MACEDONIAN ORIGINS
- REPRESENTATIONS BY AUSTRALIA (AND BY THE UNITED  
STATES AND CANADA ON BEHALF OF THEIR NATIONALS IN  
SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES) HAVE BEEN REJECTED BY GREECE.

Alison Burrows  
returned your call. She  
doesn't see any need  
for the PM's office to  
clear the cable.

D. Hall

DRAFT

Flynn ~~153~~ 153  
Ethnic Affairs has  
approved this -

73/6/3

FROM EUB AND WEB (DFAT), ENTRY CONTROL AND ETHNIC AFFAIRS  
SECTIONS (DILGEA) AND PM&C.

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- YUGOSLAV MACEDONIANS FEEL SOME CONCERN THAT FELLOW MACEDONIANS IN GREECE AND BULGARIA ARE NOT ALLOWED TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS MACEDONIANS
- HOWEVER, THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT IN ANY SENSE SUPPORTS OR CONDONES THOSE MACEDONIANS WHO ASPIRE TO THE CREATION OF A "GREATER MACEDONIA".

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6. THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT, IN KEEPING WITH ITS COMMITMENT TO MULTI-CULTURALISM, CONSIDERS THAT ETHNIC GROUPS IN AUSTRALIA HAVE THE RIGHT TO SELF-IDENTIFICATION

- HENCE PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA MAY IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AND THEIR LANGUAGE AS "MACEDONIAN"

: THIS POSITION, HOWEVER, SHOULD NOT/NOT BE INTERPRETED AS IMPLYING ANY FORM OF RECOGNITION BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT OF THE CLAIMS OR OBJECTIVES OF PARTICULAR GROUPS

- THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ALSO FIRMLY ESPOUSES THE VIEW THAT THE SUCCESS OF MULTICULTURALISM WILL BE PUT AT RISK IF RIVALRIES AND ANIMOSITIES WHICH HAVE THEIR ORIGINS ELSEWHERE CONTINUE TO BE ACTED OUT IN AUSTRALIA. IN PRESERVING THEIR OWN TRADITIONS AND CULTURES, ALL GROUPS IN AUSTRALIA MUST RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS TO DO THE SAME, AND RESTRAIN THEIR ACTIONS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF AUSTRALIAN LAW.

7. YOU WILL BE AWARE OF THE VIOLENT PROTESTS IN SYDNEY IN NOVEMBER 1988 DURING THE VISIT OF THE GREEK PRESIDENT MR SARTZETAKIS

- CONTROVERSY AROSE OVER THE INCLUSION OF THE WORD "MACEDONIA" IN THE TITLE OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION SENT TO AUSTRALIA AS PART OF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE BICENTENNIAL

- SECTIONS OF THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY IN AUSTRALIA WERE ANGERED AT THE USE OF THE WORD, GIVEN THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL TO ALLOW GREEK MACEDONIANS TO USE THE TERM THEMSELVES

- THE GREEK GOVERNMENT INSISTED THAT THE EXHIBITION RELATED WHOLLY TO ANCIENT MACEDONIA, PRIOR TO THE MOVEMENT OF THE MODERN (SLAVIC) MACEDONIANS INTO THE AREA AND THAT THE USE OF THE TERM IN THE TITLE WAS ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE

: THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT VIEWED THE INCIDENT AS REGRETTABLE AND AS DOING NOTHING TO ADVANCE THE CAUSE OF MULTICULTURALISM IN AUSTRALIA.

8. YOU SOUGHT OUR VIEWS ON THE WHETHER THE W.A. PREMIER OR A MINISTER NOMINATED BY HIM SHOULD OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW PREMISES OF THE "MACEDONIAN SOCIETY OF W.A.", PARTICULARLY GIVEN THAT JESDIMIR BOGDANSKI WOULD ALSO BE PRESENT.

9. IN OUR VIEW ANY DECISION ON ATTENDANCE SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THAT THE EXPRESSION "MACEDONIAN SOCIETY OF W.A" DOES NOT/NOT GIVE ANY INDICATION AS TO THE AIMS OF THE SOCIETY, WHETHER IT IS A CHAMPION OF THE FORMATION OF A "GREATER MACEDONIA" OR WHETHER ITS MEMBERSHIP IS OPEN TO ALL PERSONS OF MACEDONIAN ORIGIN BE THEY FROM GREECE, YUGOSLAVIA AND BULGARIA



*Miss Burrows RMC 715559*

9. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE MACEDONIA UNITED SOCIETY OF WA WITH GEORGE VASSILEY (OMA PERTH) AND CARLO STRANSKY (ETHNIC AFFAIRS DILGEA PERTH). OMA PERTH HAS ADVISED THAT IT IS A POLITICALLY ACTIVE, ALTHOUGH NOT EXTREMELY RADICAL, GROUP. IT IS NOT REGARDED AS A CHAMPION OF "GREATER MACEDONIA". IT IS LED BY SASHA CVETKOSKI AND ZORAN CORSESKI WHO HAVE, HOWEVER, BEEN ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN ~~ACTIVITIES AGAINST GREEKS~~ IN WA.

*(ANTI-GREEK PROPAGANDA)*  
10-9A. DILGEA PERTH REGARDS BOGDANSKI'S VISIT AS PART OF THE NORMAL EXPRESSION OF THE FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND AUSTRALIA, SPECIFICALLY BETWEEN THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITIES OF BOTH COUNTRIES. ALTHOUGH DILGEA PERTH EXPECTS A HOSTILE REACTION TO BOGDANSKI'S VISIT FROM THE GREEK COMMUNITY ("VITRIOLIC WRITING IN THE GREEK PRESS AND PERHAPS SOME PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION"), THEY CONSIDER THAT THERE WOULD BE NO OBJECTION TO THE WA PREMIER'S PRESENCE AT THE CEREMONY.

11-9B. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRIME MINISTER WILL ATTEND THE MEETING AND DELIVER A SHORT SPEECH.

- YOU MAY WISH TO SEEK CLARIFICATION ON THE MATTER
- UNTIL WE KNOW MORE ABOUT THE SOCIETY, WE ARE UNABLE TO JUDGE WHETHER THE INVITATION TO BOGDANSKI HAS ANY NEGATIVE IMPLICATIONS.

12 10. ON THE QUESTION OF BOGDANSKI'S STATUS, WE RECOGNISE HIM AS PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA WITHIN THE YUGOSLAV FEDERATION. HIS RANK IS ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT TO THAT OF AN AUSTRALIAN STATE PREMIER. EVEN THOUGH BOGDANSKI WILL BE VISITING AUSTRALIA IN AN UNOFFICIAL CAPACITY, WE HAVE NO/NO IN PRINCIPLE OBJECTION TO THE PREMIER OR A DESIGNATED MINISTER MEETING HIM.

13 11. AT THIS STAGE WE CANNOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE NON-ATTENDANCE OF THE PREMIER OR DELEGATE AT THE OPENING OF THE COMPLEX MIGHT ALSO PROVOKE A PROTEST.

14 12. WE HAVE REQUESTED AN INTERIM THREAT ASSESSMENT FROM PROTECTIVE SERVICES. WE RECOMMEND THAT THE RELEVANT W.A. POLICE AUTHORITIES BE ADVISED OF THE 12 NOVEMBER OPENING DATE AND BE ASKED TO ASSESS POSSIBLE SECURITY RISKS.

14 13. GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD PASS A COPY OF THIS CABLE TO THE PREMIER'S OFFICE.

149

73/6/3

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INFO: EUT  
COPY NO. 1

INWARD CABLEGRAM

O.BG52635 SKPL  
TOR 20.32 27.10.89

O.BG52635 1200 27.10.89 CLA FIRST

TO.  
PP CANBERRA/7576

RP.  
RR ATHENS/1014

FM. BELGRADE/FA / REF O.BG52459

*BK*

*as discuss*

C O N F I D E N T I A L

YUGOSLAVIA : VISIT BY PRESIDENT OF MACEDONIA TO AUSTRALIA

FROM FILE 405-3

START OF SUMMARY

THE PRESIDENT OF THE MACEDONIAN REPUBLIC PROPOSES TO VISIT AUSTRALIA IN NOVEMBER AT THE INVITATION OF THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITIES IN AUSTRALIA. OUR ASSISTANCE IS SOUGHT IN ARRANGING APPROPRIATED APPOINTMENTS AT GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENTARY LEVEL.

END OF SUMMARY

FOR DFAT AND DILGEA

FURTHER TO REFTEL CONCERNING A POSSIBLE VISIT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, WE RECEIVED ADVICE TODAY FROM RIKALOVSKI, THE REPUBLICAN SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS (I.E. THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC) AND ALSO FROM THE FEDERAL SECRETARIAT FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLICAN PRESIDENCY, JEZDIMIR BOGDANSKI, PROPOSES TO TRAVEL TO AUSTRALIA AT THE INVITATION OF THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY, TO ATTEND THE OPENING OF THE MACEDONIAN CULTURAL CENTRE IN PERTH ON 12 NOVEMBER. HE THEN PLANS TO TRAVEL TO OTHER STATES AND TO CANBERRA TO MEET THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITIES THERE.

2. FOLLOWING IS THE PROVISIONAL ITINERARY:

SATURDAY 11 NOVEMBER ARRIVE PERTH FROM SINGAPORE

SUNDAY 12 NOVEMBER OPENING OF CULTURAL CENTRE IN PERTH AND

.../2

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IN

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

IN

148  
Sandra Lockman  
Lyndal Lawless

CONFIDENTIAL  
FIRST

INFO: EUT  
COPY NO. 1

INWARD CABLEGRAM

2-O.BG52635

MEETING WITH COMMUNITY

MONDAY 13 NOVEMBER A.M. MEETINGS WITH GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT  
-ARY REPRESENTATIVES  
P.M. FLIGHT TO CANBERRA

TUESDAY 14 NOVEMBER MEETINGS WITH FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES IN  
CANBERRA  
MEETING WITH MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY

*cabinet day*

WEDNESDAY 15 NOVEMBER FLY TO SYDNEY

THURSDAY 16 NOVEMBER MEETINGS WITH STATE GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT  
-ARY REPRESENTATIVES  
MEETING WITH MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY IN ROCKDALE

FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER FLY TO MELBOURNE  
MEETINGS WITH STATE GOVERNMENT AND  
PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATIVES

SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER MEETING WITH MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY

SUNDAY 19 NOVEMBER DEPART BY AIR FOR YUGOSLAVIA (JAT)

3. THE PRESIDENT WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY RIKALOSVSKI AND THREE  
OTHERS: MRS LINA OGNENOVA - COUNSELLOR  
MR KUKULOVSKI - SECURITY OFFICER  
INTERPRETER - NON NAME GIVEN YET.

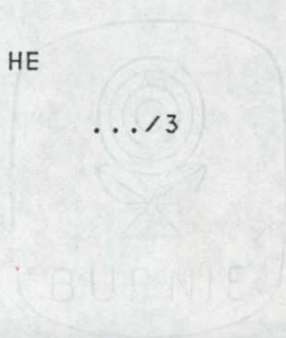
4. RIKALOVSKI SAID THAT THEY WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR OUR ASSISTANCE IN  
ARRANGING APPROPRIATE CALLS. AS BOGDANSKI IS THE EQUIVALENT OF  
A STATE GOVERNOR, AND SINCE THE MACEDONIANS ARE THE LARGEST  
YUGOSLAV COMMUNITY IN AUSTRALIA, IT WOULD SEEM APPROPRIATE TO  
INCLUDE CALLS ON GOVERNORS AND/OR STATE PREMIERS IN THE STATES, AS  
WELL AS MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR IMMIGRATION AND ETHNIC AFFAIRS.  
IN CANBERRA A CALL ON THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE,  
AS WELL AS CALLS ON THE MINISTERS FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND FOR  
IMMIGRATION AND ETHNIC AFFAIRS, OR ON SENIOR OFFICERS OF THOSE  
DEPARTMENTS, IF MINISTERS ARE NOT AVAILABLE.

5. WHILE THE VISIT MAY AROUSE SOME SUSPICIONS IN THE GREEK  
MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY, WE DO NOT THINK THAT BOGDANSKI WILL  
DELIBERATELY STIR UP THE MACEDONIAN QUESTION FURTHER, THOUGH HE  
IS LIKELY TO REFER TO IT IN PASSING.

.../3

CONFIDENTIAL  
FIRST

IN  
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK



BOND 147

**CONFIDENTIAL  
FIRST**

INFO: EUT  
COPY NO. 1

**INWARD CABLEGRAM**

3-0.BG52635

6. RIKALOVSKI SAID THAT THEY WERE HAVING DIFFICULTY IN BOOKING FLIGHTS FROM PERTH TO CANBERRA ON 14 NOVEMBER, AND WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ASSISTANCE YOU CAN PROVIDE IN MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THIS SECTION OF THEIR ITINERARY. I EXPLAINED THE CURRENT SITUATION OF THE PILOTS STRIKE, AND SUGGESTED THAT IT SHOULD NOT BE TOO DIFFICULT TO MAKE BOOKINGS NEARER THE TIME. WE ASSUME THAT THE YUGOSLAV CONSULATE IN PERTH WILL BE INVOLVED IN THIS. //

7. WE EXPECT TO RECEIVE THEIR PASSPORTS EARLY NEXT WEEK, AND WILL PROCEED TO ISSUE VISAS. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLICAN SECRETARIAT FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON MONDAY 30 OCTOBER WILL ALSO CALL ON 30 OCTOBER TO DISCUSS THE PROGRAM FURTHER. WE WILL REMIND THE MACEDONIANS OF OUR POLICY THAT SECURITY OFFICERS SHOULD NOT/ NOT CARRY FIREARMS. PLEASE ADVISE URGENTLY IF THERE IS ANY FURTHER INFORMATION WE SHOULD CONVEY. h

**ACTION:** DEP FOREIGN + TRADE  
DEP P M AND CABINET  
ASIO (C) T/T  
CERHOS

PRIME MINISTER  
MIN FOR TRADE NEGS  
D.I.L.G.E.A.(C)  
JIO T/T  
TRANSPORT + COMM

MIN FOREIGN + TRADE  
DEP ADMIN SVCS  
CIVIL AVIATION AUTH  
PSCC

MIN. FOR I.L.G.E.A  
DEP DEFENCE  
ONA  
PRESIDING OFFICERS

**ACTION:** EEB

LBBBB  
JAKI

REGIONAL-DIRECTOR(P) T/T

SEC	DEPSEC-SMITH	DEPSEC-LIGHTOWLER			
DEPSEC-HALL	DEPSEC-JONES	SPECIAL-ADVISER			
EXB	PPB	FAS(AED)	NZHC	CN	PA(AED)
EEU	EUT	FAS(ILD)	GLB	IOB	FAS(DND)
IDB	DPB	FAS(PAD)	OIB	PMB	SWS
PRB	FAS(CMD)	PA(CMD)		REGIONAL-DIRECTOR(S)	
DG-ADAB					

**CONFIDENTIAL  
FIRST**

IN  
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

BOND

IN



73/6/3

CANBERRA

Barbara

*Hee*

*With the Compliments*

*of the*

*Secretary*

*Department of the*

*Prime Minister*

*and Cabinet*

Hope you can read this.  
I have consulted Victor  
Isaacs who will let us  
know if he hears  
anything  
Alicia 18/10

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

MINUTE / FILE NOTE

Form PX70-10/76

TO:	TONY ZANDERIGO	O.M.A.	FILE NO.
FROM:	GEORGE VASSILEY	L.C. (W.A.)	DATE
SUBJECT:	Macedonian United Society of W.A. and visit by President of the Republic of Macedonia.		

In response to your request of the 13/10/89 re the above, I was able to obtain the following information:

- The position of President of the Republic of Macedonia is a governmental position of the Federation of Yugoslavia. It can be likened to one of State Premier. At this stage I cannot confirm if Pres. EZDIMIR BOBANSKI will be attending the opening of the Macedonian United Society's premises on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 1989 in Waverley Rd, Balga.
- I am told that <sup>the</sup> Yugoslav Consul in W.A. has not yet been invited to the opening. Am awaiting confirmation of this, and information on whether members of the Macedonian Community of W.A., and the Yugoslav Clubs and Community bases (which the United Society are affiliated to) this is causing some anxiety within both communities. <sup>have been invited.</sup>
- The Macedonian United Society of W.A. is the second largest group of three within the Macedonian community in W.A. They are generally considered as a radical group, by Macedonians, Yugoslavs and Greeks. It is run by two political activists, SASHA CVETKOSKI (President) and ZORAN KORSESKI (Secretary) who are claimed to have been involved in activities against Greeks in W.A. About 2 yrs ago the Florist Athena Soccer Club was decorated with anti-Greek slogans, and numerous press articles against the Greek Consul in W.A. Also, were rumored to have organized people from W.A. to attend

the demonstrations in Melbourne against the former President.  
 It is also claimed by reliable sources that this group was responsible for the GRANT-in-AID welfare program which was operated by the Macedonian Community of W.A., being cut off by D.I.L.G.E.A. - due to claims of not servicing their members. After a probationary period of one year, the G.I.A. was re-awarded for three years under joint sponsorship with the Mac. United Society.

Historically, the members (Nos unknown at this stage) of the M.U.S. are immigrants ~~and their children~~ from Yugoslavia who migrated after 1950. They are from Slavic backgrounds, mostly young socialists, who are hostile towards Greece. This is politically inspired by a desire to form a greater Republic of Macedonia incorporating areas of Greece and Bulgaria. Whereas, the Macedonian Community of W.A. are seen as moderates, most of whom migrated to W.A. before W.W.II, from Greece. They were sponsored to W.A. by Greek businessmen to work in the tobacco industry. They are the "old guard" who favour a Republic of Macedonia within the Federation of Yugoslavia. The M.C. of W.A. established a Community Centre in Albert St. North Perth and the Church of St. Nicholas in Argyle St. North Perth. They have also established a sports centre, and in the process of developing a hostel for the aged in Balgatha. The Fed. member for Stirling, Mr. R. EDWARDS has assisted this group.

The Macedonian United Society was formed approx 5 years ago with the amalgamation of the NADA sports club (President was SHASHA CVETKOSKI) in Fitzgerald St N. Perth, and the ILINDEN Group, a splinter group of St. Nicholas Church (President is TOM GASTEVSKI). I am told that since then (recently) these two groups split up and are operating independantly. The I.LINDEN Group operate from 114 BRINDERSORD PLACE, Balgatha. They are a moderate group and largely seen as insignificant.



CONFIDENTIAL

INFO: EUT  
COPY NO. 1  
O.CH560437 WJKI

O.CH560437 20.10.89 1856 CLA

TO.  
PP : DFAT PERTH/  
PP : DILGEA PERTH/  
FM. : CANBERRA / Q2

C O N F I D E N T I A L

MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY OF WA

FROM FILE 73/6/3

FROM EUB AND WEB (DFAT), ENTRY CONTROL AND ETHNIC AFFAIRS  
SECTIONS (DILGEA) AND P M AND C

CABLES O.CH556175, O.CE780760 AND O.BG52459 REFER.

1. THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE OCCUPIES A COMPLEX AND CONTROVERSIAL PLACE  
IN GREEK AND BALKAN HISTORY. THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS CLAIMS AND  
COUNTERCLAIMS CONCERNING MACEDONIAN IDENTITY, HISTORY AND CULTURE ON  
THE PART OF GREECE, YUGOSLAVIA AND BULGARIA.

2. ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO TERRITORIAL DISPUTE BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND  
GREECE OVER THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE, IT IS NEVERTHELESS A SOURCE OF  
FRICTION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AS THE EXISTENCE IN YUGOSLAVIA OF  
A MACEDONIAN REPUBLIC IN WHICH THE MACEDONIAN LANGUAGE, IDENTITY AND  
CULTURE ARE FOSTERED IS SEEN BY GREECE AS ENCOURAGING SIMILAR  
ASPIRATIONS AMONG GREEK MACEDONIANS

- YUGOSLAV MACEDONIANS FEEL SOME CONCERN THAT FELLOW MACEDONIANS  
IN GREECE AND BULGARIA ARE NOT ALLOWED TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS  
MACEDONIANS
- HOWEVER, THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT IN ANY  
SENSE SUPPORTS OR CONDONES THOSE MACEDONIANS WHO ASPIRE TO THE  
CREATION OF A 'GREATER MACEDONIA'.

3. THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT HOLDS THE VIEW THAT THE CLAIMS AND  
COUNTERCLAIMS ON MACEDONIAN IDENTITY SHOULD BE RESOLVED BY THE  
PARTIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED

- AUSTRALIA DOES NOT/NOT RECOGNISE OR SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF A  
'MACEDONIAN STATE' TRANSCENDING PRESENT BOUNDARIES OF  
YUGOSLAVIA, GREECE AND BULGARIA.

4. THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE HAS NOT BEEN A SOURCE OF FRICTION BETWEEN  
AUSTRALIA AND YUGOSLAVIA

.../2

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DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

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- AUSTRALIA RECOGNISES THE EXISTENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA WITHIN THE SOCIALIST FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA AND BOGDANSKI'S STATUS AS PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC.
- 5. THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE HAS, HOWEVER, OCCASIONALLY CAUSED FRICTION IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GREECE. FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS GREECE HAS REFUSED ENTRY TO SOME HOLDERS OF AUSTRALIAN PASSPORTS WHOM IT DEEMS TO HOLD 'ANTI-GREEK' OR 'PRO-MACEDONIAN' VIEWS
  - SOME PEOPLE HAVE BEEN QUESTIONED OR DETAINED ON ARRIVAL IN GREECE, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF SUSPICIONS RELATING TO THEIR MACEDONIAN ORIGINS
  - REPRESENTATIONS BY AUSTRALIA (AND BY THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA ON BEHALF OF THEIR NATIONALS IN SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES) HAVE BEEN REJECTED BY GREECE.
- 6. THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT, IN KEEPING WITH ITS COMMITMENT TO MULTI-CULTURALISM, CONSIDERS THAT ETHNIC GROUPS IN AUSTRALIA HAVE THE RIGHT TO SELF-IDENTIFICATION
  - HENCE PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA MAY IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AND THEIR LANGUAGE AS 'MACEDONIAN'
    - : THIS POSITION, HOWEVER, SHOULD NOT/NOT BE INTERPRETED AS IMPLYING ANY FORM OF RECOGNITION BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT OF THE CLAIMS OR OBJECTIVES OF PARTICULAR GROUPS
  - THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT ALSO FIRMLY ESPOUSES THE VIEW THAT THE SUCCESS OF MULTICULTURALISM WILL BE PUT AT RISK IF RIVALRIES AND ANIMOSITIES WHICH HAVE THEIR ORIGINS ELSEWHERE CONTINUE TO BE ACTED OUT IN AUSTRALIA. IN PRESERVING THEIR OWN TRADITIONS AND CULTURES, ALL GROUPS IN AUSTRALIA MUST RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS TO DO THE SAME, AND RESTRAIN THEIR ACTIONS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF AUSTRALIAN LAW.
- 7. YOU WILL BE AWARE OF THE VIOLENT PROTESTS IN SYDNEY IN NOVEMBER 1988 DURING THE VISIT OF THE GREEK PRESIDENT MR SARTZETAKIS
  - CONTROVERSY AROSE OVER THE INCLUSION OF THE WORD 'MACEDONIA' IN THE TITLE OF AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXHIBITION SENT TO AUSTRALIA AS PART OF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE BICENTENNIAL
  - SECTIONS OF THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY IN AUSTRALIA WERE ANGERED AT THE USE OF THE WORD, GIVEN THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL TO ALLOW GREEK MACEDONIANS TO USE THE TERM THEMSELVES
  - THE GREEK GOVERNMENT INSISTED THAT THE EXHIBITION RELATED

.../3

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DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

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INFO: EUT  
COPY NO. 1  
3-O.CH560437

WHOLLY TO ANCIENT MACEDONIA, PRIOR TO THE MOVEMENT OF THE MODERN (SLAVIC) MACEDONIANS INTO THE AREA AND THAT THE USE OF THE TERM IN THE TITLE WAS ENTIRELY APPROPRIATE

: THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT VIEWED THE INCIDENT AS REGRETTABLE AND AS DOING NOTHING TO ADVANCE THE CAUSE OF MULTICULTURALISM IN AUSTRALIA.

8. YOU SOUGHT OUR VIEWS ON WHETHER THE W.A. PREMIER OR A MINISTER NOMINATED BY HIM SHOULD OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW PREMISES OF THE 'MACEDONIAN SOCIETY OF W.A.', PARTICULARLY GIVEN THAT JESDIMIR BOGDANSKI WOULD ALSO BE PRESENT.

9. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THE MACEDONIA UNITED SOCIETY OF W.A. WITH GEORGE VASSILEY (OMA PERTH) AND CARLOS STRANSKY (ETHNIC AFFAIRS DILGEA PERTH). OMA PERTH HAS ADVISED THAT IT IS A POLITICALLY ACTIVE, ALTHOUGH NOT EXTREMELY RADICAL, GROUP. IT IS NOT/NOT REGARDED AS A CHAMPION OF 'GREATER MACEDONIA'. IT IS LED BY SASHA CVETKOSKI AND ZORAN CORSESKI WHO HAVE, HOWEVER, BEEN ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN ANTI-GREEK PROPAGANDA IN W.A.

10. DILGEA PERTH REGARDS BOGDANSKI'S VISIT AS PART OF THE NORMAL EXPRESSION OF THE FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND AUSTRALIA, SPECIFICALLY BETWEEN THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITIES OF BOTH COUNTRIES. ALTHOUGH DILGEA PERTH EXPECTS A HOSTILE REACTION TO BOGDANSKI'S VISIT FROM THE GREEK COMMUNITY ('VITRIOLIC WRITING IN THE GREEK PRESS AND PERHAPS SOME PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION'), THEY CONSIDER THAT THERE WOULD BE NO/NO OBJECTION TO THE W.A. PREMIER'S PRESENCE AT THE CEREMONY.

11. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PRIME MINISTER WILL ATTEND THE MEETING AND DELIVER A SHORT SPEECH.

12. ON THE QUESTION OF BOGDANSKI'S STATUS, WE RECOGNISE HIM AS PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA WITHIN THE YUGOSLAV FEDERATION. HIS RANK IS ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT TO THAT OF AN AUSTRALIAN STATE PREMIER. EVEN THOUGH BOGDANSKI WILL BE VISITING AUSTRALIA IN AN UNOFFICIAL CAPACITY, WE HAVE NO/NO IN PRINCIPLE OBJECTION TO THE PREMIER OR A DESIGNATED MINISTER MEETING HIM.

13. AT THIS STAGE WE CANNOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBLITY THAT THE NON-ATTENDANCE OF THE PREMIER OR DELEGATE AT THE OPENING OF THE COMPLEX MIGHT ALSO PROVOKE A PROTEST.

14. WE HAVE REQUESTED AN INTERIM THREAT ASSESSMENT FROM PROTECTIVE SERVICES. WE RECOMMEND THAT THE RELEVANT W.A. POLICE AUTHORITIES BE ADVISED OF THE 12 NOVEMBER OPENING DATE AND BE ASKED TO ASSESS POSSIBLE SECURITY RISKS.

15. GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD PASS A COPY OF THIS CABLE TO THE PREMIER'S

.../4

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DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

CONFIDENTIAL

INFO: EUT  
COPY NO. 1  
4-0.CH560437

OFFICER.

ACTION: D.I.L.G.E.A.(P) T/T

ACTION: WEB  
EEB  
FA-P

JAMK  
JAKI

T/T

WEU

EEU

EUT

SCB

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

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139

73/6/3

BURN

RESTRICTED

INFO: EUT  
COPY NO. 1

INWARD CABLEGRAM

O.BG52459 JRLE  
TOR 00.12 04.10.89

IN

O.BG52459 1500 03.10.89 CLA

TO.  
PP CANBERRA/7435

FM. BELGRADE/FA / REF O.CE780760

R E S T R I C T E D

JEZDIMIR BOGDANSKI - VISIT TO MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY OF W.A.

TO ENTRY CONTROL SECTION DILGEA CANBERRA

FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF REFTEL WE CONTACTED MACEONIAN  
REPUBLICAN PROTOCOL OFFICE, AND WERE TOLD THAT MR BOGDANSKI'S  
PROPOSED VISIT TO AUSTRALIA HAD NOT YET BEEN CONFIRMED, BUT THEY  
WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH US IN DUE COURSE. WE WILL ADVISE AS SOON  
AS WE HEAR ANYTHING FURTHER.

2. BIODATA ON MR BOGDANSKI IS AS FOLLOWS:

JESDIMIR BOGDANSKI (UNDERLINE)

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLICAN PRESIDENCY  
BORN IN 1930  
GRADUATE OF THE SCHOOL OF SOCIOLOGY  
MEMBER OF TE LC SINCE 1948  
REPUBLICAN SECRETARY FOR LABOUR, HEALTH AND SOCIAL POLICY  
DEPUTY TO THE REPUBLICAN PARLIAMENT  
MEMBER OF THE CC LC OF MACDEONIA.

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE  
D.I.L.G.E.A.(C) T/T  
ASIO (C) T/T

DEP P M AND CABINET

ACTION: EEB  
GLB  
FA-P

ICAA

T/T

EEU EUT RIA

RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

SUPER

BURN

IN

73/6/3

Fax: (062) 612176  
Tel: (062) 61 3361



Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Canberra.

FACSIMILE MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED

Date 17/10/89

To DILGEM Entry Liaison

Fax No. 643752

Attention MR PADDY FLYNN

Pages Following 3

From BARBARA KELLY

File No. \_\_\_\_\_

Subject MACEDONIAN SOCIETY OF WA - DRAFT  
CABLE TO DEPT PERTH

COMMENTS:

*Paddy,  
grateful for your clearance  
of the attached - could you  
please phone me on your  
return*

*Barbara Kelly  
613361*

642672



73/6/3

Fax: (062) 612176  
Tel: (062) 61 3361



Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Canberra.

FACSIMILE MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED

Date 17/10/89

To DILGEM Ethnic Affairs Section Fax No. 642672

Attention MS EVELYN GOY Pages Following 3

From BARBARA KELLY File No.

Subject MACEDONIAN SOCIETY OF WA - DRAFT CABLE

COMMENTS:

Grateful your urgent clearance of the attendance. Once you have cleared it, I will ask DPM + C to clear it.

B. Kelly  
615361



643752

# DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE Facsimile Message Cover

**Transmission Information (Please read this first)**  
List all receiving addresses here  
Precedence Indicators RH, PP, PPF, or U should be used

Precedence	Address
PP	DFAT Lib - 612176
	Dr. B. Kelly E&U Section
	Dr. K. Chan W&U Section

For Information

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**Title or Subject of the Document**

Macedonian United Society of W.A.  
Copy of letter to WA Premier  
(see also separate telex).

**Distribution Details (To be completed by Originator)**

( grateful early advice re  
on terms of a response )

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Deputy Secy:  Phone No.:  Date:

14/09/89

10:44

CEREMONIAL AND HOSPITALITY

002

73/6/3



12/11/89

**Macedonian United Society of W.A. (Inc)**  
**МАКЕДОНСКА ОБЕДИНЕТА ОПШТИНА НА З. А. (ИМК.)**

P.O. BOX 106  
 NORTH PERTH 6006

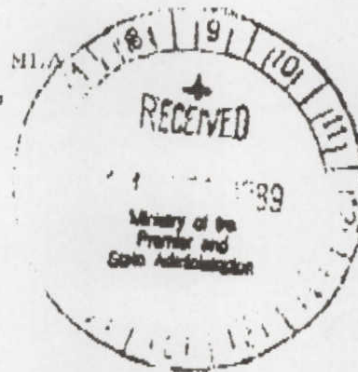
8914535

DATE: .....

TEL: .....

REF No: .....

The Hon. Peter Dowding, M.L.A., M.L.A.  
 Premier for Western Australia,  
 Capita Centre,  
 18th Floor,  
 197 St. George's Terrace,  
 PERTH. W.A. 6000



Dear Mr Premier,

Re: Visit to Western Australia by the President of Macedonia -  
 official opening of Macedonian United Society Complex

I write to inform you that the President of the Republic of Macedonia will be visiting Western Australia during the second week of November and will be in attendance at the opening of our new premises in Wanneroo Road, Balga.

It is with this in mind that I extend to you an invitation to meet with President Ezdimir Bogdanski, and to officiate at the opening of our complex on the 12th November, 1989.

It is hoped that your busy schedule permits you to attend as your presence would afford our Community much joy.

Yours faithfully,

Sasha Cvetkoski  
 PRESIDENT  
 MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY W.A. (Inc)

*Sasha Cvetkoski*

6th September, 1989.

73/6/3 134

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ACTION: EEUT  
COPY NO. 1  
O.CH556175 GPBA

O.CH556175 0456 20.9.89 CLA

TO.  
RR : DILGEA(C) /

FM. : DFAT CANBERRA/M4

RESTRICTED  
MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY OF WA.

TEXT OF O.CE776129 BEGINS...

MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY OF WA

WA PREMIER'S DEPT HAS SOUGHT OUR ADVICE ON TERMS OF A POSSIBLE RESPONSE TO A LETTER TO PREMIER DOWDING (COPY TO YOU BY FAX) FROM MR SASHA CVETKOSKI, PRESIDENT OF THE MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY WA (INC) INVITING THE PREMIER TO 'OFFICIATE AT' THE OPENING OF THE SOCIETY'S NEW PREMISES IN PERTH ON 12 NOVEMBER

. IN HIS LETTER, MR CVETKOSKI SAYS THAT THE 'PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA', MR EZDIMIR BOGDANSKI, WILL BE VISITING WA 'DURING THE SECOND WEEK OF NOVEMBER' AND WILL BE ATTENDING THE OPENING OF THE MACEDONIAN SOCIETY'S PREMISES.

2. WA GOVT IS AWARE OF THE TERMS OF THE STANDING ADVICE RE MACEDONIA ON P.23 OF THE DEPT'S GUIDELINES ON OFFICIAL CONTACT WITH FOREIGN ENTITIES

. IT IS ALSO CONSCIOUS OF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S RECENT SENSITIVITY OVER THE WA GOVT'S ALLEGED SUPPORT FOR 'PAN-MACEDONIANISM'

- THE WA GOVT WILL WISH TO BE CAREFUL TO AVOID RE-KINDLING THIS ISSUE.

3. THE WA GOVT WOULD APPRECIATE OUR EARLY ADVICE IN PARTICULAR ON:

. THE PROTOCOL STATUS OF BOGDANSKI

. WHETHER WE CAN CONFIRM DETAILS OF HIS VISIT TO AUSTRALIA

. WHETHER IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR PREMIER DOWDING (OR A NOMINATED MINISTER) TO ACCEPT THE MACEDONIAN SOCIETY'S INVITATION, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE POSSIBLE ATTENDANCE BY BOGDANSKI.

4. GRATEFUL EARLY ADVICE.

....ENDS.

.../2

RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

RESTRICTED

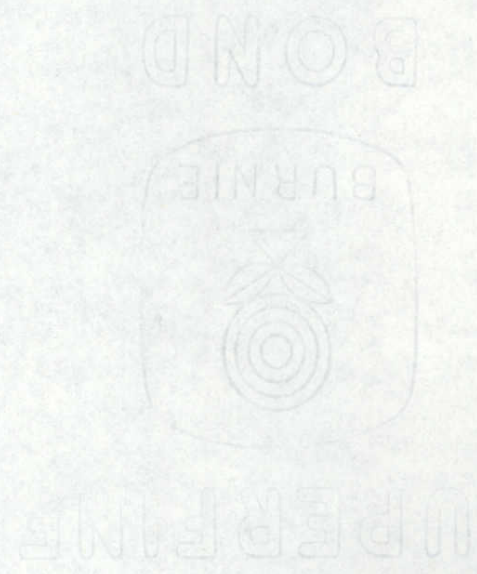
ACTION: EEUT  
COPY NO. 1  
2-O.CH556175

ACTION: D.I.L.G.E.A.(C) T/T

ACTION: WEB  
WES  
ECS  
EEB  
EEUS  
EEUT

JAMK

JAKI



DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

RESTRICTED

73/6/3

RESTRICTED

INFO: EEUT  
COPY NO. 1

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

OUT

O.CE780760 APBO

O.CE780760 1057 26.09.89 CLA

TO.  
PP BELGRADE/1412  
FM. CANBERRA / IM

*Spoke to Pany  
Dreas Paritt  
& told him  
Dreas was  
following this  
up he  
received  
this*

R E S T R I C T E D

EZDIMIR BOGDANSKI - VISIT TO MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY OF W.A.

FROM ENTRY CONTROL SECTION DILGEA CANBERRA

WA PREMIER'S DEPT HAS ADVISED LETTER RECEIVED FROM MR SASHA CVETKOVSKI OF ABOVE SOCIETY INVITING PREMIER TO 'OFFICIATE' AT OPENING OF SOCIETY'S PREMISES ON 12/11/89 WHICH WILL BE ATTENDED BY MR EZDIMIR BOGDANSKI 'PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA'. GRATEFUL URGENT ADVICE IF VISA APPLICATION LODGED, TOGETHER WITH BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF BOGDANSKI.

AC. EAST EUROPE SECTION ATTN: B KELLY

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE  
D.I.L.G.E.A.(C)  
ASIO (C)

DEP P M AND CABINET

ACTION: EEB  
GLB  
FA-P

ICAA

T/T

EEUS      EEUT      RIA

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

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OUT

RESTRICTED

73/6/3 131

ACTION: EEUT  
COPY NO. 1  
O.CE776129 JJMC

O.CE776129 1810 14.09.89 CLA

TO.

PP : DFAT CANBERRA (EEU SECTION BARBARA KELLY)/

PP : DFAT CANBERRA (WEU SECTION KEN CHAN)/

FM. : DFAT PERTH - JOHN POWYS, REGIONAL DIRECTOR / PF

*Trevor Peacock*  
*Protective Services*

R E S T R I C T E D

MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY OF WA

PFAF567 FM FILE 46/4/167

WA PREMIER'S DEPT HAS SOUGHT OUR ADVICE ON TERMS OF A POSSIBLE RESPONSE TO A LETTER TO PREMIER DOWDING (COPY TO YOU BY FAX) FROM MR SASHA CVETKOSKI, PRESIDENT OF THE MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY WA (INC) INVITING THE PREMIER TO 'OFFICIATE AT' THE OPENING OF THE SOCIETY'S NEW PREMISES IN PERTH ON 12 NOVEMBER

. IN HIS LETTER, MR CVETKOSKI SAYS THAT THE 'PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA', MR EZDIMIR BOGDANSKI, WILL BE VISITING WA 'DURING THE SECOND WEEK OF NOVEMBER' AND WILL BE ATTENDING THE OPENING OF THE MACEDONIAN SOCIETY'S PREMISES.

2. WA GOVT IS AWARE OF THE TERMS OF THE STANDING ADVICE RE MACEDONIA ON P.23 OF THE DEPT'S GUIDELINES ON OFFICIAL CONTACT WITH FOREIGN ENTITIES

. IT IS ALSO CONSCIOUS OF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S RECENT SENSITIVITY OVER THE WA GOVT'S ALLEGED SUPPORT FOR 'PAN-MACEDONIANISM'

- THE WA GOVT WILL WISH TO BE CAREFUL TO AVOID RE-KINDLING THIS ISSUE.

3. THE WA GOVT WOULD APPRECIATE OUR EARLY ADVICE IN PARTICULAR ON:

. THE PROTOCOL STATUS OF BOGDANSKI

. WHETHER WE CAN CONFIRM DETAILS OF HIS VISIT TO AUSTRALIA

. WHETHER IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR PREMIER DOWDING (OR A NOMINATED MINISTER) TO ACCEPT THE MACEDONIAN SOCIETY'S INVITATION, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE POSSIBLE ATTENDANCE BY BOGDANSKI.

4. GRATEFUL EARLY ADVICE.

.../2

RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

73/6/3

Fax: (062) 612176  
Tel: (062) 61 3361



Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Canberra.

FACSIMILE MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED Date 17/10/89  
 To PM + C Fax No. 715558  
 Attention ALLISON BURROWS Pages Following 3  
 From BARBARA KELLY File No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Subject DRAFT CABLE TO DFAT PERTH

COMMENTS: ① The attached draft has been cleared by Entry Liaison DILGON. Ethnic Affairs (DILGON) will be contacting me in the morning & I will advise you of their comments.  
 ② As discussed, grateful if you would clear this with relevant areas of PM+C and, if necessary, add a paragraph on possible attendance of a representative of the Prime Minister.

Barbara Kelly  
61 3361



```

*****
** VOCA FAX TRANSMIT CONFIRMATION REPORT **
*****
Journal No. : 001
Receiver : 0022611118
Transmitter : DFAT Americas & Europe
Date : 16,10,89 10:31
Document : 03 pages
Time : 01'30"
Mode : G3 NORMAL
Result : OK
*****

```

73/6/3

DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET  
(INTERNATIONAL DIVISION)

TO: MS B. KELLY

FROM: ALISON BURROWS  
TELEPHONE (062) 715559 FACSIMILE (062) 715558

MESSAGE:

Number of pages including this one 6

Date 16/10/89

M21 8929381



# Macedonian United Society of W.A. (Inc)

## МАКЕДОНСКА ОБЕДИНЕТА ОПШТИНА НА З. А. (ИМК.)

P.O. BOX 106  
NORTH PERTH 6006

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TEL: \_\_\_\_\_

REF No: \_\_\_\_\_

The Hon. R.J. Hawke, A.C., M.P.,  
Prime Minister,  
Parliament House,  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

ATTENTION: M/s Jean Sinclair

Dear Prime Minister,

Re: Visit to Western Australia by President of Macedonia  
Opening of Macedonian United Society W.A.(Inc) Complex

I write to inform that the President of the Republic of Macedonia will be visiting Western Australia during the second week of November and will be in attendance at the opening of our new premises in Wanneroo Road Balga, Western Australia.

It is with this in mind that I extend to you an invitation to meet with President Ezdimir Bogdanski, and to officiate at the opening of our complex on the 12th November, 1989.

It is hoped that your busy schedule permits you to come as your attendance would afford our Community much joy.

Yours faithfully,

Sasha Cvetkoski  
PRESIDENT  
MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY W.A. (Inc)

6th July, 1989.

c.c. Mr R. Edwards MHR

MKI 8929381



OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER  
CANBERRA

Date: 28 July

rec'd 16/10  
in DEPT

W.A. (Inc)  
A. (VHK.)

TO DEPARTMENT

Briefing

Division/Branch \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

EF No: \_\_\_\_\_

5-10 min

The attached request for a message/speech from the Prime Minister is required by:

C.O.B. 27 October

Many thanks

Bernie  
Bernie Shaw

of Macedonia  
A.(Inc) Complex

the Republic of  
during the second  
the opening of our  
Australia.

an invitation to  
to officiate at the  
1989.

you to come as your  
oy.

Yours faithfully,

Sasha Cvetkoski  
PRESIDENT  
MACEDONIAN UNITED SOCIETY W.A. (Inc)

6th July, 1989.

c.c. Mr R. Edwards MHR

DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET 119 12

Assistant Secretary

Coordination and Information Branch OMA

**REQUEST FOR DRAFT SPEECH FOR KEP**

The following request for the preparation of a draft speech has been received from the Prime Minister's Office for action by the Department.

Venue : Wanneroo Road Balga WA  
Organisation : Macedonian United Society of WA  
Date : 12 November 1989  
Length : 5-10 mins  
Themes : as appropriate  
Format : Office Circular 1987/29 sets out information on speech writing. Copies are available from Briefing Section.

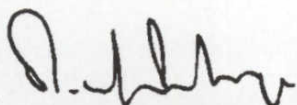
(Note: Speeches are to be printed in lower case and one and a half line spacing)

It would be appreciated if you could arrange for a response to be prepared in your Branch and returned by noon 27 October 1989 to Briefing Section for forwarding to the Prime Minister's Office. If any problem in meeting the request or the deadline arises, please advise me.

The response should comprise :

- . an original
- . an authorising
- . plus one copy

Thank you.



M.G. L'Estrange  
Senior Adviser  
Briefing Section  
(ext 5306)

31 July 1989

73/6/3

Fax: (062) 612176  
Tel: (062) 61 3361



Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Canberra.

FACSIMILE MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED

Date 18/10/89

To PM+C

Fax No. 715558

Attention ALLISON BURROWS

Pages Following 1

From BARBARA KELLY

File No. \_\_\_\_\_

Subject MACEDONIAN SOCIETY OF WA

COMMENTS:

I have only just received the attached this morning from Joan Butt, A/g Director, Ethnic Affairs Section, DILGEEA. Ms Butt would be happy to discuss it with you if need be, her phone no. is 6422 94. Ms Butt has cleared our draft cable to THAT Perth.

BKelly

123  
26 73/6/3



# FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

Department of Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs  
Benjamin Offices, Chan Street, Belconnen,  
A.C.T. 2617 Ph: (062) 64 1111

To: <i>Ms Barbara KELLY DFAT, Canberra</i>	Telephone Number
--	------------------

From: <i>E. GOY DILGEEA, Belconnen</i>	Telephone Number <i>64 2716</i>
--	------------------------------------

Title of Message: *Minute re Macedonians in WA*

Number of Pages to Follow: <i>1+1</i>	Date: <i>18/10/1989</i>
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FORM M.833 (5-89)

Message:

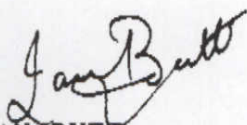
*As discussed with Ms J. Butt.*

*Regards*

*Eveline Goy.*

**MACEDONIANS IN W.A. - VISIT OF MACEDONIAN PRESIDENT TO W.A.**

- . The WA Macedonian community is already aware of the impending visit of an important dignitary from Macedonia, and is looking forward to it.
- . The Macedonian community in WA is divided in two major organisations: the Macedonian Community, with Mr C Angelkov as President, and the Macedonian United Society, with Mr S Cvetkovski as President. It appears that both groups are pleased by the impending visit.
- . The Macedonian community has settled well in Australia and the Yugoslav community has generally enjoyed friendly relations with Australia, apart from the exceptional incident at the Sydney Consulate. The visit from an important Yugoslav-Macedonian dignitary is therefore regarded as part of the normal expression of this friendly relationship.
- . It is certain that the Macedonian President's visit will attract some reaction from the Greek community in Australia. It is expected that protest will probably generate some vitriolic writing in the Greek press, and perhaps some peaceful demonstration. Greek protest demonstrations have not been violent, to date.
- . Given the status of the visitor, the traditionally friendly relationship between Australia and Yugoslavia, and the anticipation the Australian Macedonian community as a whole, there would be no objection to Premier Dowding's presence at the ceremony.

  
JAN BUTT  
A/g Director  
Ethnic Affairs

18 October 1989



73/6/3

ACTION: EEUB  
COPY NO. 1

# INWARD CABLEGRAM

O.AT38352 JJMC  
TOR 20.37 18.08.89

O.AT38352 1330 18.8.89 UNC

TO.  
PP CANBERRA/5916

RP.  
PP BELGRADE/692

FM. ATHENS / FA REF O.AT38303

U N C L A S S I F I E D

GREECE/YUGOSLAVIA: MACEDONIA

FROM FILE 221/6/7/1

GREECE HAS REACTED TO YUGOSLAV STATEMENTS ON A SPEECH ABOUT THE 'MACEDONIAN QUESTION' BY GREEK PRESIDENT SARTZETAKIS IN THESSALONIKI EARLIER THIS MONTH.

END OF SUMMARY

THE SEMI OFFICIAL ATHENS NEWS AGENCY (ANA) BULLETIN REPORTS A YUGOSLAV RESPONSE TO A STATEMENT THAT 'OUR NEIGHBOUR'S BEHAVIOUR CULTIVATES HATRED AND FALSIFIES HISTORY' MADE BY GREEK PRESIDENT SARTZETAKIS AT THE OPENING OF THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE PAN-MACEDONIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES, CANADA, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND IN THESSALONIKA EARLIER THIS MONTH. THE YUGOSLAV FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN IS REPORTED TO HAVE

- EXPRESSED DISPLEASURE AT 'THE WAY IN WHICH THE HIGHEST OFFICIAL OF NEIGHBOURING GREECE SPOKE INAPPROPRIATELY ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE SOVEREIGNTY AND VITAL INTERESTS OF YUGOSLAVIA' AND

- ADDED THAT YUGOSLAVIA WOULD REACT IN A DECISIVE MANNER TO WHAT IT REGARDED AS 'UNACCEPTABLE (BEHAVIOUR) FOR GOOD NEIGHBOUR RELATIONS'.

2. IN ITS OWN RESPONSE TO THE YUGOSLAV STATEMENT THE GREEK MINISTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, KANELLOPOULOS, IS REPORTED TO HAVE

- SAID THAT THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN MADE HARSH STATEMENTS AND AN INACCURATE ASSESSMENT OF THE GREEK PRESIDENT'S SPEECH

- ADDED THAT THE YUGOSLAV OFFICIAL SHOULD HAVE FIRST

.../2

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

IN

IN

# INWARD CABLEGRAM

2-O.AT38352

IN

STUDIED MORE CAREFULLY THE EXACT CONTENTS OF THE GREEK PRESIDENT'S SPEECH, WHICH THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT, LIKE PREVIOUS GREEK GOVERNMENTS AND THE GREEK POLITICAL WORLD, AGREED WITH.

- REITERATED GREECE'S POSITION TOWARDS ITS BALKAN NEIGHBOURS WITH WHICH IT WISHED TO MAINTAIN FRIENDLY RELATIONS, AS WAS PROVED BY ITS EFFORTS TO PROMOTE ITS ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL AND CULTURAL TIES WITH THEM.
- SAID THAT THIS WAS PARTICULARLY TRUE AS REGARDS YUGOSLAVIA, WITH WHOSE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT GREECE HAS NO DISPUTE.
- STRESSED THAT AS FAR AS GREECE WAS CONCERNED THERE WAS NO 'MACEDONIAN QUESTION'.

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE

PRIME MINISTER	MIN FOREIGN + TRADE	MIN FOR TRADE NEGS
DEP DEFENCE	DEP P M AND CABINET	ONA
JIO T/T		

ACTION: WEUB	JALJ
EEUB	JAKI

SEC	DEPSEC-SMITH	DEPSEC-LIGHTOWLER	
DEPSEC-FIELD	DEPSEC-COSTELLO	SPECIAL-ADVISER	
EX PA	SW NZHC	CN FAS(AE)	
PA(AE)	AM WES	ECS EEUS	EEUT
NZPNG	FAS(IOIC)	IO FAS(LC)	TSL
ARIA	IGL FAS(DDN)	IDB PPB	DPR

ANKARA	BEIJING	BERNE	BONN	BRUSSELS	DUBLIN	GENEVA	LISBON
LONDON	MALTA	NICOSIA	ROME	THE HAGUE	VIENNA	WARSAW	

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DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

IN

F 73/6/3

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE

# Facsimile Message Cover

### Transmission Information (Please read this first)

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Precedence indicators RR, PP, PPF, or II should be used

Precedence	Address
PP	CANBERRA
PP	BELGRADE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3811624029
For Information.	

### COMMS USE ONLY

Analysis	SKPL - 2106/23		
Copies Required	3		
Channel Ident.	Time/Date	Rx/Tx	Ack
55	1630/23	Att.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Reference Details

Name of Sending Post/Office

Fax Number

File Numbers

Security Classification

Previous Reference Number.

The number of pages, including this cover to be transmitted:

### Title or Subject of the Document

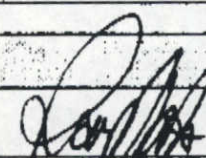
ANCIENT MACEDONIA  
media article (ANA 22/5/89)

### Distribution Details (To be completed by Originator)

PA / EEV / WEV

### Authorisation Details. (Please print)

Transmission Authorised by

Authorising officer's signature 

Dept/Bch/Sect

Phone No.

Date

2

HOME NEWS

Minister accuses Australian press

Minister for Macedonia/Thrace Stelios Papathemelis yesterday criticised the Australian media for its coverage of incidents provoked by "Skopje demonstrators" in Sydney in protest over a Greek exhibition of archaeological treasures from Ancient Macedonia currently on tour in Australia.

"There is a tradition of despicable acts in Sydney which are attempted by a numerically insignificant minority from Skopje (Yugoslavia), such as the acts

that took place during the visit there of the President of the Greek Republic," Mr. Papathemelis said.

He said the latest incident could have gone unnoticed if the Australian media had put it in its proper perspective.

"Unfortunately, the Australian media continue to give unjustified priority and disproportionate importance to incidents of this kind. It is up to the dynamic Greek community in Sydney to give the appropriate answer," he said.

athens news agency Bulletin 22/5/89

F 73/6/3

Brief prepared for Unsworth  
visit to Yugoslavia May 89

The Macedonian Issue

1) in the Balkans

- . The Macedonian issue occupies a complex and controversial place in Greek and Balkan history. There have been numerous claims and counter-claims concerning Macedonian identity, history and culture on the part of Greece, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, and on the part of Macedonians themselves
  - the Australian Government regards these claims and counter-claims as matter to be resolved among the parties directly involved
  - Australia does not recognize or support the concept of a "Macedonian state" transcending present boundaries of Yugoslavia, Greece and Bulgaria.
- . Although there is no territorial dispute, the Macedonian issue is the source of some friction between Yugoslavia and Greece. The existence in Yugoslavia of a Macedonian Republic, in which Macedonian language, identity and culture are fostered, is seen in Greece as lending encouragement to similar aspirations among Greek Macedonians
  - while Yugoslav Macedonians feel some concern that fellow Macedonians in Greece and also Bulgaria are not allowed to identify themselves as Macedonians.
- . While the issue is a source of friction, its importance today is significantly less than in early periods
  - particularly in the Greek civil war during and after World War II, where Macedonian aspirations were caught up in the struggle between communist and anti-communist forces in Greece, and with Greek fears of possible Yugoslav and Soviet support for the creation of a Macedonian political entity
  - this historical background, while no relevant to present conditions, continues to some extent to influence attitudes.
- . The Macedonian issue is a source of friction in relations between Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, though there is no territorial dispute involved. The latter does not recognize minority rights in any way and the treatment of Macedonians in Bulgaria is of concern to Yugoslavia.
- . The existence of a Macedonian Republic in Yugoslavia, and Yugoslav concern over the treatment of Macedonian-speaking people in Greece and Bulgaria, does not mean that Yugoslavia in any sense supports or condones those Macedonians who aspire to the creation of a "greater Macedonia"

- on the contrary, Yugoslavia strongly opposes any such idea.

## 2) For Australia

- . In keeping with its commitment to multiculturalism, the Australian Government considers that ethnic groups within Australia have the right to self-identification and that nomenclature should not be imposed on them
  - hence people in Australia have the right to identify themselves and their language as "Macedonian"
  - this position, however, should not be interpreted as implying any form of recognition by the Australian Government of the claims or objectives of particular groups.
- . The Australian Government also firmly espouses the view that the success of multiculturalism will be put at risk if rivalries and animosities which have their origins elsewhere continue to be acted out in Australia
  - in preserving and promoting their own traditions and cultures, all groups within the community must at the same time respect the rights of others to do the same, and to restrain their actions within the framework of Australian law
  - the violent protests in Sydney last November by Macedonians during the visit of the Greek President Mr Sartzetakis are regrettable and will do nothing to advance the cause of multiculturalism in Australia.
- . The Macedonian issue has been a source of friction from time to time in relations between Greece and Australia. Greece has for a number of years refused entry to some holders of Australian passports whom it deems to hold "anti-Greek" or "pro-Macedonian" views
  - some people have also been questioned or detained on arrival in Greece, presumably because of suspicions relating to Macedonian origins
  - representations by Australia (and by the United States and Canada on behalf of their nationals in similar circumstances) have been rejected by Greece
  - the Australian Government has in practice no means of persuading the Greek authorities to be more accommodating.
- . Controversy arose more recently over the inclusion of the word "Macedonia" in the title of an archaeological exhibition sent to Australia as part of Greece's contribution to the bicentennial
  - sections of the Macedonian community in Australia were angered at the use of the word, given the Greek

Government's refusal to allow Greek Macedonians to use the term themselves

- the Greek Government insisted that the exhibition related wholly to ancient Macedonia, prior to the movement of the modern (Slavic) Macedonians into the area and that the use of the term in the title was entirely appropriate.
- . The Macedonian issue has not been a source of friction between Australia and Yugoslavia.

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INFO: EEUS  
COPY NO. 1

INWARD CABLEGRAM

O.BG50810 AUTO  
TOR 01.00 15.02.89

O.BG50810 1500 14.02.89 CLA

TO.  
RR CANBERRA/5996

FM. BELGRADE/FA / REF O.CH525343

R E S T R I C T E D

YUGOSLAVIA : MACEDONIA CONFERENCE

TO FILE 73/6/3 FROM FILE 201/6/6

WE SENT TO YOU ALL INFORMATION PASSED TO US BY CONFERENCE ORGANISERS UNDER MEMO BG10368. THE CALL BY CONFERENCE ORGANISERS ON AMBASSADOR WAS REPORTED IN O.BG50644.

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE

D.I.L.G.E.A.(C) DEP P M AND CABINET ONA  
JIO T/T

ACTION: WEUB JALJ  
EEUB JAKI

SEC	DEPSEC-HALL	DEPSEC-COSTELLO				
SPECIAL-ADVISER	EX	PA	SW	NZHC	CN	
FAS(AE)	AM	WEUS	EEUS	FAS(IOIC)	IO	
FAS(DDN)	IDB	PPB	DPR			

ANKARA BEIJING BERNE BONN BRUSSELS DUBLIN GENEVA LISBON  
LONDON MALTA MOSCOW NICOSIA ROME THE HAGUE VIENNA WARSAW

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DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

IN

IN



RESTRICTED

INFO: EEUS  
COPY NO. 1

OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

OUT

O.CH525343 LSFA

O.CH525343 1527 1.2.89 CLA

TO.  
RR BELGRADE/9611

FM. CANBERRA / M4 REF O.CH507045 O.BG49845

R E S T R I C T E D

YUGOSLAVIA : MACEDONIA ISSUES

F  
↙

TO FILE 201/6/6 FROM FILE 73/6/3

WE HAVE RECEIVED A FOLLOW-UP CALL FROM DILGEA ADVISING THAT THEY ARE STILL INTERESTED IN RECEIVING BACKGROUND DETAILS TO CONFERENCE OF 'MACEDONIANS' INVOLVED IN GREEK CIVIL WAR REFERRED TO IN BG48620.

2. YOU NOTE IN BG49845 THAT THE CONFERENCE ORGANISERS HAVE BEEN APPROACHED FOR COPIES OF PAPERS DELIVERED. GRATEFUL IF ANY USEFUL INFORMATION RECEIVED COULD BE FORWARDED TO EAST EUROPE BRANCH.

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE

D.I.L.G.E.A.(C) DEP P M AND CABINET ONA  
JIO T/T

ACTION: WEUB JALJ  
EEUB JAKI

SEC	DEPSEC-HALL	EX	DEPSEC-COSTELLO	SW	NZHC	CN
SPECIAL-ADVISER		PA				IO
FAS(AE)	AM	WEUS	EEUS		FAS(IOIC)	
FAS(DDN)	IDB	PPB	DPR			

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

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OU

NNNN  
APO1889

73/6/3

113

PRINTED BY: ALAN  
EXTRA COPY REQUESTED BY EEUB PRINTED BY SKIR 15/1020

O.BG50644 DRHA  
TOR 0123 19.01.89

O.BG50644 1530 18.01.89 CLA

TO.  
PP CANBERRA/5859

RP.  
RR ATHENS/964

**RESTRICTED**

FM. BELGRADE/FA / REF O.BG50522

R E S T R I C T E D

CALL BY 'AEGEAN MACEDONIANS' ON AMBASSADOR  
FROM FILE 201-6-6

AS FORESHADOWED IN REFTEL, TWO DELEGATES OF THE BOARD FOR THE JUNE 1988 WORLD CONGRESS OF REFUGEE CHILDREN FROM AEGEAN MACEDONIA CALLED UPON THE AMBASSADOR YESTERDAY (17 JANUARY) TO 'EXPRESS GRATITUDE TO AUSTRALIA' FOR HAVING TAKEN IN CHILDREN OF 'AEGEAN MACEDONAINS' AFTER WORLD WAR TWO.

2. THE DELEGATES EXPRESSED THEIR THANKS AT LENGTH AND PASSED TO US  
LETTERS TO THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT EXPLAINING THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING OF JUNE 1988.  
A DECLARATION ALLEGING DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THE GREEK MINORITY IN MACEDONIA, AND MACEDONIANS OF ALL NATIONALITIES BY THE GREEK GOVERNMENT, REFERRING SPECIFICALLY TO THE REFUSAL BY THE GREEK GOVERNMENT TO ALLOW MACEDONIANS TO RE-ENTER GREECE.  
BOOKLETS, DESCRIBING THE EXODUS OF MACEDONIAN CHILDREN IN 1948, BADGES, AND A MEMORIAL PLAGUE.
3. THE DELEGATES THEN MADE A BRIEF PRESENTATION EMPHASISING THEIR CONCERN AT GREECE'S REFUSAL TO ALLOW LARGE NUMBERS OF MACEDONIAN-BORN AUSTRALIAN AND CANADIAN CITIZENS INTO GREECE DURING LATE 1988. THEY DESCRIBED THIS AS A BREACH OF GREECE'S INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS OBLIGATIONS, ESPECIALLY AS THE GREEK GOVERNMENT WAS REFUSING ENTRY TO A WHOLE CLASS OF PEOPLE, AND NOT JUST INDIVIDUALS.
4. WE RESPONDED THAT:  
WHILE WE COULD UNDERSTAND THEIR CONCERN, AUSTRALIAN POLICY WAS THAT IT WOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH ANOTHER COUNTRY'S RIGHT TO CHOOSE WHO IT WOULD AND WOULD NOT ALLOW ACROSS ITS BORDERS.  
WE WOULD PASS THE DOCUMENTS AND OTHER ITEMS ON TO YOU.
5. THE DELEGATES DID NOT PRESS THE POINT, AND ACCEPTED OUR STATEMENT. THEY CONCLUDED THAT:  
THEIR PROTESTS OVER THIS ISSUE WERE MERELY PART OF A LONG TERM PROCESS OF 'FORCING GREECE TO RECOGNISE THE RIGHTS OF MACEDONIANS'.

**RESTRICTED**

2. THE DELEGATES EXPRESSED THEIR THANKS AT LENGTH AND PASSED TO US
  - . LETTERS TO THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENT EXPLAINING THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING OF JUNE 1988.
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  - . THEIR PROTESTS OVER THIS ISSUE WERE MERELY PART OF A LONG TERM PROCESS OF 'FORCING GREECE TO RECOGNISE THE RIGHTS OF MACEDONIANS'.

.../2  
**RESTRICTED**

...

2-0.B650644

- . WHILE THE BOARD ITSELF DID NOT INTEND TO BRING LEGAL ACTION OVER THE MATTER, THREE AUSTRALIAN CITIZENS OF MACEDONIAN EXTRACTION INTEND TO BRING ACTION IN THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE AGAINST THE GREEK GOVERNMENT.
6. THE VISIT WAS REPORTED (WITH NO INFORMATION ABOUT OUR RESPONSE TO THE PRESENTATION) IN THE DAILY BELGRADE PRESS ON 18 JANUARY.
  7. THE GREEK EMBASSY IN BELGRASDE WAS IN TOUCH WITH US BEFORE AND IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE VISIT TO PUT ITS VERSION OF HISTORY. IT DID NOT CRITICISE OUR HAVING RECEIVED THE DELEGATION.
  8. DOCUMENTS AND OTHER ITEMS FOLLOW BY BAG.

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE  
D.I.L.G.E.A.(C) T/T

PRIME MINISTER  
MIN FOREIGN + TRADE  
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INFO: EEUS  
COPY NO. 1

INWARD CABLEGRAM

O.BG50522 ASCL  
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O. BG50522 0830 30.12.88 CLA

TO.  
PP CANBERRA/5755

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RP.  
RR ATHENS/960

FM. BELGRADE / FA

R E S T R I C T E D

YUGOSLAVIA : MEETING OF AEGEAN-MACEDONIAN REFUGEES

YOU MAY BE AWARE THAT IN JUNE/JULY THIS YEAR THERE WAS A REUNION IN SKOPJE OF A NUMBER OF AEGEAN-MACEDONIAN REFUGEES WHO LEFT GREECE AS CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE CIVIL WAR. WE RECEIVED AN INVITATION FROM THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF REFUGEE CHILDREN FROM AEGEAN-MACEDONIANS, IN ASSOCIATION WITH SIMILAR ASSOCIATIONS IN PERTH AND MELBOURNE, TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE GATHERING, BUT DID NOT DO SO. YOU MAY ALSO RECALL THAT SOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE MEETING SUBSEQUENTLY ENDEAVOURED TO VISIT GREECE BUT WERE NOT PERMITTED TO DO SO (O.BG49104 REFERS).

2. WE HAVE NOW RECEIVED A FORMAL REQUEST FROM THE REPUBLIC PROTOCOL OFFICE IN SKOPJE, ASKING US TO RECEIVE TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE FOR THE MEETING WHO WISH TO PRESENT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA A LETTER OF THANKS FOR ITS HELP IN SUBSEQUENTLY ACCEPTING SOME OF THE REFUGEES FOR SETTLEMENT IN AUSTRALIA.

3. ON BALANCE, WE ARE INCLINED TO MEET THIS REQUEST AND RECEIVE THE TWO REPRESENTATIVES INFORMALLY AND WITHOUT PUBLICITY. HOWEVER GIVEN THE CURRENT SENSITIVITIES OF THE MACEDONIAN QUESTION, THE MEETING, IF PUBLICISED BY THE ORGANISERS, COULD GIVE RISE TO SOME ADVERSE REACTIONS IN GREECE. BEFORE WE RESPOND, WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR COMMENTS, AND ANY ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND YOU MAY HAVE. IN PARTICULAR, WAS THERE ANY ORGANISED MOVEMENT OF REFUGEE CHILDREN TO AUSTRALIA AFTER 1948 OR WAS IT SIMPLY THE RESULT OF INDIVIDUAL DECISIONS BY PARENTS?

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DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

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INFO: EEUS  
COPY NO. 1

INWARD CABLEGRAM

2-0.BG50522

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE  
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PRIME MINISTER  
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MIN. FOR I.L.G.E.A  
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PPB	DPR	FAREP-M	FAREP-P	DG-ADAB
DDG(CPR)	DDG(CCIP)	CERP		

BEIJING BONN GENEVA LONDON MOSCOW ROME VIENNA WARSAW



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DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

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110

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY, ATHENS

File 411/8  
221/6/7/1

RECORD OF CONVERSATION WITH: Mr N. Madey (Minister/Counsellor,  
Yugoslav Embassy

ON: 13 December, 1988

OFFICERS PRESENT: Mr R. H. Platt, Counsellor

MAIN SUBJECTS: . Yugoslav Consulate General,  
Sydney,  
. Macedonia

~~F73/2/6~~  
F73/6/3  
~~Mr Dims~~

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Mr Madey called to see me by appointment this morning, following a conversation at a social function two or three weeks ago, to discuss the Greek President's visit to Australia. Inevitably the conversation opened with a reference (by Mr Madey) to the problems arising from events in Sydney over the past two weeks.

**Yugoslav Consulate-General Sydney**

2. The conversation on this topic was brief. There were clearly differing perceptions of the events that led to the closure of the Consulate-General in Sydney and the expulsion from Yugoslavia of members of the Australian Embassy. Comments made by Mr Madey:

- . contrasted the dignified treatment of the Australians leaving Belgrade with that accorded the Yugoslavs leaving Sydney (Mr Platt said he knew the details of neither).
- . emphasised the importance attached by Yugoslavia to the dignity of its flag and the inviolability of its premises.
- . pointed out that this was not the first such incident in years past involving the Yugoslav presence in Australia
- . reiterated that Australian protection had been inadequate to prevent demonstrators intruding into the Consulate grounds.
- . referred to praise by Yugoslav Prime Minister Mikulic of the Consulate-General staff involved.

3. Mr Platt said that while he was not in full possession of all the facts, Australia

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*R. H. Platt*  
-----  
Report prepared by R. H. Platt.

- . regarded the shooting of anyone as a particularly serious matter
  - . had provided up to thirty police officers to protect the Consulate, a task made much more difficult by the absence of Yugoslav permission for police officers to enter the grounds of the Consulate.
  - . had seen the initially willing cooperation of Yugoslav officials in Australia deteriorate during the week.
4. This exchange was undertaken calmly and without rancour.

#### Macedonia

5. Mr. Madey said that Yugoslavia was concerned that the Macedonian issue between Yugoslavia and Greece was being inflamed and assuming an increasing place in Greek/Yugoslav relations. There were signs of increasing nationalism in the Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and in Greece (instancing on one side the high profile actions by President Sartzetakis in Australia and on the other the gathering of some 25,000 students outside the Greek Consulate-General in Skopje protesting about Greece's non-recognition of the Macedonian language).
6. At national level the two countries were anxious to maintain good relations and hence the visit to Yugoslavia by Greek Foreign Minister Papoulias last month and a planned reciprocal visit by the Yugoslav Foreign Minister Loncar. Through these visits the two countries were seeking ways to promote good relations and to establish increased cooperation in matters of mutual interest. Mr. Madey asked that Australia bear these efforts in mind when considering activities which may have an impact on both countries.
7. Mr. Platt said that Australia was already sensitive to the relationship between Greece and Yugoslavia, particularly over the Macedonian issue. Australia had, in the lead up to the President's visit and to the Melbourne exhibition (and subsequently), gone to considerable lengths to seek to eliminate the risk of inflaming the communities over the Macedonian issue. This had been done at some political, and potentially financial, cost to Australia. He explained the relevant elements of Australia's policy on a multicultural society and outlined Australia's concern that ethnic communities in Australia should not carry on the historical disputes that have plagued their mother countries for hundreds, sometimes thousands, of years. These were of no interest or relevance in the Australian context and issues in which Australia had no wish nor will to become involved.

M. Demio.

F-73/6/3

CONFIDENTIAL

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FILE No. 31/1/3/14  
DATE 9.12.88

SUBJECT GREEK PRESIDENT'S VISIT: 22-28.11.88

FOR File +

Mr Conroy

As foreshadowed with Mr Conroy by me, Mr NUKICEVIC, the No. 2 of the Yugoslav Embassy, called on me + Mr VEGTING on 9.12 to discuss the visit of the President of Greece.

2. Mr V's particular interests seemed to be

- any subjects discussed (we explained that it was not a working visit in that sense but more for bicentennial + community purposes)
- the name of the exhibition (we said that thanks to the negotiations we were well satisfied with the ANCIENT MACEDONIA title + the contents - he was fully up on the controversy)
- the security for the President in Perth + Syd (there were demos in both) (we said that this was not our field but we were satisfied with the arrangements).

3. At his request we gave Mr V copies of the speeches by the Mr + President in Canberra.

STEPHEN WHITLAW



22

# An exhibition of ancient passion

W/E AGE 19/11/88 P3

THE GREEKS are not the easiest people in the world to deal with. They did not coin the word disputatious but they have given it real meaning. Just ask Australia's ambassador in Athens, Mr Kevin Gates.

Mr Gates was the unwitting victim of an extraordinary explosion when he discussed with the Greek Minister for Culture, Ms Melina Mercouri, plans for the Bicentenary visit of the greatest exhibition of ancient artefacts to be allowed out of Greece. The meeting centred on a decision by Australian officials to drop the word "Macedonia" from the exhibition's title because of long-standing tensions in Australia between the Greek and Macedonian communities.

The tempestuous Ms Mercouri, according to confidential cables from the Australian embassy, reacted with "extraordinary and uncompromising hostility". Displaying all the qualities that made her a flamboyant film star, plus the emotionalism of a character in a Greek tragedy, Ms Mercouri "snarled and she hissed" and for 30 minutes

It has taken seven years of haggling with Greek authorities, Prime Minister negotiations, and almost created a diplomatic crisis. This week, Victorians will be able to see the result: the biggest and most controversial exhibition of antiquities to visit these shores. PAMELA BONE and GEOFF MASLEN report.

"abused and bullied the ambassador and his third secretary".

The involvement of the mercurial Mercouri in the negotiations "almost guaranteed that no rational discussion could take place", the cables say. Nevertheless, the ambassador, "when given the opportunity", told Ms Mercouri that Australia had to be careful "lest it promote by virtue of its involvement in the exhibition a situation which would distress and provoke a particular ethnic group within the Australian community". Ms Mercouri found this profoundly unconvincing.

"The Australian Government Backs Down", Greek newspaper headlines lat-

er declared, after the Greek Government angrily cancelled the exhibition and the Australian Government just as quickly assured the Greeks it really wanted the show under any title. But not before angry speeches in the Greek Parliament and a call from the Greek Deputy Culture Minister, Mr Theodoros Stathis, to Greeks in Australia to "raise their voices against this anti-Hellenistic ploy... that vulgarly insults history and truth".

Mr Stathis's rousing command to Australian Greeks, according to our embassy, was "provocative interference in Australia's internal affairs". The attitude of Ms Mercouri was "typical of

## In Greek terms, the name matters

THE GREEK Government had every right to insist on the exhibition being called "Macedonian Treasures", because the artefacts are from ancient Macedonia. But the threat by Greece to "mobilise" Greeks in Australia if the exhibition did not go ahead on Greek terms is an astonishing interference in Australia's internal affairs.

As the Australian ambassador in Athens, Mr Kevin Gates, said in his confidential report on the controversy to the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, "It can only damage the standing of Greek Australians in the Australian community and, at a time when a very sensitive and important debate on the future of Australia's immigration policies is taking place, give comfort to those who are opponents of Australia's multicultural policies".

In asking for the term "Macedonia" to be removed from the exhibition title, the Australian officials were trying to prevent the exhibition being marred by demonstrations such as happened last February when 3000 Macedonians demonstrated outside an international Greek-organised conference on Macedonia held in Melbourne. The "Macedonian Question" - a

subject about which countless books have been written - centres historically on whether the ancient Macedonians were a Greek or a Slavic race. Today, the questions about who has the right to be called a Macedonian and the definition of Macedonia - since 1913 divided between northern Greece, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria - remain highly sensitive in Greece and in countries where Greeks and Macedonians have migrated.

Macedonians say that the persistent use of the term Macedonia in things Greek is an attempt by the Greek Government to deny the Macedonians their separate identity. But those Greeks who come from the region of Greece known as Macedonia, and who refer to themselves as Greek-Macedonians, are equally adamant that the other group should not be allowed to monopolise the name of Macedonia.

The Greek Government over the years has made it plain that it does not like the way Australia allows the Macedonians to call themselves just "Macedonians". It wants them to be referred to as "Slav-Macedonians", despite the Australian Government's multicultural policies that allow eth-

nic groups to be self-identifying. Greece has, within the past few months, changed the name of the Ministry of Northern Greece to the Ministry of Macedonia.

"Actions of this kind," said a Greek Government spokesman referring to the conflict over the exhibition, "find Greeks, wherever they may be, always united, and determined never to allow anybody to forge history on the altar of unacceptable expediency."

The majority of Australia's almost 500,000 Greeks, though undoubtedly united on the Macedonian issue, are more concerned with getting on with being Australian than with "mobilising" in support of the Greek Government.

As Mr George Papadopoulos, the chairman of the Victorian Ethnic Affairs Commission (and a most reasonable Greek), says, "multiculturalism is about living in Australia". It encourages the maintenance of cultural traditions and languages in Australia but it does not entail the recognition of the historical and political claims of migrant groups.

- Pamela Bone

cont.

from previous page

AN EXHIBITION OF ANCIENT GREECE  
W/E AGE P 3-4

42

Greece's self-centred disregard of the legitimate rights and interests of other countries... the extraordinary vehemence of Greek Government reactions to our request is logically inexplicable — but then Greek policies are not always driven by logic", the cablegrams continued.

A few weeks after this storm, it was Australia's turn. Australian curators had been to Greece several times over the years, trying to get top-shelf artefacts out of the museums in northern Greece. They looked at the proposed shipment list and were dismayed by the quality and number of objects. The game plan had been to secure some of the spectacular pieces that had been uncovered 10 years ago in the royal tombs at Vergina.

The manifest the Greeks provided indicated that only one item from the tombs would be coming plus copies of several important pieces. The Australians did not want the exhibition on those terms.

GREECE IS A tiny, indented and mountainous country, bathed in crystalline light. It is a mere man's palm on the body of the earth, a kingdom not much more than half the size of Victoria. Barren and precipitous, with not a river to be seen and soil thin enough to roll up and carry away like a rug, you might think the place inhospitable.

Yet people have occupied the land for thousands of years. It is, of course, a nation surrounded by sea and Homer's wine-dark waves also crash on Greece's numerous islands, so you are never far from the ocean. The Greeks, Plato said,

live in and out of the water like frogs in a pond.

Seafaring, open-minded, constantly receptive to new ideas, the special genius of the ancient Greeks lay in their ability to pick up a good idea wherever they went and remold it into something peculiarly their own.

With originality and flair, the Greeks in the centuries before Christ created an astonishing civilisation. There were palaces on Crete 4000 years ago; the first Olympic Games were held in 776 BC; Greek city states were producing their own coins in the Seventh Century BC; 300 years later, Aristotle's insatiable curiosity was to set out ideas that were to shape the minds of the Western world for the next millennium.

Greeks of what they considered to be the glories of their Macedonia. So they kept stalling and stalling.

"They began to offer alternatives but we kept asking for key pieces from Philip's tomb. Then Greece sent an exhibition to Bologna in Italy and the plan was for it to go on to Australia. We always felt we would get a number of pieces from Philip's tomb but then the Greeks decided only one such object could come."

It is usual in such important exhibitions that everything on show is genuine, that there are no copies of artefacts. But the Australians were further alarmed to find that the Greeks intend-

Virtually the complete scaffolding of modern enlightenment was erected by the Greeks: our pedagogy, athletics, mathematics, sciences, poetry, philosophy and politics. The real glory, however, is to be found in Greek — and Macedonian — attainments in the arts. It was this that the Australian curators hoped to show in the Bicentenary exhibition.

ACCORDING TO one of the Australians involved in the negotiations over the visit of the treasures from ancient Macedonia: "The Greek archaeologists felt strongly that none of the greatest pieces should be allowed ever to leave Greece. They were so significant, so important and were, of course, symbols to the

From Extra 3

ed to include copies of gold caskets, rather than the real thing.

"Well," the Australian curators finally said, "this will be a fine and scholarly show but it is not really good enough. Sorry, but we can't take it in this form." This produced another near-crisis in Greek-Australian relations. When Australia complained, the Greeks reacted by threatening to put the exhibition on in London instead, and to celebrate Australia's Bicentenary there! It took late-night telephone calls between the prime ministers of the two countries to resolve that issue. Greece's Mr Papandreou promised that artefacts from Philip's tomb would be included.

Meantime, things were also hotting up in Australia's ethnic community. The Macedonians complained that the use by Greeks of the title "Ancient Macedonia" for the exhibition was part of a propaganda plan by the Greek Government to deny Macedonians their cultural identity in Australia.

By placating the Greek Government and the Australian Greek community, Australia has deeply offended the Macedonian community, which has already promised to hold protests outside the Museum of Victoria when the exhibition is opened on Thursday, and a four-month-long, 24-hour-a-day vigil throughout the time the show is in Melbourne.

THE IRONY OF this is that it was Philip II, a Macedonian, who became master of Greece. Philip, the youngest son of the Macedonian king Amyntas II, was born in what is now the Greek-Macedonian city of Pella. Although he was made regent for his nephew in 359 BC, he soon made himself king and within two years began to carry out his plans of conquest.

In 338 BC, Phillip defeated the allied armies of Thebes and Athens and ended the independence of the city states. He reformed Greece into a political organisation called the League of Corinth and it included all the cities except Sparta, which had never been conquered.

Alexander the Great, whom the oracle pronounced invincible, succeeded Philip at the age of 20 and when he died 13 years later, weeping because there were no more worlds to conquer, he had spread the culture of Greece from kingdom to kingdom.

The time of Philip and Alexander saw the foundation laid for the Hellenistic Age. Today, however, the temples that stood in Philip's time are gone, or exist only as ruins. The great statues that were the marvel of the ancient world live only in the apostrophes of early historians. Works in bronze were stolen by the barbarians and melted down to make cannons. Those in marble were thrown into mountain chasms or carted off by vandals. Much of the greatest art the world has known followed the old Greeks into Hades.

Some 20 years or so ago, archaeologists began uncovering some of the long-

more than 50 archaeological sites and they cover a period from neolithic times, about 8000 years ago, down to the Roman conquest in the Second Century BC.

Discoveries at Vergina in northern Greece in 1977 revealed to the world for virtually the first time the true riches of the Hellenistic culture as it flourished in Macedonia. Excavation of the royal tombs showed masterpieces of wall-painting, caskets of gold that contained the remains of the dead, and grave goods of wonderful workmanship.

A selection of objects from the tombs and from sites at Derveni, as well as items that have been found recently by archaeologists with the Museum of Thessaloniki, are included in the exhibition, the first comprehensive display of Macedonian antiquities to be seen in Australia.

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0.BG49845 DRHA  
TOR 2335 29.09.88

0.BG49845 1430 29.09.88 CLA

TO.  
RR CANBERRA/5142  
FM. BELGRADE / FA REF 0.CH507045

R E S T R I C T E D  
YUGOSLAVIA : MACEDONIA ISSUES  
FROM FILE 201/6/6

CONFERENCE TOOK PLACE IN LATE JUNE/EARLY JULY, AND ELICITED  
NO COMMENT IN THE LOCAL PRESS. WE HAVE WRITTEN TO THE ORGANISERS  
ASKING FOR COPIES OF PAPERS DELIVERED.

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE

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O.BG49793 LEWI  
TOR 20.28 22.09.88

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TO.  
RR ATHENS/938

RP.  
RR CANBERRA/5100

FM. BELGRADE / FA REF O.AT36544

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*73/1/4/4*

R E S T R I C T E D

MACEDONIA

FROM FILE 201/6/6

GRATEFUL YOU KEEP US UP TO DATE ON DEVELOPMENTS IN RELATION TO THE GREEK BICENTENNARY EXHIBITION SO FAR AS IT TOUCHES UPON THE MACEDONIAN QUESTION. (FOR EXAMPLE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE A COPY OF O.AT36544.)

2. FOR YOUR INFORMATION THE AMBASSADOR WILL BE VISITING SKOPJE IN EARLY OCTOBER AND EXPECTS QUESTIONING ON THE SUBJECT.

**ACTION:** DEP FOREIGN + TRADE  
DEP P M AND CABINET T/T  
PM + C(BICENTENARY)  
MR J BOWAN PM'S OFF  
D.A.S.E.T.T T/T  
AUST BICENT AUTH (S) T/T

PRIME MINISTER                      MIN FOREIGN + TRADE                      MIN FOR A.S.E.T.T  
MIN FOR TRADE NEGS

**ACTION:** WEUB  
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L A J

SEC                      DEPSEC-FLOOD                      DEPSEC-LIGHTOWLER  
DEPSEC-FIELD                      DEPSEC-JONES                      PA                      FAS(AE)  
WEUS                      WEUT                      EEUB                      FAS(IOIC)                      AOIS  
CSMEA                      FAS(LC)                      BDL                      ALS                      PPB

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OUTWARD CABLEGRAM

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O.CH507045 2125 20.09.88 CLA

TO.  
RR BELGRADE/8630

FM. CANBERRA / M2 REF O.BG48620

*73/1/4/4*

R E S T R I C T E D

YUGOSLAVIA : MACEDONIAN ISSUES

WE HAVE RECEIVED A QUERY FROM DILGEA REF YOUR O.BG48620,  
CONCERNING THE PROPOSED CONFERENCE OF 'MACEDONIANS' WHO WERE  
INVOLVED IN THE GREEK CIVIL WAR. WE NOTE YOUR INTENTION TO REPORT  
FURTHER ON THIS ISSUE AND REQUEST THAT, IN RESPONSE TO DILGEA'S  
REQUEST FOR DETAILS/BACKGROUND, THE MATTER NOW BE GIVEN PRIORITY.

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE

D.I.L.G.E.A.(C)                      DEP P M AND CABINET                      ONA  
JIO T/T

ACTION: WEUB  
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SEC	DEPSEC-FLOOD	DEPSEC-LIGHTOWLER			
DEPSEC-FIELD	DEPSEC-JONES	EX	PA	NZHC	
CN	FAS(AE)	AM	WEUS	EEUS	FAS(IOIC)
IO	FAS(DDN)	IDB	PPB	DPR	

*Reply: O.B9049845 29/9/88*

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TOR 19.45 06.09.88

O.AT36464 1145 6.9.88 CLA

TO.  
RR CANBERRA/4374

RP.  
RR NICOSIA/3811 WASHINGTON/1328 ANKARA/402  
RR ROME/2247

FM. ATHENS /FA

R E S T R I C T E D

GREECE: EVENTS DURING AUGUST 1988

FROM FILE 201/2/1/1

START OF SUMMARY

THE PUBLIC AIRING BY GREECE OF POTENTIAL DIFFERENCES OVER THE INCLUSION OF 'MACEDONIA' IN THE TITLE OF A GREEK BICENTENNIAL EXHIBITION IN AUSTRALIA CAUSED AN UPSET IN GREEK/AUSTRALIAN RELATIONS. YUGOSLAVIA SIMILARLY SUFFERED AT GREEK HANDS OVER WATER SHARING AS DID THE USA OVER THE FUTURE OF THE ELLENIKON AIR BASE. THE '17 NOVEMBER' TERRORIST ORGANISATION RAIDED A POLICE STATION TAKING A QUANTITY OF WEAPONS. PRIME MINISTER PAPANDREOU FLEW TO LONDON FOR MEDICAL DIAGNOSIS RELATING TO A HEART CONDITION.

END OF SUMMARY

RELATIONS WITH AUSTRALIA (UNDERLINED)

. GREEK GOVERNMENT WAS ANGERED BY AN AUSTRALIAN REQUEST TO EXCLUDE ANY REFERENCE TO MACEDONIA FROM THE TITLE OF A BICENTENNIAL EXHIBITION OF ANTIQUITIES TO BE SHOWN IN AUSTRALIA LATER THIS YEAR

- AUSTRALIAN OFFICIALS WERE CONCERNED TO AVOID GIVING NEEDLESS OFFENCE TO AUSTRALIA'S SLAVIC COMMUNITY.

. IN RESPONSE THE GREEKS REFUSED TO SEND THE EXHIBITION UNDER ANY TITLE OTHER THAN 'ANCIENT MACEDONIA' AND EMBARKED ON A PUBLIC CAMPAIGN TO MAKE AUSTRALIA BACK DOWN (O.AT36318, 36357, 36358, 36359, 36360)

- THE ALTERNATE CULTURE MINISTER, STATHIS, CALLED ON ALL MEMBERS OF GREEK COMMUNITIES IN AUSTRALIA TO PROTEST AGAINST THE AUSTRALIAN REQUEST.

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2-O.AT36464

IN

- THE CONSERVATIVE OPPOSITION NEW DEMOCRACY PARTY CLAIMED THAT DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS COULD NOT CONTINUE 'AT THE PRESENT LEVEL' UNLESS THE REQUEST WAS WITHDRAWN

- THE NAME OF THE MINISTRY FOR NORTHERN GREECE WAS CHANGED TO 'MINISTRY FOR MACEDONIA-THRACE'.

. AFTER RECEIVING A LETTER FROM PRIME MINISTER PAPANDREOU, MR HAWKE AGREED THAT THE EXHIBITION SHOULD TOUR AUSTRALIA UNDER THE TITLE FAVOURED BY THE GREEK GOVERNMENT.

2. THE AUSTRALIAN BULLET VISITED GREECE AT THE END OF THEIR BICENTENNIAL EUROPEAN TOUR AND GAVE FOUR WELL RECEIVED PERFORMANCES AT THE ANCIENT THEATRE OF HERROD ATTICUS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ATHENS FESTIVAL.

RELATIONS WITH YUGOSLAVIA (UNDERLINED)

3. FARM LAND IN NORTHERN GREECE WAS AFFECTED BY DROUGHT, AND GREECE SOUGHT THE RELEASE OF WATER STORED IN YUGOSLAVIA.

- ALTERNATE FOREIGN MINISTER PANGALOS PREEMPTED ANY NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT BY PUBLICLY ACCUSING THE YUGOSLAVS OF 'UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR', ADDING THAT 'NO CIVILISED NATION BEHAVES IN SUCH A MANNER'. (O.AT36241)

- AN AGREEMENT WAS EVENTUALLY REACHED, BUT THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT WAS REPORTED TO BE (UNDERSTANDABLY) ANGERED BY THE PROPORTIONS THE ISSUE HAD REACHED.

US BASES (UNDERLINED)

4. THE GREEK GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED THAT IT WOULD REQUIRE THE USA TO CLOSE ITS AIR BASE AT ELLENIKON

- ALONG WITH THE OTHER USA BASES, THE FUTURE OF ELLENIKON HAS UNTIL NOW BEEN THE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, PENDING THE TERMINATION AT THE END OF 1988 OF THE EXISTING AGREEMENT COVERING USA BASES IN GREECE

- GREECE WAS ANGERED BY REMARKS REPORTED IN A TURKISH NEWSPAPER AS HAVING BEEN MADE BY USA DEFENCE SECRETARY CARLUCCI THAT THE US WOULD NOT AGREE TO GREEK DEMANDS THAT ANY FUTURE DEFENCE AGREEMENT SHOULD PROVIDE GUARANTEES OF GREECE'S NATIONAL INTERESTS VIS-A-VIS TURKEY.

. IN ANNOUNCING THE DECISION, GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN KOSTOPOULOS WARNED US OFFICIALS TO 'KEEP IN MIND THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S POSITIONS BEFORE

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DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

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IN  
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK  
IN

MAKING AIMLESS AND INOPPORTUNE STATEMENTS'.

### DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONTROVERSIES (UNDERLINED)

. FINANCE MINISTER TSOVOLAS ANNOUNCED THAT, FOR TAXATION REASONS THE GOVERNMENT HAD RAISED THE ASSESSED VALUE OF REAL ESTATE IN ATHENS BY AN AVERAGE OF FIFTY PER CENT BUT UP TO A MAXIMUM OF 100 PERCENT.

- THIS NEWS WAS GREETED WITH OUTRAGE, PARTICULARLY AS LAND VALUES ARE USED BY LAW AS THE BASIS FOR CALCULATION OF RENTS.

- IT WAS LEFT TO COMMERCE MINISTER AKRITIDIS, SOME DAYS LATER, TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE FORMULA FOR CALCULATION OF RENT CEILINGS WOULD BE AMENDED, BUT THIS BELATED ASSURANCE DID NOT SUCCEED IN CONVINCING THE PUBLIC THAT RENTS WOULD NOT INCREASE SUBSTANTIALLY. INCREASES HAD ALREADY BEEN INCORPORATED INTO SOME NEW LEASE AGREEMENTS.

- TSOVOLAS IS PERCEIVED TO HAVE BLUNDERED BADLY AND IS REPORTED TO HAVE AUTHORISED THE REVALUATIONS WITHOUT PRIOR DISCUSSION WITH OTHER MINISTERS. CALLS FOR HIS DISMISSAL HAVE BEEN WIDESPREAD.

6. THE DIRECTOR OF THE HELLENIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS ORGANISATION (OTE), TOMBRAS (A POLITICAL APPOINTEE WHO CAME TO NOTE SOME MONTHS AGO WHEN HIS ORGANISATION WAS ALLEGED TO HAVE FACILITATED ESPIONAGE AGAINST OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTIES), WAS AT THE CENTRE OF A NEW CONTROVERSY.

- REACTING TO ALLEGATIONS OF FINANCIAL MISCONDUCT MADE BY A JOURNALIST, MASSAVETAS, TOMBRAS ACCUSED MASSAVETAS OF HAVING BEEN A POLICE INFORMER DURING THE PERIOD OF THE JUNTA.

- MEDIA COVERAGE OF THIS EPISODE HIGHLIGHTED THE PERCEPTION THAT TOMBRAS COULD ONLY HAVE COME BY SUCH INFORMATION THROUGH ACCESS TO INTELLIGENCE FILES IN COLLUSION WITH THE CENTRAL INFORMATION SERVICE (EIP). CALLS FOR THE DISMISSAL OF TOMBRAS, ALREADY ASSOCIATED IN THE PUBLIC MIND WITH IMPROPER INVOLVEMENT IN SECRET SECURITY OPERATIONS, HAVE BEEN WIDESPREAD.

- THE GOVERNMENT TRIED TO DISTANCE ITSELF FROM THE CONTROVERSY, ARGUING DISINGENUOUSLY THAT IT WAS A PRIVATE AFFAIR BETWEEN THE INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED.

### TERRORISM (UNDERLINED)

7. AN ATHENS APPEALS COURT POSTPONED FOR ONE MONTH A HEARING ON WHETHER MOHAMMED RASHID SHOULD BE EXTRADITED TO THE USA.

- THE US REQUEST FOR RASHID'S EXTRADITION IS THOUGHT LIKELY TO HAVE

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PRECIPITATED THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON THE CITY OF POROS CRUISE BOAT IN JULY.

8. A GROUP OF 6 TERRORISTS RAIDED AN ATHENS SUBURBAN POLICE STATION AND SEIZED A QUANTITY OF WEAPONS AND WALKI-TALKIES.

- RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE RAID WAS CLAIMED BY THE '17 NOVEMBER' TERRORIST GROUP, WHICH HAS CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR A LARGE NUMBER OF ASSASSINATIONS AND OTHER TERRORIST ACTS IN GREECE SINCE 1975, ITS MOST RECENT VICTIM BEING THE US DEFENCE AND NAVAL ATTACHE, NORDEEN, ASSASSINATED IN JUNE. IN A PUBLIC STATEMENT, '17 NOVEMBER' CLAIMED THAT 'THE REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE AGAINST A CORRUPT REGIME OF SCANDALS AND DEPENDENCE CALLS FOR MORE AND MORE WEAPONS AND MATERIAL'.

- NOT SURPRISINGLY, GIVEN THEIR PAST RECORD, POLICE INVESTIGATIONS HAVE FAILED TO DISCOVER THE IDENTITY OR WHEREABOUTS OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS ATTACK.

9. MEANWHILE, AN OPINION POLL SHOWED THAT 18 PER CENT OF ATHENIANS AGREED WITH THE POLITICAL AND SOCIAL CRITICISM CONTAINED IN THE COMMUNIQUES ISSUED BY '17 NOVEMBER' AFTER EACH OF ITS OPERATIONS. 21 PERCENT SAID THEY WOULD NOT CONSIDER GIVING INFORMATION TO THE POLICE ON MEMBERS OF THE ORGANISATION, AND 34 PERCENT SAID THEY DID NOT BELIEVE '17 NOVEMBER'S' ACTIVITIES WERE AIMED AT THE DESTABILISATION OF DEMOCRACY. 6 PERCENT SAID THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE REPRESENTATIVES OF '17 NOVEMBER' ENTER PARLIAMENT.

ECONOMIC STATISTICS (UNDERLINED)

10. STATISTICS RELEASED DURING THE MONTH SHOWED THAT DURING JULY THE CPI FELL BY 0.3 PERCENT, COMPARED WITH A FALL OF 1.5 PERCENT DURING JULY 1987. IN THE TWELVE MONTHS TO THE END OF JULY THE CPI ROSE BY 31.2 PERCENT

- THE RISE IN THE CPI DURING THE SEVEN MONTHS TO THE END OF JULY, 5.8 PERCENT, WAS THE SMALLEST JANUARY-JULY RISE SINCE 1979.

. OTHER STATISTICS SHOWED THAT THE CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICIT FOR JUNE WAS US DLRS 10 MILLION, COMPARED WITH DLRS 106 MILLION IN JUNE 1987.

- DURING THE SIX MONTHS JANUARY-JUNE THE DEFICIT WAS DLRS 1.46 BILLION, COMPARED WITH DLRS 1.45 BILLION DURING THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD LAST YEAR. THE DEFICIT IN VISIBLE TRADE, HOWEVER, AT DLRS 4 BILLION WAS CONSIDERABLY HIGHER THAN DLRS 2.5 BILLION DURING THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF LAST YEAR.

EC (UNDERLINED)

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11. NATIONAL ECONOMY MINISTER ROUMELIOTIS SAID THAT GREECE, WHICH DOES NOT TAX INTEREST EARNED ON BANK SAVINGS ACCOUNTS, WOULD RESIST ANY MOVES TOMAKE ALL EC MEMBER STATES ADOPT A UNIFORM TAXATION POLICY ON THIS ISSUE AS PART OF THE SINGLE-MARKET PROCESS.

- HE SAID HE BELIEVED THAT THE FRG AND LUXEMBOURG WOULD JOIN WITH GREECE IN BLOCKING ANY ATTEMPT TO UNDERMINE THE COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE THAT ACCRUED TO THEM BY THEIR PRACTICE OF HAVING A NEGLIGIBLE TAX OR NONE AT ALL ON THIS SOURCE OF INCOME.

PRIME MINISTER'S HEALTH (UNDERLINED)

12. PAPANDREOU FLEW TO LONDON ON 25 AUGUST TO RECEIVE MEDICAL ATTENTION FOR A HEART PROBLEM, STENOSIS OF THE AORTA. IT WAS NOT CLEAR HOW LONG HE WOULD BE AWAY FROM WORK, BUT AN ACTING PRIME MINISTER WAS NOT APPOINTED. MR HAWKE SENT A MESSAGE WISHING HIM WELL (O.AT36402).

TRADE (UNDERLINED)

13. COMMERCE MINISTER AKRITIDIS ANNOUNCED THAT GREECE WOULD ESTABLISH A FOREIGN TRADE BANK TO FINANCE EXPORT COMPANIES AND ACTIVITIES.

- HE SAID THAT AT PRESENT GREECE WAS THE ONLY EUROPEAN COUNTRY THAT DID NOT HAVE SUCH A BANK.

VISITS (UNDERLINED)

14. OFFICIAL VISITORS TO ATHENS INCLUDED THE IRANIAN DEPUTY PREMIER, ALI REZA MOAYERI

- MOAYERI MET PAPANDRIOU AND FOREIGN MINISTER PAPOULIAS, WHO EXPRESSED GREECE'S SATISFACTION AT IRAN'S ACCEPTANCE OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 598. PAPOULIAS AND MOAYERI AGREED THAT THE BILATERAL POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP WAS EXCELLENT, AND EXPRESSED THE DESIRE TO DEVELOP MORE SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMIC TIES.

15. CYPRIOT FOREIGN MINISTER IACOUVOU BRIEFED PRIME MINISTER PAPANDREOU ON CYPRIOT PRESIDENT VASSILIOUS' RECENT VISIT TO THE US AND ON OTHER CYPRIOT DEVELOPMENTS. GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER PAPOULIAS WENT TO CYPRUS TO REPAY IACOUVOUS VISIT. HE SAID THAT

- THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS AGREED DURING THE MONTH BETWEEN VASSILIOU AND DENKTASH WERE A POSITIVE STEP ON THE WAY TO THE SOLUTION OF THE CYPRIOT PROBLEM AND WOULD HAVE A BENEFICIAL EFFECT ON GREEK/TURKISH RELATIONS

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- BUT THEIR FAILURE WOULD HAVE AN ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY.

- WE WAS CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC.

1996 OLYMPICS (UNDERLINED)

16. THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH KOREAN OLYMPIC ORGANISING COMMITTEE, IN AN EMOTIONAL SPEECH AT THE CEREMONY TO MARK THE LIGHTING OF THE OLYMPIC FLAME FOR THE SEOUL OLYMPICS, HAS PLEDGED FULL SUPPORT FOR GREECE'S BID TO HOST THE 1996 OLYMPICS.

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE  
DEP TREASURY T/T  
AUSTRADE T/T

PRIME MINISTER  
MIN PRIMIND & ENERGY  
DEP DEFENCE  
DEP IND TECH + COMM  
CIVIL AVIATION AUTH  
ONA  
ECON PLAN AD COUNCIL  
TRANSPORT + COMM

MIN FOREIGN + TRADE  
MIN FOR TRADE NEGS  
DEP FINANCE  
DEP P M AND CABINET  
DEP SOCIAL SEC  
ASIO (C)  
IAC  
EFIC

MIN RESOURCES  
TREASURER  
D.I.L.G.E.A.(C)  
DEP PRIMIND & ENERGY  
SPL TRADE REP EUROPE  
ABARE  
JIO

ACTION: WEUB  
  
TRNA  
TRNB

JEA  
EAMB  
EAMB  
EAMB

SEC	DEPSEC-FLOOD	DEPSEC-LIGHTOWLER				
DEPSEC-FIELD	DEPSEC-JONES	DHR	EX	PA		
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EEUB	PA(SAMS)	FAS(IOIC)	AACR	FAS(MT)		
PA(MT)	GATT	CSU	GADSS	MATP	MSS	
FAS(ETD)	PA(ETD)	TA	NTC	EO	TS	
TSL	IGL	IDB	PPB	PACD	DPR	NP
FAS(CMD)	PA(CMD)	SECOM	FAREP-B	FAREP-P		
FAREP-S	DG-ADAB	DDG(CPR)	DDG(PPM)			
DDG(CCIP)	AABC	POL	AESS			

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R E S T R I C T E D

YUGOSLAVIA : MACEDONIAN ISSUES

WE NOTED IN REFMEMO THAT ATHENS DELIVERED AN AIDE MEMOIRE TO THE GREEKS APPARENTLY CONCERNING THE VISIT TO GREECE BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 'MACEDONIAN COMMITTEE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA'.

2. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED TO RECEIVE MORE BACKGROUND ABOUT THIS CASE, WE ARE REGULARLY CONFRONTED WITH REPRESENTATIONS ON CASES SUCH AS THESE WHEN WE VISIT THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA.

3. WE WILL BE REPORTING IN DUE COURSE ON THE PROPOSED CONFERENCE OF 'MACEDONIANS' WHO WERE INVOLVED IN THE GREEK CIVIL WAR. WE UNDERSTAND THERE WILL BE REPRESENTATIVES FROM AUSTRALIA ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE. THIS WILL NO DOUBT LEAD TO YET ANOTHER ROUND OF REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE GREEKS.

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE  
ASIO (C) T/T

- PRIME MINISTER
- MIN FOREIGN + TRADE
- ZSFM.
- MIN FOR TRADE NEGS
- DEP DEFENCE
- D.I.L.G.E.A. (C)
- DEP P M AND CABINET
- ONA
- AUST FEDERAL POLICE
- JIO
- PSCC
- ASIO - REGIONAL ACT

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DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS

# Iraqi former PoWs tell of torture in Iran

By INGRID SVENDSEN AGE 612188

An amputated leg, missing teeth and a deep scar on his forehead tell the story of Fadel Khalaf's five years in an Iranian prisoner-of-war camp.

The former Iraqi soldier was shot in the leg and captured by Iranian forces in 1981. "The bullet stayed in my leg and I did cry for five years and no one ever helped me to take it out. I was told there was no medical care for me," he said yesterday, through an interpreter.

Five years later, his leg had to be amputated. "If there had been any medical care I would not have lost my leg," he said.

Mr Khalaf was among a group of 100 prisoners to be exchanged last year with the aid of the Red Cross. He says the Iranians believed he was about to die and wanted to exchange him for one of their own prisoners rather than "waste" him.

He visited Melbourne yesterday as part of a delegation of representatives of the Iraqi ministries of information and foreign affairs and three former prisoners of war. The head of the delegation, Mr Daoud Farhan, said the group wanted to "expose the barbaric nature of the Iranian regime".

It planned to meet the Australian English-language and Arabic media and the Human Rights Commission. Mr Farhan estimated that 14,000

Iraqi prisoners were still held in Iranian camps. Mr Khalaf, 30, said there were daily beatings and torture, meted out "simply because we were Iraqis", and aimed at turning the prisoners against their own country.

A favorite torture was to stuff prisoners' shoes in their mouths. Prisoners were also hung on fences and "crucified".

One former prisoner, Rahman Hussain, 41, said he spent two-and-a-half years of his seven-year imprisonment in an underground cell. He and 400 other prisoners never saw daylight and were not permitted to speak to Red Cross representatives.

Alex Youssef, 52, a civilian ambulance driver, was captured in 1982, along with a medical team and the wounded they were transporting to hospital. They were taken to be "retrained" at a camp on the Soviet border.

Mr Youssef recalled being locked in cells for up to five days without food. Punishment was being made to sit in the snow, without shoes, for days at a time. Mr Youssef said one of these incidents left him paralysed.

# Greek talks outcry

ABOUT 3000 members of the Macedonian community chanted patriotic slogans during a noisy but peaceful demonstration at La Trobe University yesterday.

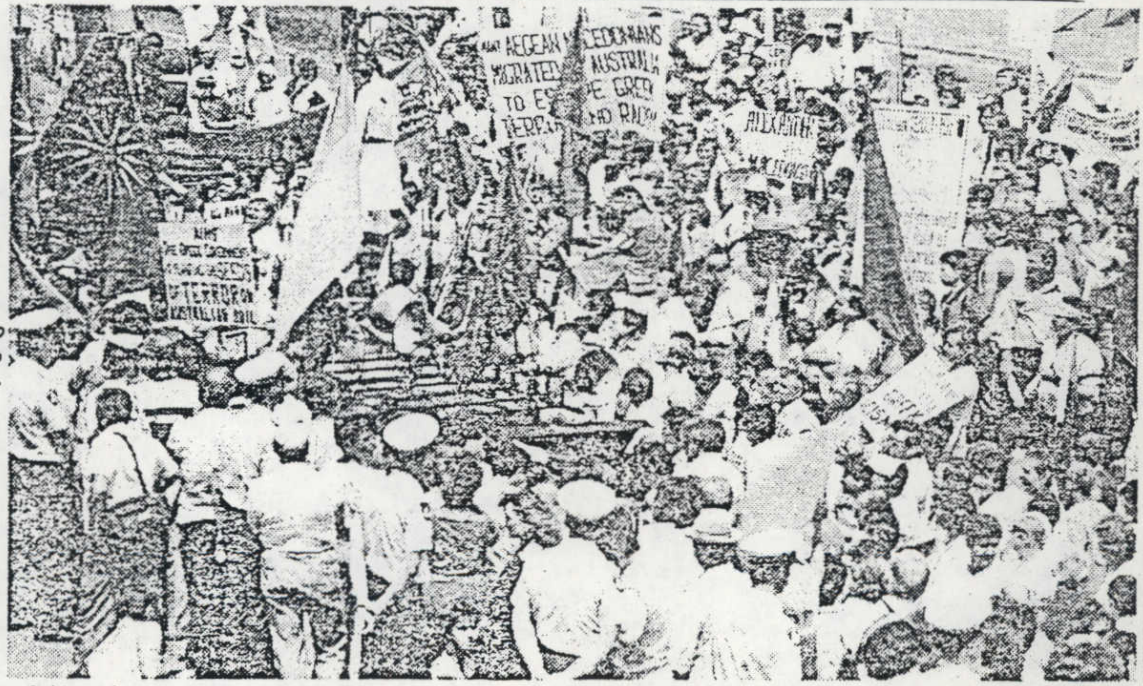
Their protest was aimed at the opening of a university conference on Macedonian studies, which they claim is a part of a Greek conspiracy to deny Macedonians their racial identity.

The conference, attended by Greek political, academic and religious leaders, will examine aspects of Greek-Macedonian history and culture next week.

Among the guests at yesterday's opening were federal Social Security Minister Brian Howe, federal Speaker Joan Child and Victorian Ethnic Affairs Minister Peter Spyker.

They were joined by Greece's Minister for Northern Greece, Mr Stelios Papathemelis.

Federal Immigration and Ethnic Affairs Minis-



● Macedonians protest outside Parliament House against the "Greek conspiracy". Picture: KARL JAHN

ter Mick Young had been listed to open proceedings with Mr Papathemelis, but Mr Young did not arrive.

Rally leaders said the conference was part of a worldwide campaign by the Greek government of Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou to rewrite the history of northern Greece.

They claimed the conference organisers, the Australian Institute of Macedonian Studies, is a front organisation for the Greek Government.

They said Macedonians were a separate ethnic race from the Greeks, with a different language and culture and called on all Australians to sympathise with them.

Speakers repeated calls made earlier this year for a community boycott of conference sponsor, Medibank Private.

But conference guests laughed off suggestions they were part of a plot to rewrite history.

Macedonians were Greeks and that was all

there was to say on the matter, they said.

Buses ferried the protesters back to the Fitzroy Gardens for a lunch-time march to the steps of Parliament House.

Further demonstrations are planned tonight outside the Hyatt on Collins Hotel, where a conference ball will be held.

Picture: MIKE MARTIN

# 100 protest at Macedonian study congress

By PAMELA BONE, ethnic affairs reporter

About 3000 chanting protesters yesterday demonstrated outside an international congress on Macedonian studies at La Trobe University.

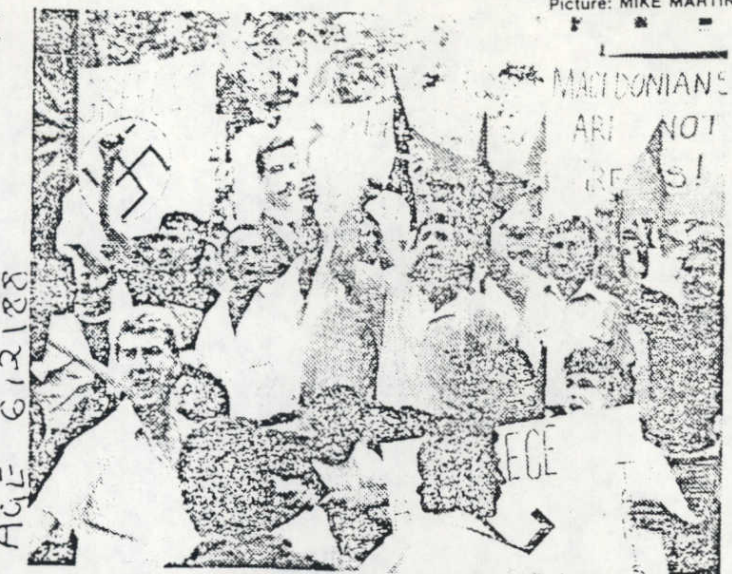
The protesters, carrying banners saying "Macedonians Exist" and "We Are Macedonians, Not Greeks", jeered and booed the Minister for Northern Greece, Mr Papatthemelis, and other delegates to the congress.

Their chants could be heard inside the congress, which was opened by the Minister for Social Security, Mr Howe, standing in for the troubled Minister for Immigration, Local Government and Ethnic Affairs, Mr Young.

Later, the protesters travelled to the city in buses for a march to Parliament House.

Opposition to the congress, which is being attended by about 600 delegates and which features speakers from 33 universities throughout the world, has been organised in Australia by the Federation of Macedonian Associations.

The "Macedonian question" dates back to the time before Alexander the Great in the 4th Century BC and has been debated by scholars for centuries. It centres on whether the Macedonian people were a Greek or Slavic race; whether there was ever a country known as Macedonia; and who has the right to be called a Macedonian.



Angry demonstrators shout their protests outside the congress on Macedonian studies at La Trobe University: the problem goes back to a time before Alexander the Great.

Today there are two areas known as Macedonia — the geographical region in northern Greece and the state in the Federation of Yugoslavia.

A difficulty in writing about the dispute is that whichever way the groups are described, one side is offended. The Greek community is upset by what it says is the monopolisation of the term "Macedonian" by the "Slav-speaking Macedonians". The "Macedonians" are offended by the terms "Greek-Macedonian" and "Slav-Macedonian".

The six-day congress, which will cover the archaeology, anthropology, art and culture of Macedonia, has been organised by the Australian Institute of Macedonian Studies.

According to the president of institute, Dr Anastasios Tamis,

the congress is non-political. But a spokesman for the Macedonian Federation, Mr Jim Thomev, says the whole theme of the congress is to prove "the Greekness of Macedonia".

Mr Thomev says his community is outraged because, according to them, Macedonians and Greeks are separate races with different languages and cultures. The prime purpose of the institute, he says, is to "wipe out the Macedonian culture and language" in Australian schools and universities.

Dr Tamis says the claims of the Macedonian Federation are "absurd". He says he would be happy to help the Slav-speaking Macedonians to promote their language and culture in Australia "provided they do not monopolise the term Macedonia".

# New outbreak of ancient Macedonian border rivalry

**A**n international congress to be held in Melbourne next month, which is causing a revival in Australia of an ancient dispute between Greek-speaking and Slav-speaking Macedonians, points out the problems for politicians and organisations in remaining impartial when dealing with some ethnic groups.

The Federation of Macedonian Associations is circulating a petition to the Prime Minister and has lobbied state and federal members of Parliament to try to have the congress on Macedonian studies stopped.

The congress is being sponsored by Medibank Private, which was innocent of the political controversy. The Federation of Macedonian Associations in Victoria says it has advised its members to blackball Medibank Private unless it withdraws support for the congress and apologises to the Slav-Macedonian community.

The federation, which has support from Macedonian organisations in other states, has also threatened a mass demonstration at the congress if it goes ahead. The federation says the congress, organised by the Australian Institute of Macedonian Studies and due to be held at La Trobe University from 4 to 10 February, is part of a "propaganda plan" by the Greek Government to deny the Macedonians their presence and cultural identity in this country.

A spokesman for the Slav-Macedonian community, Mr Jim Thomev, says the theme of the congress is to prove "the Greekness of Macedonia". He says his community is outraged because according to them, Macedonians and Greeks are a separate race with a different culture and language.

Dr Anastasios Tamis, president

By PAMELA BONE

of the Institute of Macedonian Studies, says the claims made by the federation are "absurd". According to Dr Tamis, the institute is a non-political organisation concerned with the culture, archaeology and history of Macedonia.

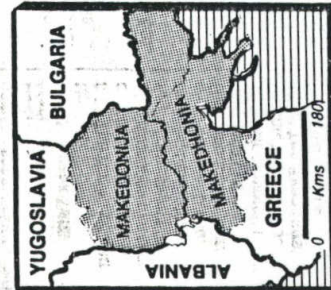
He said the congress, which would draw 600 delegates from all over the world and feature speakers from 33 universities, would be opened by the Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, Mr Young, and the Minister for Northern Greece, Mr Papatheodoris.

He said the program of the congress is "completely non-political", and will discuss such things as Greek writers of the past 500 years, recent archaeological excavations and the role of the Greek church in Macedonia.

The "Macedonian question" goes back to antiquity. A whole discipline centres on it, and countless books have been written about it. Evidence on the question of who is a Macedonian dates back before the time of Alexander the Great in the 4th Century BC. Today there are two areas known as Macedonia — the geographical region in northern Greece and the state in the Federation of Yugoslavia. The dispute originally centred on whether the Macedonian people were a Greek or a Slav race and whether there was ever a country known as Macedonia.

While Greek governments have adopted a policy of assimilation and the use of a single language (Greek) today, the main issue is where the border belongs between northern Greece and Yugoslavia.

The Slav-Macedonian community in Australia is not concerned



The two Macedonias, according to the 'Times World Atlas'.

with the land question, but with their right to carry on their own ethnicity in Australia, Mr Thomev says. "Our struggle is only for the recognition and equality accorded to all ethnic groups in Australia," he said. "We are interested in harmony between groups."

Nevertheless, the 'Australian Macedonian Weekly', of which Mr Thomev is the editor, has been running front-page stories in the past few weeks with headlines like 'Anti Macedonian Propaganda Continues!' and 'A Greek Conference On Macedonia Based On Lies'.

Dr Tamis says no one is trying to prevent the Slav-speaking Macedonians from promoting their own language and culture in Australia. "We have complete goodwill towards them. We would assist them to promote their language and culture in Australia, providing they do not monopolise the term 'Macedonia'. They say we are Greeks and they are Macedonian. But we have lived in the area for 2500 years. How can they stop us from saying we are Macedonian?"

Mr Thomev says that political

pressure by the Macedonian Federation has caused Mr Hawke and the Immigration Minister, Mr Young, to change their minds about opening the congress. A spokesman for Mr Hawke said it was never intended that he would open the congress. Mr Young could not be contacted this week.

Mr Ian Chittick, the Victorian manager of the Health Commission, which administers Medibank Private, said the organisation had agreed to sponsor the congress, which was being held under the auspices of "a respected university" in good faith and without being aware of the "fine political differences". While concerned at the adverse reaction in the Slav-Macedonian community, Medibank Private could not withdraw from its agreement, he said.

What might seem unreasonable to Australians is that ethnic groups should continue to carry on their ancient enmities in Australia, and whether such disputes are stretching the concepts of Australia's successful policy of multiculturalism.

Dr Jack Ellis, a reader of classical history at Monash University, says that although the dispute is ancient, the problem is still immediate to those involved. Dr Ellis, who was to have spoken at the conference but had decided against it for "reasons not related to the controversy," said he was surprised at the amount of reaction against the congress.

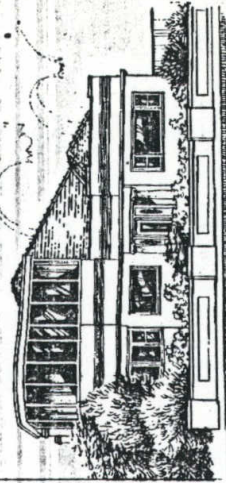
He said that while the majority of academic opinion was that the Macedonians were a Greek race, he had some sympathy for the Slav-Macedonian cause. It was possible there was an unconscious bias in the evidence for the Greek view, because since the foundation of classical studies in the 1820s, a whole discipline had been built on the tradition of Greek

studies, while there had been no equivalent Yugoslav tradition.

One of the ironies about the past 30 years ago, but during that time their country has changed and developed. In many cases, the attitudes and the amenities they have been nurturing are all but forgotten.

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# A new war of words erupts over the old Macedonian question

By PAMELA BONE, p.17  
ethnic affairs reporter  
There were angry speeches in the Greek Parliament last week after a request by the Australian Government that the word "Macedonia" be dropped from the title of an important Greek antiquities exhibition on loan to Australia for the Bicentenary.

The request resulted in the Greek Prime Minister, Mr Papan-dreou, cancelling the exhibition. Greece's Deputy Culture Minister, Mr Stathis, asked Greeks living in Australia "to raise their voices against this anti-Hellenistic ploy ... that insults history and truth".

The definition of Macedonia is a highly sensitive subject, as is the question of has the right to be called Macedonian.

The present borders of Macedonia were drawn in 1913 when, after the Balkan wars against Turkey, Macedonia was partitioned between Yugoslavia, Greece and Bulgaria. In Australia, there are about 46,000 people calling themselves Macedonian, who speak a Slavic-based language, and who are adamant that they are not Greek.

But those Greeks who migrated to Australia from the part of northern Greece known as Macedonia, and refer to themselves as Greek-speaking Macedonians, are equally adamant that the Slavic-speaking Macedonians should not be permitted to monopolise the term "Macedonia".

The Hawke Government acted quickly this week to defuse the row, but not before protests from the Australian Greek community, an editorial in the Greek news-

## Monday REPORT

paper 'Neos Kosmos' that talked about "a critical point in the relationship between the two countries" and a telegram to the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, from the Primate of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese in Australia, Archbishop Aristotle Stylianos.

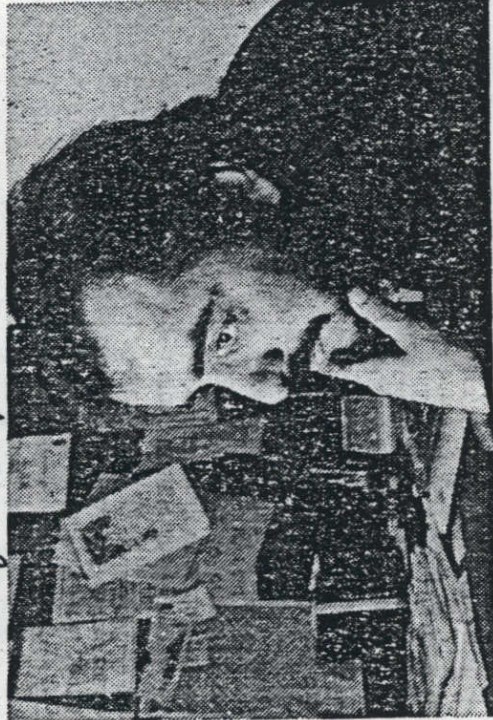
The Australian Government has assured the Greek Government that it wants the exhibition to tour Australia in October as planned under its original title, "Treasures of Macedonia", and that the exhibition is regarded as "a milestone in the long-standing friendship between the Australian and Greek peoples".

A spokesman for Mr Hawke refused to comment on why the Government had wanted the word dropped. It is not known who decided to put pressure on the Greek Government to change the title, but the request appears to have come from a Government official who would have known, from experience, that the title was likely to offend Australia's Slavic-speaking Macedonian community.

In his telegram to Archbishop Stylianos, Mr Hawke said he wished to make it "absolutely clear" that he and his Government had never had any objection to the use of the term "Macedonian" in connection with the exhibition. In Mr Hawke's seat of wills, one of the most ethnically

Page 29.8.88

Picture: ANDREW DE LA RUE



Mr Jim Thomev, the editor of the 'Australian Macedonian': exhibition's title an "act of deliberate provocation".

diverse in Australia, the predominant group is Greek.

In placating the Greek Government and the Australian Greek community, the Government has deeply offended Slavic-speaking Macedonians. The reasons they are offended are on the one hand as simple as the desire of any ethnic group to retain its own identity and language. On the other hand, they are as complex as the "Macedonian question" — an issue on which a whole academic discipline has been centred and about which countless books have been written.

The Macedonian question goes back to whether Alexander the Great was Greek or Macedonian, whether the Macedonians were a Greek or a Slavic race, and whether

er there ever was a country called Macedonia.

Policies of successive Australian governments have allowed ethnic groups to be "self-identifying", and in Government directories Macedonians are listed as a separate group. However, according to a statement from the Department of Foreign Affairs last June, "Australia does not support the concept of a Macedonian state or ethnicity which transcends the present boundaries of Yugoslavia, Greece and Bulgaria".

Last February, 3000 Australian Macedonians demonstrated outside a Greek-organised international congress on Macedonia held in Melbourne, which they said was part of an attempt by the Greek Government to prove "the

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78/2/6/13

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Greekness of Macedonia".

Why should the use of the word "Macedonia" in Greek-sponsored events be so offensive to the Slavic-speaking Macedonian community in Australia? According to Mr Jim Thomev, the editor of the 'Australasian Macedonian' and a spokesman for the Slavic-speaking Macedonian community, the use of the word is part of the attempt by the Greek Government to prove that Macedonia is Greek and to suppress the right of Macedonians in Australia and other parts of the world to their separate ethnicity.

In February, the Minister for Northern Greece, Mr Papathe-melis, on a visit to Australia tried to persuade Mr Hawke to change a chapter about Australian Macedonians in a Bicentenary encyclopaedia. When in 1980 Harvard University in the United States published an encyclopaedia of the American peoples to mark the US Bicentennial in 1976, there was a similar controversy over the inclusion of a chapter on Macedonians. One of the most vocal opponents was the Democrat presidential candidate, Mr Dukakis.

Mr John Pargas, the acting president of the Panmacedonian Association of Victoria, which represents 27 Greek organisations, said Australia's initial insistence that the exhibition title be changed was "the ultimate offence". "Macedonia is Greek territory. To say it is not is like saying Victoria is not part of Australia," he said.

Mr Thomev said the exhibition's title was an act of deliberate provocation by the Greek Government and part of its continued suppression and maltreatment of Macedonians.

# Migrant loyalties won't go away

P.17 Aug 29.8.88

The Australian Government is before long going to have to decide what to do about the "Macedonian question", an issue that goes back to the 4th Century BC and has raised its head again in Australia this week.

About 400 members of the Greek community in Australia have decided on an "all-out" attempt to pressure the Australian Government to differentiate between Greek-speaking Macedonians and Slavic-speaking Macedonians.

What the members of the Greek community are asking for is a change of Government policy, which at present allows ethnic groups to be self-identifying — in other words, that nomenclature should not be thrust upon them.

In Government directories Macedonians are given a separate listing, but Australian foreign policy does not recognise the borders claimed by the Macedonians.

The campaign follows a retreat by the Government on an earlier request to the Greek Government to remove the ref-

## Comment

PAMELA BONE

ference to Macedonia from the title of an exhibition from northern Greece which is to tour Australia for the Bicentenary. In moving to placate the Greek Government and the Australian Greek community, another ethnic group has been deeply offended — the Slavic-speaking Macedonian community.

A difficulty in writing about the dispute is that whatever way the groups are described, one side is offended. If the terms "Greeks" and "Macedonians" are used, the 400,000 strong Greek community is offended; if "Slav-Macedonian" and "Greek-Macedonian" are used, 46,000 Slavic-speaking Macedonians are offended.

The controversy, which points out the problems for politicians in remaining impartial when dealing with some ethnic groups (and Mr Hawke's own electorate has probably the highest number

of Greeks in Australia) could not have come at a worse time for the Government. Disputes between ethnic groups can only give courage to critics of multiculturalism and support to Mr Howard's "One Australia" call.

When 3000 Slav-speaking Macedonians demonstrated in Melbourne earlier this year, there was no violence and there were no arrests. There was no disturbance to society either, when Lithuanians, Hungarians, Ukrainians, Latin Americans, Jews, Turks, Latvians and Poles, held seminars, news conferences or demonstrations during the past year to advance the causes of their various countries of origin.

To Mr Howard and like-minded people, the strength of feeling between the two groups involved in this dispute should show how unrealistic it is to expect that migrants will forget their loyalties to their countries of birth. And because migrants continue to demonstrate and pressure for better conditions for those they have left behind, it does not mean they are any less committed to Australia.

# Denial of Macedonian identity fuels racism

P.17 Aug 29.8.88

This statement was prepared by the editor of 'Australasian Macedonian', Mr Jim Thomev, and Dr Chris Popov, a member of the paper's editorial board.

Macedonians are not Greeks. Macedonians are an ethnic group who use a language belonging to the Slavonic languages. The partitioning of Macedonia between Greece, Serbia and Bulgaria in 1913 explains a good deal of the problems which Macedonians have experienced this century.

Successive Greek Governments pursued a policy of denationalisation, sometimes reaching drastically violent proportions as in the period of the Metaxas dictatorship between 1936

and 1941, when Macedonians were imprisoned or murdered if they spoke their own language.

All the energies of the Greek Government have been concentrated on the denial of the Macedonians as a specific ethnic group. This policy has led to some absurd posturing by Greek politicians, such as that Greece is an ethnically homogenous society or that the Socialist republic of Macedonia is a Yugoslav plot to claim all of Macedonia. In essence, the exhibition of ancient Macedonian 'findings' is part of the chauvinistic charade to prove the unprovable, that is, that Macedonia was, is and will always be Greek.

In Australia today the people who want to hurt the Macedonians by denying their existence are playing into the hands of the racist forces which have erupted in recent weeks. They will give ammunition to those who believe that multiculturalism is divisive.

The intention of the Macedonians to assert their identity and culture is not an attempt to deny anyone else the right to their culture. Rather it is an attempt to effectively cooperate with all groups in our society, including the Greek people whose geographical proximity has led to much shared historical experience.

# Macedonia is a state, not an ethnic group

A statement from Dr Anastasios Tamis, the president of the Institute of Macedonian Studies and a lecturer in Greek studies at La Trobe University:

"We are not negating their identity. They are negating our identity. We are all Macedonians. We would assist them to promote their language and culture in Australia, providing they did not monopolise the term 'Macedonia'. They say we are Greeks and they are Macedonian. But we have lived in the area for 2000 years. How can they stop us from saying we are Macedonian?"

We are prepared to recognise Macedonia as a state but not as an ethnicity. Macedonia has been part of Greece

since the second millenium. When the Slavs came from the north in about the Seventh Century AD they stole the name, they didn't create it.

To say that they have been the subject of discrimination in Greece is misleading. Certainly, in the past, people were exiled and even executed in Greece during the Metaxos dictatorship, but that was during a totalitarian regime that was hated by all Greeks. People who dared to speak any other language but Greek were punished during this time. With the policy of the present Greek Government there is no problem. People can speak any language they like without discrimination. This is a

non-existent issue in Greece. It is only in countries like Canada and Australia that the issue is raised.

You are not paying justice to history if you call them Macedonians but you don't allow Greeks to also be called Macedonian. We feel so passionate because another race is taking a Greek name and monopolising it. Since we are proudly identified as Greek-Macedonians, our culture is and has been uniquely Hellenic. After all, it was the Macedonian king Alexander the Great who named his empire Hellenistic, not Slavic, and spread the Greek language and culture to the known world. Why don't we just allow history to speak for itself?"

## Greek groups campaign over use of 'Macedonian'

By PAMELA BONE, ethnic affairs reporter

The Australian Greek community has vowed to pressure the Federal Government to stop what it says is the monopolisation of the term "Macedonian" by the Slavic-speaking Australian Macedonian community.

It also wants the Government to create an official distinction between Greek-speaking Macedonians and Slavic-speaking Macedonians.

The issue blew up last week after the Greek Government cancelled an important Greek archaeological exhibition because the Australian Government requested that the word "Macedonia" be dropped from its title.

After an angry response from the Greek Parliament and from the Greek community in Australia, the minister assisting the Prime Minister, Mr Peter Morris, wrote to the Greek Minister for Culture and Sciences, Ms Melina Mercouri, saying Australia wished to proceed with the exhibition under the original title.

The exhibition, "Treasures of Macedonia", contains archeological specimens found in northern Greece which are said to be of "incalculable value". It is on loan to Australia for the Bicentenary celebrations, and is due to go on show in three capital cities from October.

A spokesman for the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, has refused to comment on why the Government wanted the word dropped. It seems likely that the request to change the title came from a Government official who knew that the title was bound to offend Australia's Slavic-speaking Macedonians.

Definition of Macedonia, a region that includes parts of Greece, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, is a sensitive subject in Greece and between the two communities in Australia, with both sides claiming the right to the term "Macedonian". The editor of the 'Australian Macedonian' Mr Jim Thomev, described the title of the exhibition as "deliberate provocation" by the Greek Government.

Dr Anastasios Tamis, a lecturer in Greek studies at La Trobe University and the president of the Institute of Macedonian Studies (a Greek organisation), said a meeting of about 400 members of the Greek community last week had decided to mount a campaign "to stop the monopolisation of Macedonia by one group only".

Dr Tamis said that members of more than 160 Greek organisations were united on the issue.

PAGE 17: Monday Report.

A Post Office van exploded outside Belfast City Hall, another blew up outside a new shopping centre, a third exploded close to Springfield police station, and a fourth went off outside a foundry in west Belfast. There were no casualties.

A blast bomb was also thrown at an army patrol in Rodney Parade, just off the Falls Road in west Belfast. One soldier was wounded. Two similar devices were thrown at an army and Royal Ulster Constabulary patrol and shots were fired.

### Security

In another shooting incident, a two-year-old boy was grazed by a terrorist's bullet that hit the car in which he was travelling with his parents in Andersonstown. The bullet hit the boy in the neck.

Patrols of the Royal Ulster Constabulary came under fire across Belfast. Troops returned fire, and one report said an IRA gunman had been hit and had to be dragged from the fray.

Local residents said IRA members were mounting patrols and orchestrating the violence.

Earlier, fighting broke out between police and republican demonstrators on the border of Eire when Russell was extradited amid elaborate security arrangements.

He was smuggled out of a side door of Dublin's Mountjoy prison shortly before 5am. Hundreds of demonstrators, including the president of the Sinn Fein, Mr Gerry Adams, gathered at Carrickcarnon, on the main Dublin-Belfast road.

Russell, charged with escaping from lawful custody on September 25 1983, five counts of assault, one of false imprisonment and one of hijacking, was remanded in custody until a preliminary hearing on September 20.

The Sunday Times

## N Ireland gripped by violence and riots

From correspondents in Belfast

A SPATE of bombings, shootings and rioting hit Northern Ireland yesterday as the Irish Republican Army (IRA) stepped up its renewed campaign of violence to a level unseen since the 1981 hunger strikes.

The attacks were launched to mark the extradition from Dublin of Robert Russell, an IRA terrorist who escaped from the Maze prison in 1983 while serving a sentence of 20 years for attempted murder.

More than 30 vehicles in Belfast were hijacked. Several drivers were forced to take their vehicles, loaded with explosives, to selected targets.

73/6/3

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INFO: EEUB  
COPY NO. 1

INWARD CABLEGRAM

O.BG49104 KASM  
TOR 00.31 24.06.88

IN

O.BG49104 1625 23.6.88 CLA

TO.  
PP ATHENS/917

*no action.*

RP.  
PP CANBERRA/4481

FM. BELGRADE / FA

R E S T R I C T E D

PROTECTION : MIOVSKI, TOME AND GONA

FROM FILE 62/2

MR AND MRS MIOVSKI, AUSTRALIAN CITIZENS WHO WERE BORN IN GREECE 18.8.33 AND 30.6.37 RESPECTIVELY, PPTS G421002 AND G421661, TELEPHONED THE EMBASSY THIS MORNING FROM SKOPJE TO ADVISE THAT ON 18 JUNE 1988 THEY WERE ARRESTED AT ATHENS AIRPORT ON ARRIVAL FROM AUSTRALIA AND DETAINED FOR 24 HOURS.

2. MR MIOVSKI STATED THAT THEY WERE GIVEN NO REASON FOR THEIR DETENTION, BUT THINK IT MAY BE BECAUSE OF THEIR MACEDONIAN ORIGINS. THEY LEFT GREECE IN 1948 FOR CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND MIGRATED TO AUSTRALIA IN 1961.

3. MR AND MRS MIOVSKI COMPLAINED THAT THEY WERE NOT PERMITTED TO CONTACT THE EMBASSY IN ATHENS, AND WERE GIVEN NO WATER DURING THEIR DETENTION. THEY WERE TOLD THEY WOULD NEVER BE PERMITTED TO ENTER GREECE AGAIN.

4. GRATEFUL YOU MAKE ENQUIRIES WITH THE GREEK AUTHORITIES CONCERNING THE INCIDENT AND ADVISE US IN DUE COURSE. MR AND MRS MIOVSKI ARE STAYING WITH RELATIVES IN SKOPJE UNTIL 25 AUGUST WHEN THEY ARE DUE TO RETURN TO PERTH VIA BELGRADE.

ACTION: DEP FOREIGN + TRADE

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DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

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INWARD CABLEGRAM

2-0.BG49104

ACTION: CP

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SEC	ASSOC-SEC	DEPSEC-MURRAY			
DEPSEC-LIGHTOWLER		DEPSEC-FIELD	DEPSEC-COSTELLO		
PPB	PA	FAS(AE)	EEUB	FAS(LC)	TSL
CON					

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

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RESTRICTED

73/6/3.

**Police Restricted**

TO; O.I.C, S.I.B, CANBERRA.

FROM; O.I.C, R.I.U, MELBOURNE.

IT HAS BEEN REPORTED BY THE YUGOSLAV VICE-CONSUL THAT AFTER DINING AT THE RAINBOW RESTAURANT, PRAHRAN, MELBOURNE, ON SATURDAY 23/1/'88, THE CONSULATE VEHICLE (MERCEDES CC116) THAT WAS PARKED OUTSIDE WAS DAMAGED BY SOMEONE CAUSING DEEP SCRATCHES ALONG BOTH SIDES OF THE CAR AND ALSO SCRATCHES ON THE BOOT IN THE SHAPE OF A "CROSS".

MR. DRONJICH (VICE-CONSUL) WAS DINING WITH SOME MEMBERS FROM THE CONSULATE AND OTHER FRIENDS. ANOTHER GROUP OF PEOPLE WERE DINING AT THE SAME TIME WHOM THE VICE-CONSUL INTIMATED SPOKE SERBO-CROATIAN. THIS GROUP DEPARTED THE RESTAURANT JUST PRIOR TO THE CONSULAR GROUP. MR. DRONJICH SAID THAT THIS OTHER GROUP WAS SEEN WALKING AWAY FROM THE CONSULATE CAR.

THE CAR REGISTRATION NUMBERS OF THE CARS DRIVEN BY THIS OTHER GROUP WERE TAKEN AND SUPPLIED TO THE VICTORIA POLICE WHEN THE INCIDENT WAS REPORTED.

(DETAILS OF THESE VEHICLES WILL BE OBTAINED AND FORWARDED FORTHWITH.)

PF1 = LOGOFF; PF3 = MAIN MENU;  
PF11 = CODE; PF12 = HELP; PF24 = RETURN; CMD ----

**Police Restricted**

**Police Restricted**

ON MONDAY 25/1/'88, BEFORE THE DINAMO VS. VICTORIA SOCCER GAME A LARGE PLACARD WITH "ATUKOVIC 1 YUGOSLAVIA 0" WAS REMOVED BY THE VICTORIA POLICE.

AFTER THE GAME WHEN MR. DRONJICH (VICE-CONSUL) AND MR. KUVACIC (ACTING CONSUL-GENERAL) HAD SPOKEN TO THE YUGOSLAV TEAM (DINAMO) THEY WERE VERBALLY ABUSED BY A GROUP OF APPROXIMATELY TWELVE (12) YOUTHS WHO WERE APPARENTLY MEMBERS OF THE CROATIAN YOUTH ASSOCIATION, GEELONG. THE AFOREMENTIONED DIPLOMATS SAID THAT THE THEY FEARED FOR THEIR SAFETY. THE PASSENGER SIDE DOOR PANEL OF CONSULATE CAR (CC 116) WAS KICKED IN (DENTED) BY ONE OF THE YOUTHS. (VICTORIA POLICE AND OLYMPIC PARK SECURITY GUARDS WERE IN ATTENDANCE)

MR. DRONJICH, (VICE-CONSUL) WILL BE TRAVELLING TO ADELAIDE THIS DATE. DEPARTING M.A.P AT 1115HRS. ON FLIGHT TN032.

THE AUSTRALIAN-YUGOSLAV COMMUNITY, ADELAIDE, IS ARRANGING HIS ACCOMMODATION.

PF1 = LOGOFF; PF3 = MAIN MENU;  
PF11 = CODE; PF12 = HELP; PF24 = RETURN; CMD ----

85  
**Police Restricted**

THE VICE-CONSUL WILL ATTEND A FUNCTION AT THE YUGOSLAV-AUSTRALIAN WORKERS CENTRE, ADELAIDE, IN HONOUR OF THE DINAMO SOCCER TEAM.

MR. DRONJICH (VICE-CONSUL) INTENDS TO WRITE (THROUGH HIS EMBASSY, CANBERRA) TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS REGARDING SECURITY ETC. AND ALSO TO "BILL" THE DEPT. OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOR THE REPAIRS TO THE DAMAGED CONSULATE CAR.

PF11 = CODE; PF12 = HELP;

**Police Restricted**



WITH THE COMPLIMENTS  
OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION  
AND ETHNIC AFFAIRS

*P. H. Handie*

*20/1/88*

CANBERRA



73/6/3

84

CONFIDENTIAL

INFO: EEU  
COPY NO. 1

INWARD CABLEGRAM

O.AT34840 AUTO  
TOR 21.25 02.02.88

O.AT34840 1230 2.2.88 CLA

TO.  
PP CANBERRA/3227

RP.  
PP BELGRADE/585

FM. ATHENS / REF O.AT34796 O.BG47677

C O N F I D E N T I A L

GREECE : MACEDONIAN STUDIES CONFERENCE

FROM FILE 221/6/7/1

IN SUGGESTING IN O.AT34796 THAT THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS REPRESENTATIVE IN MELBOURNE MIGHT ATTEND AT LEAST SOME PART OF THE CONFERENCE, WE DID NOT HAVE IN MIND THAT HE SHOULD ATTEND IN A REPRESENTATIONAL CAPACITY. RATHER OUR INTENTION WAS TO SUGGEST THAT THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR MIGHT ATTEND ONE OR TWO SESSIONS, IN AN INFORMAL CAPACITY, TO ASCERTAIN WHAT SORT OF POLITICAL LINE, IF ANY, IS MOTIVATING THE CONFERENCE. SUCH INFORMATION WOULD BE USEFUL TO US AND NO DOUBT TO OUR EMBASSY IN BELGRADE.

**ACTION:** DEP FOREIGN + TRADE  
DEP IMM ETH AFF T/T  
DEP P M AND CABINET T/T  
CERHOS T/T  
PRESIDENT OF SENATE  
ASIO (CCO) T/T  
AUSTRALIA COUNCIL T/T

PRIME MINISTER  
MIN IMM ETH AFF  
DEP DEFENCE  
DEP AVIATION (C)  
PSCC

MIN FOREIGN + TRADE  
MIN FOR TRADE NEGS  
DEFENCE PRODUCTION  
AUST FEDERAL POLICE  
SPEAKER HSE. OF REPS

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CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

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CONFIDENTIAL

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INWARD CABLEGRAM

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SEC	ASSOC-SEC	DEPSEC-CAMPBELL	DEPSEC-FLOOD
DEPSEC-LIGHTOWLER		DEPSEC-FIELD	DEPSEC-SADLEIR
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DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE  
DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

CONFIDENTIAL

**Police Confidential**

ENQUIRIES HAVE REVEALED THAT A DEMONSTRATION WILL TAKE PLACE ON FRIDAY, 5 FEBRUARY, 1988 AT APPROXIMATELY 0900HRS AT THE OPENING OF THE GREEK CONGRESS IN MELBOURNE, BY MEMBERS FROM THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY.

ALL FACTIONS (GROUPS) WITHIN MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY THROUGHOUT AUSTRALIA HAVE UNITED IN SUPPORT OF THIS DEMONSTRATION AND WILL TRAVEL MAINLY FROM N.S.W. & S.A.

SIX (6) - TEN (10) COACHES (BUSES) ARE EXPECTED TO DEPART SYDNEY ON THURSDAY, 4 FEBRUARY, 1988 ARRIVING INTO MELBOURNE AT APPROXIMATELY 0630HRS. ALL DEMONSTRATORS ARE TO ASSEMBLE AT BUNDOORA PARK, BUNDOORA, MELBOURNE, PRIOR TO GOING TO LA TROBE UNIVERSITY.

THE ORGANIZERS WILL HAVE FORTY (40) MARSHALLS TO ENSURE THAT THE DEMONSTRATION IS CONDUCTED PEACEFULLY.

PF1 = LOGOFF; PF3 = MAIN MENU;  
PF11 = CODE; PF12 = HELP; PF24 = RETURN; CMD ----

**Police Confidential**

\*\* MESSAGE TEXT \*\*

TWO (2) CARS WITH LOUDSPEAKERS WILL ALSO BE USED.

THE DEMONSTRATION HAS BEEN WELL ORGANISED.

APPARENTLY NEARLY EVERY FEDERAL AND STATE M.P. HAVE BEEN SENT INFORMATION IN RELATION TO THE "MACEDONIAN PROBLEM".

THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY DO NOT WANT THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT THIS CONGRESS.

A MEETING HAS BEEN ARRANGED BY THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY TO MEET WITH THE HON. M. YOUNG, M.P. TONIGHT 29 JANUARY, 1988 RE HIS ATTENDANCE AT THE CONGRESS.

ANY MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT STATE OR FEDERAL ATTENDING THIS CONGRESS WILL BE SUBJECTED TO VERBAL ABUSE BY THE DEMONSTRATORS.

NUMBER OF DEMONSTRATORS AT THIS TIME CANNOT BE ESTIMATED.

THERE ARE 70,000 PEOPLE IN MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY IN MELBOURNE.

VICTORIA POLICE, A.S.I.O. AND DEPT. OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS NOTIFIED.

REDIRECTED FROM SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH, CANBERRA, JURATOWITCH, P.P. SGT

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PF11 = CODE; PF12 = HELP; PF24 = RETURN;

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# THE MACEDONIANS

## STATEMENT OF THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY IN AUSTRALIA

31/1/80

January 1988

The Australian Diocese of the Macedonian Orthodox Church, and its affiliate churches and communities in all Australian States, on behalf of the entire Macedonian community in Australia, takes this opportunity to inform the Australian public about its stand with respect to the holding of the so called "International Congress of Macedonian Studies", organized by the Institute of Macedonian Studies, to be held in Melbourne from the 4th to the 10th February 1988.

We must firstly state that it is most unfortunate that certain sections of one particular ethnic group in Australia (the Greek community), have availed themselves of the opportunity to organize a "congress", which will consider the past, present and future of another constituent group, that is, our own Macedonian community. It is even more tragic that this "learned congress" does not have as its objective an affirmation of the existence of the Macedonian people, its culture, language and history, or perhaps to even contribute to a better understanding of and communication between the Greek and Macedonian communities in Australia. Rather, its purpose is clearly to inflame anti-Macedonian propaganda, and to introduce unresolved Balkan conflicts into this country.

We Macedonians in Australia, numbering over 150,000 in total, have come to this continent, together with numerous other migrant groups of varied backgrounds, to build a new home for ourselves and our descendants, and at the same time, to participate in the building of a contemporary Australia along democratic, multicultural principles. An egalitarian cultural and socio-economic development for every ethnic group is the foundation stone of our multicultural policies, which are of benefit to Australia and to all Australians in general.

The negation of Macedonians, or as in this instance, the attempt to Hellenize the Macedonian community, which is one of the basic purposes of this congress (as revealed in the Greek newspaper *Neos Kosmos* on 30/11/87 of "The Greekness of Macedonia") we Australian Macedonians view as a direct contravention of multicultural policies in Australia. At the same time, it offends the basic principles of good community relations in this country, which are adhered to by the entire Australian community, and in particular, espoused by its Parliamentary representatives.

The definition of a multicultural society, as adopted by the **Federation of Ethnic Community Councils of Australia** at its fourth national conference is: *A multicultural society is one where a variety of different cultural groups coexist harmoniously, free to maintain their distinctive religious, linguistic or social customs, equal as individuals in their access to resources and services appropriate to them and their needs, to civil and political rights, and sharing with the rest of the society particular concerns and values. All of the groups would stress tolerance of cultural, linguistic and religious differences which would be complementary to the loyalties, the individual shares with other Australians and which forms his or her identity as an Australian in the Australian ethos.*

It is enough then, merely to consider the titles of the papers to be presented at the congress to appreciate the fact that they do not affirm the distinctive features of Macedonian ethnicity, as for example the separate language (which is totally dissimilar to Greek), the culture and church (as stated in the aforementioned definition), but rather negates them.

We Macedonians in Australia unequivocally state that this congress contravenes the essential principles of our multiculturalism.

Of course, the Macedonian issue is not only of contemporary derivation. History, and especially Balkan history, has never been kind to the Macedonian people. As George Bernard Shaw himself once said, it is not important about whom history is written, but by whom it is written.

As such, many controversial authors on Macedonian history exist in the world today. Of course, in this regard, Balkan imperialistic and assimilationist appetites had the greatest influence. As a result of this, Macedonia, as a central geographic entity of the Balkans was partitioned into three segments, between Greece, Serbia and Bulgaria, as a consequence of the Balkan wars and the Bucharest peace treaty of August 1913. Since then, the Macedonian people, still comprising a distinctive ethnic unit, have been and still are subjected to both overt and covert pressures, which aim to eliminate the Macedonian presence in Greece and Bulgaria in order to justify this partition. In this respect, Greek government policies in particular have contributed most to achieving this end in the Aegean part of Macedonia, which today falls within the political borders of Greece.

However, we have no intention of resurrecting the past, nor recalling the odious practices of denationalization and assimilation by Greek government and religious authorities, such as for example, the compulsory change of personal and geographic names totally away from their original form, or repatriation and landholding conditional upon a change of ethnicity to Greek. Today, and particularly in this fine country, we do not want to witness again the era of Pavlos Melas, Karavangelis, Metaxas and others, or the tragedy of the Greek Civil War, when thousands of young children, most of them Macedonian, were displaced and made refugees in the world community.

We must point out however, that Macedonians on many occasions in our history, have fought shoulder to shoulder with Greeks, in order to defend their basic human rights, and freedom in general. Such was the case during the Second World War, when together they fought against the fascist aggressors, and subsequently, during the Greek Civil War, against similar forces.

In the world view, from ancient times, Greece has been recognized as the cradle of democracy, and it can be justifiably proud of its famous classical philosophers Socrates, Aristotle, Plato and others. However, in the modern era, Greece has witnessed a succession of militarist and monarcho-fascist governments, which have succeeded in creating a cultural and intellectual climate of ultra-nationalism. This certainly contravenes those very principles of democracy. Unfortunately, therefore, Greece has failed to learn a lesson from its own historical record, as even the present government's continued contravention of United Nations' covenants which guarantee minority rights, will illustrate.

Recently, the Greek government and its officials have tried to disseminate anti-Macedonian propaganda in Australia. They have protested on both Federal and State governments, and particularly in those states where Macedonians from the Aegean region reside, namely Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia and New South Wales.

It has done this because here in Australia, Macedonians do enjoy full ethnic and cultural rights, so as to be able to identify ourselves freely as an ethnic unit, with for example, our own communities, churches, radio and T.V. programs, folklore and literature, and Macedonian language tuition to all educational levels.

The aforementioned activities of the Greek government also include of course, the establishment of the so-called Institute of Macedonian Studies, and a contribution to the organization of this "congress" in Melbourne. Unfortunately, whether due to ignorance, or for some other reason, both the institute and the "congress" have found some support from amongst certain Australian institutions. However, despite all these efforts to influence certain Australian institutions to alter their recognition and subsequent treatment of Macedonians, which we consider to be a direct interference in domestic Australian affairs we so nonetheless believe that Australia will not allow another country to foment disharmony within its multicultural community. No foreign government has the right to dictate to Australian institutions not to follow United Nations' determinations.

We Australian-Macedonians, by using this opportunity, wish to inform the Australian public, that the Macedonian question, together with the human rights of Macedonians in Greece and Bulgaria in general, have been placed on the agenda of many important international agencies such as the United Nations, European Parliament, European Council for Security and Cooperation, P.E.N. International and others, which have all resolved to recommend to both Greece and Bulgaria, not only to recognize the existence of the Macedonian minority within their borders but to accord them their basic statutory human rights.

We also strongly believe that Australia should not be a place for determining unresolved conflicts in other parts of the world, and we are certain that a "congress" of this nature should not appropriately be held here, but rather somewhere in Macedonia, with the participation of legitimate Macedonian academics, to be found in institutions in the **Socialist Republic of Macedonia**, in Federal Yugoslavia, such as the Academy of Arts and Sciences, other educational and cultural institutes, universities and the church.

We do though support the idea of holding academic conferences and seminars in general, but only if their attention is focused upon matters important to the well-being of the entire Australian community, including the welfare and rights of migrants in particular. How much more appropriate it would have been, and how much happier we would have been if now, during the Bicentennial celebration, instead of this congress, the Greek community had organized a different type of activity, which would have considered the history of Greek migration to this country, as well as other matters relevant to their lives here and their significant contribution to our multicultural society in general.

Instead of the Greek government's representatives complaining to the Australian government about its recognition of the Macedonian ethnic group, through the organization of activities such as the "congress", it would have been better for Greece to adopt the Australian example in resolving issues within a multicultural community, as Greece also itself is. In this way, Greece would enrich and develop its own cultural heritage, and would put into practice its alleged initiatives for peaceful coexistence in the Balkans. In this way also would it gain in greater respect within the world community at large.

We, as migrants, have struggled together with fellow Greek community leaders for the well-being of all migrants here in Australia. That is the way it should continue to be in the future, for the benefit of Australia as a nation, where we have chosen to live and cooperate on an equal basis. However, there can be no cooperation without mutual understanding, respect and recognition. It is not that we ourselves need this recognition, but without it, there can be no harmonious relations amongst the ethnic groups in the community at large.

We strongly believe that all this is well understood by the majority of Greek migrants, and particularly the fact that we must not allow interethnic antagonisms to develop in this country. Ultimately, who has the right to determine one's own ethnic heritage, if not the members of that ethnic group themselves, as indeed our own Prime Minister has recently confirmed? Any attempt to strip a person of their national feeling or ethnic identity, is after all really an attempt to take away their freedom, the most cherished value a person can have, hold and respect. As citizens of this country, it is our duty to respect and safeguard the freedom of each individual, and in this respect, to encourage everyone's right to determine their own ethno-cultural identity.

The Macedonian Orthodox Church, cradle of Slavonic literacy and culture, even in its most difficult times, has been tied to its people, teaching its followers a Christian and ecumenical understanding, as found for example in the most fundamental religious teaching — *Love thy fellow man*. That is why the Macedonian Orthodox Church in Australia is the strongest organized form of communal activity, and why it has succeeded in uniting all Macedonians in this country, notwithstanding which of the three parts of their country that they have come from.

The Executive Committee of the Australian Macedonian Diocese applauds the attempt by Australian governments and their organs to establish egalitarian relations amongst all Australians, irrespective of their race, religion or ethnicity, and for the sole purpose of developing specific multicultural and ecumenical dimensions relevant to the Australian society, our church has adopted like policies.

Finally, we Macedonians would like to sincerely thank Australia and all Australians for providing us with the right to live freely and develop as Australian-Macedonians, with our own church, language, history and culture.

We trust that we will continue to have these rights in the future, and like all other ethnic groups, we will always be honest and loyal citizens, who will respect all of Australia's laws.

Traditionally, we are accustomed, in the conduct of our lives, to putting into practice the ideas of our late and great leader, **Gotse Delchev**, who once said: *I understand the world merely as a field for cultural competition amongst peoples.*

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE AUSTRALIAN DIOCESE OF THE MACEDONIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH and its affiliate church communities in all Australian States

Authorised by Boris Trajkov and Ivan Medelkovski  
7 Cameo Crt Bulleen.

1987 Editorial From.

AUSTRALIAN MACEDONIAN WEEKLY

11/12/87.

# ANTI MACEDONIAN INSIDE PROPAGANDA CONTINUES!

## A Greek Conference On Macedonia Based On Lies

The Macedonians are not Greeks. Their languages are radically different from each. However the so-called Australian Institute of Macedonian Studies (A.I.M.S.) disseminates the propaganda that Macedonians are Greeks on the basis that there are Macedonians living in Greece and highly questionable arguments derived from ancient history. It is true that Macedonians live in Greece but their existence is denied and they do not have human rights as Macedonians.

The widest circulating Greek newspaper "Neos Kosmos", in its November 30 edition has published in English the details of the "First International Conference on Macedonian Studies" to be held in February of next year on the theme of the "Greekness of Macedonia".

The conference, which was so "proudly" and irresponsibly sponsored by Medibank Private has the grandiose and pretentious aim of demonstrating that Macedonia is Greek, has always been Greek, and only Greeks have the right to use the word "Macedonian". In short, all things "Macedonian" are "Greek".

Our simple question is: why so much fuss and paranoia if this were really the case? The simple answer of course is because it is a blatant lie to assume "the Greekness of Macedonia".

This assumption would be laughable if it were not so lamentable in its implications. It ignores the obvious fact that the Slavs have been present in Macedonia for over 1300 years and since their arrival in the Balkans in the 5th and 6th centuries A.D. have quite naturally assumed the right to call themselves the Macedonians.

Part of the Greek argument that Macedonia belongs to Greece is the contentious assumption that the Ancient Macedonians were a Greek tribe. There is evidence that the Macedonian court at the time adopted Greek culture but to claim

that they were Greek is like claiming the the Irish today are English because of their use of the language of their former conquerors. In any case, nationalism or ethnicity was not concealed in the same way in antiquity as it is today. Only very weak and undistinguished scholars assume that Philip and Alexander were Greeks. But the argument is irrelevant in any case, as to claim today that Macedonians are Greek on these grounds is like saying England is French because the ruling class spoke Norman French for a few centuries after 1066.

The array of academics who will speak at the conference in February at La Trobe University, seems on the face of it, quite impressive. However on closer examination one suspects a piece of window dressing - a bit like the inclusion of some French on the brochure announcing the conference which Medibank Private so proudly sponsored with their clients' money. There are only four non-Greek participants giving papers at this "international conference" and one must question whether any of these academics have done any hard-nosed research on Balkan history this century (not to go further) apart from the distortions, churned out by the Greek propaganda machine on Macedonia. Nalveta may be an excuse, but participation in a conference which assumes the "Greekness of Macedonia" will deserve public humiliation because it is a disgrace to their profession.

Of course in Australia we have the freedom of speech which allows the most racist groups or individuals to make the wildest statements publicly with impunity. The inadequacies of our laws in this respect have been amply demonstrated by the Blainies and Ruxtons of this world.

The so-called Australian Institute of Macedonian Studies (A.I.M.S.), which has organized the conference, is conducting a subtle propaganda campaign against the Macedonian people. They are capitalizing on such confused epithets as "Greek-Macedonians" and ignoring what Macedonians themselves are saying about their own history, dismissing it as "Slavic

propaganda". There is not one Macedonian invited to speak at the conference, except perhaps in the sense of someone of Greek origin who was born or lived in the Macedonia occupied by Greece since 1913.

The A.I.M.S. have created a non-existent ethnic group which they call "Greek-Macedonian". The question to ask here is why refer to them as "Greek-Macedonian" when it is assumed that their culture and language is Greek? There is no comparable double-barrelling when referring to Greeks from other parts of Greece such as the Peloponnese or Epirus. The Institute also claims that 33% or 55,000 Greeks in Australia are "Greek-Macedonian". How did they get this statistic? In view of the problems the A.B.S. has with such classifications it would be very interesting to discover the source of this figure.

Apart from the fact that the Macedonians have a Republic of Macedonia where the people speak Macedonian with full human, cultural and national rights in Yugoslavia (comprising 37.5% of the original Macedonia before partition in 1913) what the organizers of this conference ignore is that only Greece and Bulgaria today still deny the existence of a unique and specific Macedonian people. One can only assume this is so because no other country in the world has territorial claims on Macedonia land - Greece grabbed 51% and Bulgaria only 10% in 1913.

One could sit back and laugh at this charade organized by chauvinists were it not for the fact that it is an affront to the dignity of the Macedonian people who want to leave the past behind. Worse still it creates a needless hostility between the Greeks and the Macedonians in Australia instead of allowing them to co-exist in harmony and enjoy each other's cultures as well as that of other groups in Australia. After all they were both a Christian people who lived in close proximity in the Balkans and were enslaved for centuries by the Ottoman Turks (The Greeks were free after 400 years with the 1821 revolution, but the Macedonians lived worse after Macedonia was torn apart in 1913 when the Turks

were driven out).

The A.I.M.S. has a political platform (while it disclaims all political motives) in which it chief objectives are

(1) To counter organized Slavic propaganda which is tolerated and encouraged by the Yugoslav government.

(2) To restrain and check the penetration of the Macedonian Question into official circles in Australia.

(3) To stop the "Macedonian language" and the "Macedonian culture" in Australian educational institutions. (Makedoniki Zol, Jan. 1987, a Greek publication).

The first of these is sheer nonsense as the A.I.M.S. seems to regard any attempt by Macedonians to express their identity as "Slavic propaganda".

The second objective is obviously a tactic to suppress the Macedonian issue altogether because the very fact of it being raised is an affirmation that the Macedonians exist and are not Greek. This is obviously undesirable to those who do not believe in the existence of the Macedonians. This being a logically impossible position, "Greek-Macedonian" is used to cover up the fact that there is something different about Macedonians from Greeks.

As for the third objective, here we have a case of vulgar racism. It does not take much imagination to figure out how people would react if we substituted "Greek language" and "Greek culture" in this objective. Imagine how horrified multicultural Australia would be if the Greek language was banned from educational institutions! However it is obvious that the intransigent Australian Institute of Macedonian Studies does not give the same respect to the Macedonian people which the Greeks enjoy in multicultural Australia.

All this should be of grave concern and alarm to those of us who want to realize a multicultural Australia on the basis of mutual respect and recognition between all 142 groups which live in this democratic country.



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## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND — 'Hellas' and 'Macedonia'

In antiquity, the terms 'Hellas' and 'Hellenes' refer to racial status. According to Herodotus its meaning inferred the same blood and language, common sanctuaries and sacrifices to the gods. (Herodot. VIII, 144).

The Hellenic world with its internal differences, political and cultural development according to cities and regions applied the term 'Hellenes' to the well-educated, the most socially and intellectually advanced of the Greeks, the Athenian-educated Greek, whereas in the 4th century B.C. the term was put in a political perspective confining its use to the southern cities of the Greek mainland and excluding Epirus and Macedonia. This happened (1) because the Greek kingdoms of Epirus and Macedonia had remained entirely apart from the long-lasting stormy political life of the Greek democracies and (2) because of the severe political differences especially in their form of Government. So when the

Macedonians came into direct contact with their kinsmen in the South through friction and clearly defined political opposition, they too accepted the political meaning of the words 'Hellas' and 'Hellenes'. Needless to say, the political separation of Hellenes and Macedonians during the 4th century B.C. never reached the stage of confusing the latter with the barbarian neighbours bordering them, namely the Illyrians, Paeonians and Thracians. Even Demosthenes, the Athenian orator, a rabid opponent of Macedonian hegemony, never reached the point of identifying Macedonians with the surrounding barbarians, e.g. non-Greek people (Olynth. III, 16 and Phil. III, 31). Therefore when offering advice to King Philip of Macedonia, Isocrates says: "Work for the good of the Hellenes, reign over the Macedonians and extend your power over the greatest possible number of the barbarians" (Isoc., Phil. 154; also Arrianos, IV, II, 8).

## THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MACEDONIAN STUDIES

Greek-Macedonians comprise approximately 33% of all Greek immigrants in Australia. Today, there are over 120 Hellenic Macedonian brotherhoods organised throughout every State across Australia. Their members are amongst the most active, involved in various facets of community life: sport, social, culture and literary.

The Australian Institute of Macedonian Studies is a non-profit and non-political organisation, catering for the cultural and identity interests of the Greek-Macedonians. It is administered by a Board of Directors elected by its membership for a three-year term. The Executive Board of Directors, which is represented by Greek-Macedonians as well as by members of the broad Hellenic community, has the responsibility of implementing the A.I.M.S.'s policies and programmes.

The Executive Director of the A.I.M.S. is a full time appointee who co-ordinates the affairs of the Institute and liaises with other cultural organisations.

The aims of the Australian Institute of Macedonian Studies include the promotion and development of cultural, literary, historical and linguistic issues directly relevant to the 55,000 Greek-Macedonians living in Australia. Its main objectives focus on research activities, organisation and collection of data and bibliography for academics, students and other scholars, planning for international symposiums, participation in community affairs with lectures, folkloric activities, music, theatre and dance.

## Membership of A.I.M.S.:

Details are available from:

Mr. P. Liveriades

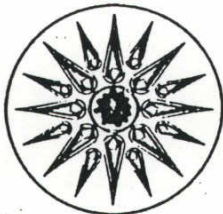
Director Modern Greek Studies,  
St. John's G.O. College,  
Railway Street, Preston,  
Australia.

Mr. P. G. Jasonides

Secretary General,  
Institute of Macedonian Studies,  
P.O. Box 7381,  
St. Kilda Road,  
Melbourne, 3004,  
Australia.

— authorised by the Board of Directors, Australian Institute of Macedonian Studies

INSTITUTE OF MACEDONIAN S.  
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INSTITUTO MAKEDONIKON ΣΠΟΥΔΩΝ.



GENERAL INFORMATION  
INFORMATIONS GENERALES  
ΓΕΝΙΚΕΣ ΠΛΗΡΟΦΟΡΙΕΣ

1st International Congress of Macedonian Studies  
Premier Congrès Mondial D' Etudes Macédoniennes  
1ο Διεθνές Συνέδριο Μακεδονικών Σπουδών

University of La Trobe  
4-10 February, 1988

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**AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MACEDONIAN STUDIES**  
**AUSTRALIAN INSTITUT D' ETUDES MACEDONIQUES**

**1st International Congress of Macedonian Studies**  
**Premier Congrès Mondial D' Etudes Macédoniennes**  
 University of La Trobe, Australia  
 4-10 February, 1988

The 1st INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF MACEDONIAN STUDIES will be held at the University of La Trobe, located 10 kms. from the centre of Melbourne.

The Congress will foreground the following issues in plenary sessions, sections, meetings, symposia of A.I.M.S. Scientific Commissions, A.I.M.S. Special Interest Groups and pre-Congress and post-Congress activities.

**Section Meetings:**

- Macedonia and the Antiquity.
- Hellas, Hellene and Macedonia.
- The Cultural, Linguistic, Historical, Educational and Social Aspects of Contemporary Macedonia.
- The concept of Balkanism and Macedonia.
- The Refugee Contribution to the Area (Pontians and Ionians Greeks)
- Macedonians abroad (Australia, Europe, America)

Participants are invited to submit, before *1st October 1987*, abstracts of 45-minute papers on one of the aforementioned topics for the section meetings.

The abstracts should be of 300-500 words in English or French and should be submitted in three copies. They should include:

- full title of the paper
- topic
- name, address and telephone number of author(s)

**Programme Outline**

Registration: Thursday 4 February, 2.00-6.00 p.m.  
 Official Opening: Friday 5 February, 10.00 a.m.  
 Congress Dinner: Evening 6 February  
 Excursions: Tuesday 9 February  
 Closing Session: Wednesday 10 February

**Congress Fees:**

The fees cover administrative expenses, a conference ticket and book of abstracts, the welcome ceremony and luncheon, all morning and afternoon teas and sectional entertainment on Monday evening.

If paid before 31st October, 1987, the fees are:

- A.I.M.S. members and overseas scholars \$A100.00
- non-members \$A110.00
- graduate students \$A 40.00

The completed registration form is to be sent, with payment, to:

Australian Institute of Macedonian Studies  
 P.O. Box 7381  
 St. Kilda Road,  
 Melbourne, 3004.

**Travel:**

The Official Congress Airline for international travel is Olympic Airways and for travel within Australia, Australian Airlines. Enquiries about travel arrangements and group concessions can be made at any Olympic Airways office throughout the world.

**Accommodation:**

Accommodation will be available on campus in the University halls of residence on a bed and breakfast basis. Coffee and tea making facilities are provided. In addition rooms have been reserved in a number of motels within easy walking distance of the Congress headquarters. The deposit is payable with the registration fee before 31st October, 1987.

**Congress Dinner:**

This will be held at the Hyatt International on Collins, on Saturday 6th of February, 1988. The cost of \$A50 per head will cover transport, food and music.

**Congress Organisation:**

Organising of the Congress will be directed by the Organising Committee and with the help of the appointed International Committee as well as numerous Sub-Committees to coordinate the panels. In addition, an appointed Editorial Committee will supervise the publication of the proceedings of this Congress. The official languages of the Congress will be English and Greek, and translations of all proceedings in corresponding languages shall take place concurrently.

**Congress Officers:**

Organising President and Convenor:

Dr. A.M. Tamis  
 Department of Modern Studies  
 La Trobe University  
 Bundoora, 3088,  
 Australia.

Telegrams and Cables:

La Trobe, Melbourne,  
 Telex No.: (AA) 33143.

General Secretaries:

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 Mr. P. Liveriades  
 Mr. P.G. Jasonides

Treasurer and Convenor of the Finance Committee:

Mr. N. Halazoukas.

**International Committee:**

- C. Castan (Dept. of English, Queensland University, Australia)
- J. Hassiotis (Dept. of History & Archeology, University of Thessalonike, Greece)
- A. Henry (Dept. of Classical Studies, Monash University)
- P. Liveriades (Greek Studies, St. John's College, Melbourne, Australia)
- G. Kanarakis (Modern Languages, Bathurst College of Advanced Education, N.S.W.)
- D. Pantermalis (Dept. of History & Archeology, University of Thessalonike)
- K. Procopiou (Greek Studies, Victoria College)
- T. Sioumis (C.S.I.R.O., Melbourne, Australia)
- A. McDevitt (Classical Studies, Monash University, Australia)
- M. Sophocleous (Greek Studies, Philip Institute of Advanced Education)
- A. Tamis (Greek Studies, La Trobe University)

**Co-operating Institutions:**

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- La Trobe University, Australia.
- Monash University, Australia.
- University of Melbourne, Australia.
- Victoria College, Australia.
- Philip Institute of Technology, Australia.
- Footscray Institute of Technology, Australia.





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**FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON MACEDONIAN STUDIES**

**THE ACADEMIC STRUCTURE OF THE CONFERENCE**

The Conference will examine the following seven aspects of Greek Macedonia: Archaeology, Linguistics, Folklore and Anthropology, Art and Culture, Literature, International Law, History and General Issues.

Papers have been accepted from the following contributors:

**A. ARCHAEOLOGY:**

1. CAMBITOGLU, Alexander      Professor of Archaeology, University of Sydney, N.S.W.,  
*The Archaeological Exploration of the Ancient City of Torone in N. Greece.*
2. CONNOR, Peter                Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Classical Studies, University of Melbourne,  
*A Macedonian Castle in Northern Syria.*
3. PANTERMALIS, Dimitris      Professor of Archaeology, University of Thessaloniki,  
*The Archaeological excavations in Dion and Vergina, Macedonia.*

**B. LINGUISTICS:**

4. BABINIOTIS, George          Professor of Linguistics, University of Athens,  
*The Position of Macedonian in Ancient Greek Dialects: An Approach to the Classification Problem of Ancient Macedonian.*
5. DELOPOULOS, George        Redactor, Academy of Athens,  
*The Contrastive Linguistics in Macedonia as Part of Linguistics in the Balkans.*
6. KATSANIS, Nicholas         Associate Professor of Linguistics, University of Thessaloniki,  
*Linguistic Unification of Macedonia.*

7. SYMEONIDIS, Charalambos Professor of Linguistics, University of Thessaloniki,  
*Inter-Linguistic Influences of Greek and Slavic Idioms in Macedonia.*
8. TAMIS, Anastasios Lecturer, Greek Studies Unit, La Trobe University,  
*The Settlement of Greek Macedonians in Australia and their Linguistic Mode of Behaviour.*
9. THAVORIS, Antonios Emeritus Professor of Linguistics, University of Ioannina,  
*The Macedonian Dialects and their Relation with the other Ancient Greek Dialects.*

**C. FOLKLORE:**

10. von BOESCHOTEN, Riki Researcher, Academic  
*The Agrarian Macedonian Society and the Antartika Songs in the Resistance Movement.*
11. DANFORTH, Loring Professor of Anthropology, University of Bates, U.S.A.,  
*The Popular Tradition in Macedonia.*
12. GEORGIADES Associate Professor of History, University of Thessaloniki,  
KOUNTOURDA, E. *The History of the Popular (AIAKH) Art of Macedonia.*
13. MILIATZIDOU-IOANNOU, Director, Folkloric and Anthropological Museum of Macedonia, Thessaloniki, Greece,  
Eudokia *Macedonian Tradition and Ancient Greece.*
14. VELKOS, Gregory Folklorist, writer and historian,  
*Ancient Greek Customs as they Survive in Contemporary Macedonia.*

**D. ART AND CULTURE:**

15. LAVVAS, George Associate Professor of Architecture, University of Thessaloniki,  
*Stabilised and Changing Aspects of the Architecture of the House in Macedonia.*
16. NIKONANOS, Nicholas Associate Professor of Byzantine Art, University of Thessaloniki,  
*Byzantine Art in Macedonia during the*

17. PAPANIKOLAOU, Miltiades Associate Professor of Contemporary Art,  
University of Thessaloniki,  
*Contemporary Art in Macedonia.*

C. LITERATURE:

18. CASTAN, Con Senior Lecturer, Department of English,  
Queensland University.  
*The Life of Greek-Macedonians in Australia,  
Through the Eyes of a Play-Writer.*
19. CHATZIGEORGIOU-  
HASSIOTIS, Vicki Researcher, School of Letters, University of  
Thessaloniki,  
*The Macedonian Struggle in Modern Greek  
Prose Writing.*
20. FIFIS, Christos Senior Lecturer, Greek Studies, La Trobe  
University,  
(expected).
21. KANARAKIS, George Senior Lecturer, School of Communications  
and Liberal Studies, Mitchell College of  
Advanced Education,  
*The Literary Production of Greek  
Macedonians in Australia.*
22. KEHAGIOGLOU, George Associate Professor of Literature, University of  
Thessaloniki,  
*Post-War Poetry in Macedonia: History, Men  
and Place.*
23. MALINGOUDIS, Phaedon Associate Professor of Slavic History,  
University of Thessaloniki,  
*Methodios and Cyrillos: Two Educators from  
Thessaloniki.*
24. PYRZAS, Con Researcher, writer,  
*Literary Activity in Florina.*

F. INTERNATIONAL LAW:

25. FERGADIS-TOUNDA, Areti Lecturer of Law, Pantios Anotati Scholi,  
*The Problem of Minorities in Macedonia:  
The Protocol of Politis-Kalfot (1919-1925).*
26. MANOLOPOULOS, Kaiti Lecturer of Law, Pantios Anotati Scholi,  
*Minorities as a Cause of Tension in the  
Relations of the Balkan States.*

27. VAVOUSKOS, Kostas

Professor of Law, University of Thessaloniki,  
*International Law in the Balkans.*

G. HISTORY:

28. ASHTON, Norman

Senior Lecturer, Department of Classics,  
University of Western Australia,  
*The Death of Alexander the Great: A Clinical  
Re-Appraisal.*

29. DIMITRIADIS, Vasilis

Associate Professor of Turkology, University of  
Crete,  
*The Population of Western Macedonia during  
the 16th Century, according to the Turkish  
Archives.*

30. ELLIS, Jack

Reader in Classical Studies, Monash  
University,  
*Macedonia and the other Greek States in  
Antiquity.*

31. HASSIOTIS, Yiannis

Professor of History, University of Thessaloniki,  
*Revolutionary Movements in Macedonia,  
16th-18th century.*

32. HENRY, Alan

Professor of Classical Studies, Monash Univ.,  
(expected)

33. KOFOS, Vangelis

Historian, Researcher,  
*The Historical Factor in the Formation of  
National Identity in Macedonia (19th & 20th  
Centuries.)*

34. KONTIS, Vasilis

Associate Professor of History, University of  
Thessaloniki,  
*Macedonia during the German Occupation,  
1940-41.*

35. MARGILD, George

Senior Lecturer, Department of Classical  
Studies, University of New England,  
*The Army of Ancient Macedonians.*

36. PAPANDRIANOS, Yiannis

Associate Professor of History, University of  
Thessaloniki,  
*Macedonian Immigrants in the Northern  
Balkans during the 18th & 19th Centuries.*

37. PAPAS, Vas.

Solicitor, Researcher, President of the Historic  
and Folkloric Society of Chalkidiki,  
*Historical Figures of the Macedonian Struggle.*

- 38. PAPAPOPOULOS, Stephanos  
Professor of History, University of Ioannina,  
*Basic Characteristics of the Liberation  
Struggles of Greek Macedonians during the  
War of Independence.*
- 39. TATAKIS, Argyro  
Associate Professor of History, University of  
Athens,  
(expected)
- 40. XANTHOPOULOU-  
KYRIAKOU, A.  
Associate Professor of History, University of  
Thessaloniki,  
*Macedonia and the National Revolution of  
1821.*

**GENERAL ISSUES:**

- 41. LAMBRINOS, Christos  
President, Greek Journalist Association,  
(expected)
- 42. MARTIS, Nicholas  
Ex-Minister of Northern Greece,  
*Macedonian History: A Problem not only of  
Hellenism.*
- 43. VYSSOULIS, Pantelis  
Historian, Poet and Writer,  
*Macedonia: History or Falsification?*

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# ooks at Soviets and His Nation's System

sr before? initiative, and the Americans came to a halt, perhaps because of Irangate. But the Americans quickly recovered and found the correct way to negotiate without giving away essential concessions.

ch reform Q. How should Western Europe deal with the Soviets?

A. Negotiate, make compromises, but obtain concessions on political relations, human rights and problems in other countries such as Afghanistan and Cambodia.

History Q. And what would you advise the nations of Eastern Europe?

A. Be more active in opposing the Soviet Union, but in a peaceful way, not through armed rebellion. Rebellion will be suppressed. I think Eastern European countries are already becoming more independent, spiritually, intellectually and even economically. It varies.

ay even- reagan Q. As the author of the classic book on the *nomenklatura*, how do you think the "New Class" is faring today?

A. Gorbachev is a product of the New Class. He is trying to renew and revitalize it. He wants to modernize the existing

system. In the beginning he may have some success, because the Soviet Union is a rich country with more specialists than it needs to modernize the economy. Later, the crisis will deepen unless social relations are adapted, too. But although some Communists may change, Communism will not. The hard-liners, the power monopolizers will continue until the end.

Q. Alexander Dubcek recently compared glasnost with the reforms for which he was toppled from leadership in Czechoslovakia. Do you agree?

A. No. In Czechoslovakia, the process of the change was developing toward a pluralistic democratic system. Dubcek was not clear about this, but others around him were.

Q. What has happened to Communism in your own country?

A. We have the first example of Communism disintegrating from within. The party is dividing along national lines into a series of national oligarchies.

Q. Can the party survive?

A. Not in this form. Maybe it will evolve into something like social democ-

racy in the West. But the system in Yugoslavia cannot survive without some kind of foreign intervention, by which I mean Russian intervention, and I don't think this is realistic. It depends whether the West will be strong not to permit any such involvement in Yugoslav affairs.

Q. Can Yugoslavia hold together as a country?

A. Very difficult. The process of disintegration is day by day more visible. There is a process of integration as well, but it is not organized and not so visible. The army is still united. The police are not disintegrating. And, with the exception of the Albanian minority in Kosovo, there is no tendency toward violence. Among the people there is no strong separatist movement. But the system is breaking down. Absolutely.

Q. What legacy did Marshal Tito leave Yugoslavia?

A. Very little positive. Maybe he saved the state. But the system he left is not good. It doesn't function. Even under Tito it didn't function well. The only thing that functioned under Tito was Tito.

## Yugoslav Dissident Looks at Soviets

Milovan Djilas, who broke with communism to become Yugoslavia's best-known dissident, was in Paris for a human rights conference. He spoke with Barry James of the International Herald Tribune.

Q. Given your own experience as a former vice president in a Communist country, what would you be doing today if you were Mikhail Gorbachev?

A. That was long ago. But if I were Gorbachev, I would be more energetic, clearer in my opinions and more decisive.

Q. The Marquis de Custine said during a visit to Moscow in 1839 that the world would one day be ruled by "patient peoples" like the Russians. Is history likely to prove him right?

A. The Russians are essentially playing a patient game. The Soviet Union is a military empire, and in history military empires change very slowly. But my view is that Soviet Union is in a deep crisis, to the extent that it is becoming rotten. This doesn't mean the party, the ruling class has no more vitality. I think it does.

Q. Haven't we seen glasnost before?

A. Yes, many times. We may compare this period of Gorbachev with the rule of Czar Alexander II and his reforms. Of course, the czar was more energetic, more radical.

Q. What has happened to such reform initiatives in the past?

### MONDAY Q&A

A. They have been suppressed. History goes up, down, up, down.

Q. Are you saying glasnost may eventually end in a new period of repression?

A. Not repression. Suppression maybe. I do not think there will be persecution on a large scale.

Q. Are Western countries making too much of Mr. Gorbachev?

A. No. I think the policy of Reagan generally is correct.

Q. Why do you say that?

A. Because he understood the Soviets. He knew he had to be strong and push them into a corner. The Russians began to realize they could not maneuver with Reagan. After Reykjavik, they took the

initiative, and the Americans came to a halt, perhaps because of Irangate. But the Americans quickly recovered and found the correct way to negotiate without giving away essential concessions.

Q. How should Western Europe deal with the Soviets?

A. Negotiate, make compromises, but obtain concessions on political relations, human rights and problems in other countries such as Afghanistan and Cambodia.

Q. And what would you advise the nations of Eastern Europe?

A. Be more active in opposing the Soviet Union, but in a peaceful way, not through armed rebellion. Rebellion will be suppressed. I think Eastern European countries are already becoming more independent, spiritually, intellectually and even economically. It varies.

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# Dissident Looks at Soviets and His Nation's System

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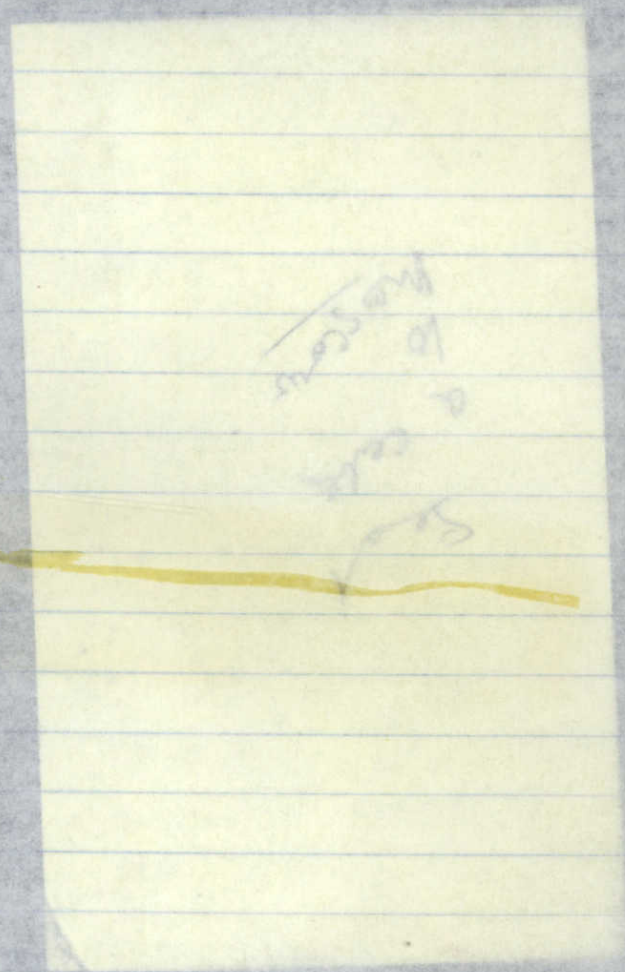
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Clare,

Could you check the  
"Refusenik list"  
presented with  
PM's visit (69/2/5/7  
and/or 1634/28/4)  
to see if the  
name APPELBAUM  
appears, and let  
Pam Gutman  
know. (723478)  
Tks Kev.





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File No. 221/6/7/1

69

**AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY**

**ATHENS**

73/6/3 73/1/4/4

Record Conversation with MR NEVEN MADEY, Minister-Counsellor Yugoslav Embassy  
on 2 December 1987

Officers Present MR R.H. PLATT

*Mr. Madey*  
*Mr. Platt*  
*[Signature]*

MAIN SUBJECT(S): MACEDONIA

Mr Madey called at his request to seek information on any approach made to the Victorian Premier by Greek Ministers on the Macedonian issue during the course of his visit to Greece last week.

2. Mr Madey said that Yugoslavia was in agreement with Australia's multi-cultural policy and its attitude to the Macedonian question. Yugoslavia wanted to be prepared for any change in Greek tactics on this issue. He maintained that the problems between Greece and Yugoslavia on this issue were invented by Greece and that Yugoslavia had no territorial claims on Greece.

3. Mr Platt told Mr Madey that as far as he was aware the Macedonian question had not been raised by Mr Petsalnikos (Deputy Minister for Culture with responsibility for Greeks abroad) nor by Mr Kapsis (Alternate Minister for Foreign Affairs) during the course of their contact with Mr Cain in Athens. He said that while he had not been present during the Prime Minister's meeting with Mr Cain, during subsequent discussion with Mr Brouwer (Secretary, Department of the Premier and Cabinet) on the content of this meeting there was no indication that Macedonia had been mentioned.

4. Mr Platt said that he had not travelled to Thessaloniki with the party but was informed following its return that the Macedonian question had been a subject that Mr Papatthemelis (Minister for Northern Greece) had raised with Mr Cain. Mr Papatthemelis had referred to

- . a Greek sponsored conference on Macedonia to be held in Australia early in 1988 and
- . Greece's difficulties with parts of an encyclopaedia being produced in Australia as part of the next years bicentenary commemoration. The encyclopaedia apparently uses old names for Macedonian sites.

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*[Signature]*

Report prepared by R. H. PLATT

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

TV PROGRAM ON SLAVS : MACEDONIA

TO FILE 201/6/6 FROM FILE 73/1/3

THE PROGRAM REFERRED TO WAS A TEN-PART DOCUMENTARY SERIES, EACH PART OF HALF-AN-HOUR'S LENGTH, CALLED 'THE SLAVS'. THE SERIES COVERED THE ORIGINS AND DEVELOPMENT OF ALL SLAVS AND NOT ONLY THE SOUTH SLAVS. IT WAS A CO-PRODUCTION BY RAI (OF ITALY), BULGARIAN TELEVISION AND, POSSIBLY, ITC (UK).

2. WE HAVE BEEN ADVISED BY THE ABC THAT THE SERIES WAS PURCHASED FROM WORLD-WIDE DISTRIBUTORS ITC ENTERTAINMENT. THE PERSON WITH WHOM WE SPOKE WAS NOT CERTAIN, BUT THOUGHT THE SERIES HAD BEEN SHOWN IN THE UK AND OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. THE ABC PURCHASED IT ON ITS MERITS, ONE FACTOR BEING THAT IT DEALT WITH A REGION AND SUBJECT RARELY TOUCHED ON AUSTRALIA. IT WAS NOT CONSIDERED TO BE 'POLITICAL' AND IT WAS QUITE OBVIOUS TO US THAT THE PERSON WITH WHOM WE SPOKE WAS UNAWARE OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE MANNER IN WHICH THE HISTORY OF THE SOUTH SLAVS CAN BE TREATED. OF COURSE, THE FACT THAT A PROGRAM COULD BE CONTROVERSIAL OR ITS TREATMENT AND CONCLUSIONS OPEN TO DISPUTE WOULD NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THAT IT WOULD NOT BE BROADCAST. BROADCASTING, HOWEVER, DID NOT MEAN THAT THE ABC ENDORSED THE CONTENTS OR TREATMENT OF ITS SUBJECT.

3. IF THE MATTER IS RAISED YOU MAY, IN ADDITION TO DRAWING ON THE ABOVE BACKGROUND, WISH TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

- WE WOULD PREFER NOT TO BE DRAWN INTO ARGUMENTS WHICH ARE PRIMARILY THE CONCERN OF YUGOSLAVIA AND IT NEIGHBOURS. ,
- IF THE YUGOSLAVS HAVE OBJECTIONS TO THE SERIES THEY WOULD

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BE BETTER ADVISED TO TAKE THEM UP WITH THE PRODUCERS AND/OR DISTRIBUTOR.,

- IF THE PROGRAM HAS CAUSED OFFENCE TO AUSTRALIANS OF SLAVIC ORIGIN THEN THEY ARE QUITE ABLE THEMSELVES TO TAKE THE ISSUE UP WITH THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES. (ACCORDING TO THE ABC WHILE SOME COMPLAINTS WERE RECEIVED FROM UKRANIANS THEY ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY FROM MACEDONIANS OR YUGOSLAVS. THIS, HOWEVER, IS NOT CONCLUSIVE AS NOT ALL CALLERS IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES BY ETHNIC BACKGROUND).

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TOKYO	VIENNA	WARSAW	WASHINGTON				

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

YUGOSLAV MACEDONIA : AUSTRALIAN TV ACCUSED OF ' 'BULGARIAN  
FALSIFICATIONS' '

FROM FILE 201/6/6

START OF SUMMARY

TANJUG, THE OFFICIAL YUGOSLAV NEWS AGENCY, TODAY (6 FEBRUARY) CARRIED  
A REPORT ACCUSING AUSTRALIAN TELEVISION OF BROADCASTING BULGARIAN  
' 'FALSIFICATIONS OF HISTORY' ' WITH REGARD TO MACEDONIA. IT CLAIMS  
THAT THE SERIES CONSTITUTES AN INSULT TO THE NATIONAL PRIDE OF  
AUSTRALIANS OF SLAVIC ORIGIN, INCLUDING AUSTRALIA'S MACEDONIAN  
COMMUNITY. WE PREDICT AN OFFICIAL PROTEST.

END OF SUMMARY

TANJUG, THE OFFICIAL YUGOSLAV NEWS AGENCY, TODAY CARRIED THE  
FOLLOWING REPORT:

BEGINS...

AUSTRALIAN TV SHOWS BULGARIAN FALSIFICATIONS OF HISTORY  
BY MARTIN TRENEVSKI

SYDNEY, FEBRUARY 5 (TANJUG) - BULGARIA'S WELL-KNOWN PRACTICE --  
LAYING CLAIM TO THE CULTURES OF OTHER NATIONS -- HAS ONCE AGAIN  
SURFACED IN A TV SERIES ON THE HISTORY OF THE SOUTH SLAVS, SHOWN ON  
AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL TELEVISION IN LATE 86 AND EARLY 87.

THE BULGARIAN TV SERIES ABOUT THE SOUTH SLAVS, FROM THEIR ARRIVAL IN  
THE BALKANS TO MODERN TIMES, WOULD HAVE BEEN INTERESTING IF ITS

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BULGARIAN AUTHORS HAD NOT ADAPTED IT TO THE GREAT-BULGARIAN STATE HISTORIOGRAPHY BY GROSSLY FALSIFYING HISTORICAL FACTS IN THE OLD SOFIA TRADITION.

THE TV SERIES PORTRAYS THE BULGARIANS AS THE SAVIOURS OF THE OTHER + ILL-FATED + SOUTH SLAV PEOPLES. THE BULGARIANS, BY DEFEATING THEIR BROTHERS' ENEMIES, ALLEGEDLY ENABLED THEM TO FOUND THEIR FIRST STATES. THE ONLY SOUTH SLAVS MENTIONED, APART FROM THE BULGARIANS, ARE THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES WHILE THE EXISTENCE OF THE OTHER SOUTH SLAV PEOPLES -- MACEDONIANS AND MONTENEGRINS -- IS TOTALLY IGNORED

THE PARTS OF THE SERIES CONCERNING SLAV LITERACY AND LITERATURE CAN ONLY BE TERMED THE HEIGHT OF ARROGANCE. THE GREAT SLAV EDUCATORS, THE BROTHERS CYRIL AND METHODIUS, WERE AGAIN PROCLAIMED BULGARIAN. ALL THEIR CULTURAL MISSIONS WERE MENTIONED EXCEPT THE MOST SIGNIFICANT, BREGALNICA, DURING WHICH THE TWO BROTHERS CREATED THE FIRST SLAV ALPHABET, THE GLAGOLITIC, IN ORDER TO SPREAD CHRISTIANITY AMONG THE MACEDONIANS.

THE BREGALNICA MISSION HAS EVIDENTLY BEEN INTENTIONALLY OMITTED IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT ITS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT WOULD INDIRECTLY REPRESENT THE RECOGNITION OF THE MACEDONIAN NATION WHICH OFFICIAL SOFIA PERSISTANTLY NEGATES.

IN A SIMILAR FASHION, CLAIMS ARE MADE REGARDING ILLUSTRIOUS FIGURES OF MACEDONIAN CULTURE AND MACEDONIAN TOWNS IN YUGOSLAVIA. THE TOWN OF OHRID ON THE SHORES OF THE LAKE OHRID, IN SOUTHERN MACEDONIA. WITH ITS BEAUTIFUL MEDIEVAL MONASTERIES AND CHURCHES, WAS TERMED + FORMERLY BULGARIAN + AND THE CHILDREN LIVING TODAY + BULGARIAN CHILDREN +.

THE MOST DRASTIC EXAMPLE OF THE FALSIFICATION OF HISTORIC FACTS IN THE TV SERIES IS THE STORY OF + BULGARIAN + MONASTERIES AND CHURCHES. THE SERIES GOES SO FAR AS TO SHOW THE WALLS OF THE MONUMENTAL CHURCH OF + ST ILIJA + IN DOJRAN WHICH WAS LOOTED BY BULGARIAN VANDALS AND SUBSEQUENTLY BURNED DOWN DURING THE BALKAN WAR AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CENTURY.

THE FACT THAT THE SERIES IS BULGARIAN IS HARDLY SURPRISING, WHAT IS SURPRISING IS THAT IT WAS MADE IN COPRODUCTION WITH THE ITALIAN (RAI) AND SHOWN ON AUSTRALIAN TV. ALTHOUGH THE ITALIANS, PERHAPS, WERE NOT AWARE THAT THEY WERE JOINING IN A GREAT-BULGARIAN CHAUVINIC PROJECT IT DOES NOT DIMINISH THEIR RESPONSIBILITY.

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IT IS ALSO IMPERMISSIBLE THAT THE AUSTRALIAN TV ACCEPTED TO SHOOT THE SERIES WITH NO REGARD FOR THE FACT THAT IT CONSTITUTED AN INSULT TO THE NATIONAL PRIDE OF MANY AUSTRALIANS OF SLAV ORIGIN, INCLUDING 200,000 MACEDONIANS.

...ENDS

2. THE REPORT COMES AT A TIME WHEN THE MACEDONIAN ISSUE IS AGAIN COMPLICATING YUGOSLAV-BULGARIAN RELATIONS (NOT THAT THE ISSUE IS EVER FAR AWAY IN THE RELATIONSHIP).

. YESTERDAY (5 FEBRUARY) AT THE MFA'S WEEKLY NEWS CONFERENCE, OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN STANIC AGAIN DENOUNCED BULGARIA FOR IRREDENTIST PRETENSIONS TOWARD MACEDONIA, A STATEMENT OCCASION BY THE BROADCASTING OF A BULGARIAN TELEVISION DOCUMENTARY WHICH ALLEGEDLY PORTRAYS TWO PROMINENT NINETEENTH-CENTURY MACEDONIAN FIGURES AS BULGARIANS.

3. PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF THE ABOVE, WE WOULD BE VERY SURPRISED IF THE YUGOSLAVS DO NOT LODGE A PROTEST.

4. IN ORDER TO ASSIST US IF ANY SUCH PROTEST EVENTUATES - AND IN CASE THE AMBASSADOR IS SUBJECT TO ANY ENQUIRIES IN BULGARIA NEXT WEEK - GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD SEND US BACKGROUND TO THE PROGRAMME, AND TELL US ON WHICH NETWORK IT WAS BROADCAST. OUR GUESS WOULD BE SBS.

5. PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL IF WE RECEIVED REPLY BEFORE AMBASSADOR'S DEPARTURE FOR BULGARIA, I.E. BY 1200 GMT TUESDAY, 10 FEBRUARY.

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FAS(EANA)	CN	EEU	MPR	FAS(EPPD) EX
ISPP	PPA	DPR	SDA	FAS(IRSAM) IH
IL	FAS(CMD)	SAS	FAREP-P	FAREP-S

BEIJING	BONN	BRUSSELS	GENEVA	LONDON	MOSCOW	ROME	STOCKHOLM
TOKYO	VIENNA	WARSAW	WASHINGTON				

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RR ATHENS/802 BERNE/282 STOCKHOLM/205

FM. BELGRADE /

C O N F I D E N T I A L

YUGOSLAVIA : EMIGRE ACTIVITIES

FROM FILE 401/1, 201/6/6

START OF SUMMARY

WE HAVE RECEIVED AN ACCOUNT OF EMIGRE ACTIVITIES IN AUSTRALIA FROM THE YUGOSLAV INTERIOR MINISTRY. ALLEGATIONS (WHICH ARE SELF-SERVING) HAVE BEEN MADE ABOUT THE INVOLVEMENT OF OTHER FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SERVICES. THERE IS CONCERN IN BELGRADE ABOUT THE EMERGENCE OF AN ANTI-YUGOSLAV COALITION CONSISTING OF CROATIAN AND KOSOVAN SEPARATISTS.

END OF SUMMARY

YOU WILL RECALL THAT WHEN HOYLE SPOKE TO INTERIOR MINISTER CULAFIC ON 26 JUNE (O.BG041737) THE MINISTER INVITED US TO FOLLOW UP ANY MATTERS WITH HIS SECURITY ADVISER, DJORDJEVIC. THIS SHANNON DID ON 24 JULY. WE SAID WE WERE INTERESTED IN MORE DETAIL ON MACEDONIAN AND ALBANIAN/KOSOVAN ACTIVITIES. DJORDJEVIC APPEARED TO HAVE HAD PREPARED SPECIAL BRIEFING FOR THE MEETING AND WAS ACCOMPANIED BY WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS HIS FOREIGN LIAISON ADVISER, SIMONOVIC.

MACEDONIA (UNDERLINED)

2. YUGOSLAVIA FIRST RECORDED MACEDONIAN SEPARATIST ACTIVITY IN AUSTRALIA IN 1971 WHEN SEVERAL KNOWN ACTIVISTS VISITED SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE. HOWEVER, THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF ACTIVITY OF ANY IMPORTANCE, UNTIL AROUND 1978.

3. SINCE 1978 A NUMBER OF ORGANISATIONS HAVE EMERGED.

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- THE MOVEMENT TO LIBERATE AND UNITE MACEDONIA (DOOM). (UNDERLINED) THIS WAS A PRO-INDEPENDENCE/SEPARATIST GROUP. IN 1984 IT CHANGED ITS NAME TO THE NATIONAL ORGANISED FRONT OF MACEDONIA (NOFM). (UNDERLINE SIX). NOFM PRODUCES THE NEWSPAPER ''MACEDONIAN NATION''. THE ORGANISATION CALLS FOR THE RECOGNITION OF MACEDONIA AS A SEPARATE, INDEPENDENT NATION WHICH SHOULD ENCOMPASS ''GREATER MACEDONIA'', THAT IS, IN ADDITION TO THE REGION COVERED BY THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA WITHIN THE SFYR, THE NATION SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE THE MACEDONIAN PARTS OF BULGARIA, GREECE AND SERBIA.

NOFM HAS ITS STRONGHOLD IN MELBOURNE BUT HAS SEPARATE COMMITTEES IN ADELAIDE, SYDNEY AND PORT KEMBLA.

THE YUGOSLAVS HAVE NO EVIDENCE THAT THE ORGANISATION DOES ANYTHING OTHER THAN GENERATE PROPAGANDA.

- IN THE LATE SEVENTIES A PRO-BULGARIAN MACEDONIAN GROUP WAS FORMED CALLED THE MACEDONIAN PATRIOTIC ORGANISATION (MPO). (UNDERLINED 5) THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT THE BULGARIAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE WAS INVOLVED IN ITS FORMATION. THE MPO TAKES THE LINE THAT MACEDONIA IS PART OF ''GREATER BULGARIA''. THE ORGANISATION IS POORLY FINANCED AND HAS NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN ORGANISING.

- . IN 1978 A GROUP SPLIT FROM THE MPO TO CALL ITSELF THE NATIONAL MACEDONIAN REVOLUTIONARY ORGANISATION (NMRO) (UNDERLINE FIVE). THIS GROUP ALTHOUGH OSTENSIBLY ANARCHIST, WAS ASSOCIATED WITH THE BULGARIAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE. IN DJORDJEVIC'S OPINION IT WAS EITHER AN ATTEMPT EITHER TO ISOLATE ''UNPRODUCTIVE ELEMENTS'' IN THE NMRO OR TO CONFUSE THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY.

- . IN THE LAST 5-6 MONTHS THE YUGOSLAVS BELIEVED THERE WAS EVIDENCE OF INCREASING INVOLVEMENT OF THE GREEK EMBASSY IN CANBERRA IN A GROUP CALLED ''PAN MACEDONIKA (PM). PM SOUGHT TO PORTRAY THE GREEK HERITAGE OF MACEDONIANS TO ARGUE THAT MACEDONIAN CULTURAL OBJECTS IN OVERSEAS MUSEUMS IN PARTICULAR SHEN ''GREEK'' IN ORIGIN. IT TARGETTED AUSTRALIAN LIBRARIES AND CULTURAL CENTRES IN ADDITION TO THE GREEK MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY.

4. DJORDJEVIC DID NOT REGARD THE ACTIVITIES OF ANY OF THESE GROUPS AS SERIOUS AT THE MOMENT. HE MERELY WANTED TO DRAW OUR ATTENTION TO THE POTENTIAL THESE VARIOUS COMPETING GROUPS HAD FOR CAUSING MISCHIEF WITHIN THE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY AND TO THE INVOLVEMENT OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS (WE THOUGHT IT INAPPROPRIATE TO ASK ABOUT YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT).

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IN

ALBANIA/KOSOVO (UNDERLINED)

5. A NUMBER OF EITHER PRO-REPUBLIC OR PRO-INDEPENDENCE KOSOVO GROUPS HAD BEEN FORMED AMONGST OVERSEAS ALBANIAN EMIGRE GROUPS IN RECENT YEARS. THE BEST ORGANISED APPEARED TO BE THE MOVEMENT FOR AN ALBANIAN REPUBLIC IN YUGOSLAVIA (UNDERLINE SEVEN). ITS POLITICS WERE 'EXTREME LEFTIST'. ALL THE GROUPS APPEARED TO HAVE CONNECTIONS WITH THE ALBANIAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE - EITHER BEING EXPLICITLY DIRECTED OR RECEIVING PROPAGANDA MATERIAL.

6. DJORDJEVIC THOUGH THE GROUPS OPERATING IN AUSTRALIA WERE VERY SMALL AND HAD LITTLE IMPACT. THEY WERE MORE EFFECTIVE IN SWITZERLAND, SWEDEN AND BELGIUM. THEY HAD ALREADY FORMED SOME LINKS WITH CROATIAN EXTREMIST GROUPS. THERE WAS A GROUP IN THE UNITED STATES CALLED THE 'ALBANIA-CROATIA SOCIETY', WHICH TALKED ABOUT THE NEED FOR ARMED STRUGGLE. THE EMERGENCE OF A COALITION OF ANTI-YUGOSLAV GROUPS WAS OF GREAT CONCERN TO THE GOVERNMENT AND DJORDJEVIC IMPLIED THAT IT WOULD TAKE WHATEVER MEASURES WERE NECESSARY TO PREVENT SUCH A DEVELOPMENT.

CROATIA (UNDERLINED)

7. DJORDJEVIC WAS AWARE OF THE DPP HAVING WRITTEN TO DEDIC AND SAID MINISTER CULAFIC HAD COMMENTED FAVOURABLY. THE GOVERNMENT HOWEVER WOULD LIKE TO SEE DEDIC PROSECUTED..

. HE WAS ONE OF THE INTERNATIONAL LEADERS OF THE CROATIAN STATEHOOD MOVEMENT (HDP) (UNDERLINE FOUR) WHICH WAS KNOWN TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH TERRORIST ACTIVITY.

. YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES HAD FOLLOWED DEDIC'S MOVEMENTS IN EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES EARLIER THIS YEAR. THERE WAS NO DOUBT ABOUT HIS CONTACTS WITH TERRORISTS. HE HAD OFFERED FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO A NUMBER OF GROUPS.

CHETNIKS (UNDERLINED)

8. DJORDJEVIC FORESHADOWED AN EXTRADITION REQUEST WOULD BE MADE IN RESPECT OF DJUCIC, THE RADICAL SERBIAN ORTHODOX PRIEST. (DJUCIC RESIDES IN CHICAGO AND PRESUMABLY THE REQUEST WOULD BE MADE OF THE UNITED STATES.)

SERVICE-TO-SERVICE CONTACTS (UNDERLINED)

9. DJORDJEVIC MADE ANOTHER STRONG PITCH TO RE-ESTABLISH (HIS WORD) SERVICE TO SERVICE CONTACTS. THE SAID THERE WERE REGULAR CONTACTS WITH THE FRENCH, GERMAN, AUSTRIAN AND ITALIAN SERVICES.

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ANTI-YUGOSLAV TERRORISM HAD BEEN DISCUSSED WITH THE FRENCH INTERIOR MINISTER IN BELGRADE LAST WEEK.

10. WE WERE EVASIVE IN RESPONSE.

COMMENT (UNDERLINED)

11. THE FOREGOING MAY ADD LITTLE NEW TO YOUR RECORDS BUT IT COULD GIVE YOU INSIGHTS INTO HOW CLOSELY YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES FOLLOW EVENTS IN AUSTRALIA. ALLEGATIONS ABOUT THE INVOLVEMENT OF OTHER INTELLIGENCE SERVICES NEED TO BE TAKEN WITH SOME CAUTION SINCE THEY ARE UNDOUBTEDLY SELF-SERVING. WE MADE NO COMMENT AT ALL ABOUT DEDIC APART FROM NOTING THAT THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD DECIDE FOR ITSELF WHETHER HE HAD BROKEN ANY LAWS.

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IN  
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IN

## THE MACEDONIAN QUESTION

73/6/3

7. Dispute with Greece over Macedonia

Summary: Yugoslavia has long quarreled with Bulgaria over Macedonia and is now involved in a dispute with Greece on the same subject. A book recently published in Athens denied the existence of a separate Macedonian nation and was given an important award by the Greek Academy of Sciences. The Yugoslav media criticized the book and deplored the fact that Yugoslav citizens born in Macedonia have been refused entry visas to Greece. The Yugoslavs were also scandalized when the Greek government prohibited all Greek students from studying at Skopje University.

\* \* \*

Bulgaria is not the only country being castigated by Yugoslavia for not recognizing the existence of a separate Macedonian nation; Greece has now come under attack for discriminating against Macedonians. In July 1984 Yugoslav citizens of Macedonian origin, whose parents were born in Yugoslavia, were turned away from the Greek border for indicating on their registration cards that they were "ethnic Macedonians." A Zagreb daily reported last July that Macedonians trying to get visas for Greece at the Greek Consulate in Skopje were treated like "second-class citizens"; and "the Macedonians who were 'unfortunately' born in the part of Macedonia that now belongs to Greece have even been treated as third-class citizens." They were simply forbidden to enter Greece, the Zagreb paper said.<sup>1</sup>

A speech by Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou to a PASOK gathering last November gives a good indication of the strained relations between Greece and Yugoslavia. Papandreou extolled his country's "good relations" with all its neighbors but failed to mention Yugoslavia at all, which was interpreted in Athens as a sign of Greek annoyance over the continual attempts in Skopje to bring up the Macedonian issue.

Yugoslav-Greek relations seemed to reach a new nadir after *The Falsification of Macedonia's History* by Nikolaos Martis was published in Athens and was given an important award at the end of March by the Greek Academy of Sciences. According to Zlatko Blajer, the Skopje daily *Nova Makedonija's* permanent correspondent in Athens, Martis's book was given the award "for having denied the existence of the Macedonian nation." In justifying the award, the Greek Academy said that "the denial of the Greek character of Macedonia has always been a malicious intention of foreign countries and organizations."<sup>2</sup>

"Almost 300,000 Macedonians in Greece." According to General Mihajlo Apostolski, a member of the Macedonian Academy of Sciences, there are about 200,000 Macedonians in Bulgaria and 300,000 in Greece. Apostolski said a year ago that the Greeks were ready to recognize the existence of only 100,000 linguistically Slavic people in Greece. He also criticized the Papandreou government for forbidding Greek students to study at the University of Skopje:

This is a strange and absurd decision. Greece has recognized Yugoslavia as a sovereign country, on the one hand, yet it has forbidden its students to study at the University of Skopje.<sup>3</sup> In this way, Athens has tied its own hands in its diplomatic relations with Yugoslavia. It is a fact that the Socialist Republic of Macedonia is a part of Yugoslavia, together with the other republics. He who does not recognize Macedonia does not recognize Yugoslavia or its constitution. I think this was a hasty move by some Greek bureaucratic agencies. They will have to annul this decision sometime in the future if they really want to maintain good relations with Yugoslavia.<sup>4</sup>

General Apostolski went so far as to compare Papandreou with the "colonels' reactionary forces," whose way of thinking was allegedly still felt in Greece. As far as Nikolaos Martis is concerned, Blajer said that he fought communist guerrilla forces during the civil war (1945-1949) "as a monarchist" and that in the pre-Papandreou era he had been the Minister for Northern Greece.

"The Macedonian Language--A 'Strange Mixture.'" Martis was castigated for claiming that the Macedonian language was "a strange mixture of Albanian, Bulgarian, Serbian, Wallachian, and Greek." This is why he was amazed that "certain foreign universities have been misled into studying the Macedonian language, a Slavic dialect turned into a new language in 1945." Blajer quoted Martis as having asked:

How is it possible that foreign universities do not know that the language of the Macedonians is the Greek language, the one spoken by Aristotle. . . ? Without World War II or the collapse of Royal Yugoslavia, that is, without the Yugoslav CP's assumption to power [in 1945], the Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia would never have been created.<sup>5</sup> ?

Although the Macedonian question has often burdened relations between the two countries, the Greeks have always denied its existence. Unlike Sofia, which considers all Macedonians to be Bulgarians, the Greeks maintain that "Macedonia" is a purely geographical term and that people living in Greek Macedonia are "pure Greeks," even though they speak a Slavic dialect. The Greeks do not accept "Macedonians" as a

separate ethnic group, which is similar to the Bulgarian theory; but they do not recognize the Bulgarians as an ethnic group living in Greece either.

In short, Yugoslavia's polemics over Macedonia are not confined to those with Sofia; Athens is also involved in the controversy. The Yugoslavs are doubtlessly vexed with the attitude of Papandreou's "socialist government" on this matter as well as with the problems it creates over entry visas for Macedonians, at a time when it is preaching about "good relations among neighbors" in the Balkans.

Slobodan Stankovic

- 1 *Vjesnik* (Zagreb), 14 July 1984.
- 2 *Nova Makedonija* (Skopje), 30 March 1985.
- 3 According to the Belgrade daily *Vecernje Novosti* of 12 April 1985, there are about 6,000 Greek students at various Yugoslav universities and 5,000 in Belgrade alone. On 15 November 1982 the Greek government banned Greek students from studying at Skopje University in Macedonian, "an internationally unknown language." Bulgaria and Greece were thus the only two countries in the world, the paper said, that did not recognize the existence of a separate Macedonian language.
- 4 *Duga* (Belgrade), 10 March 1984.
- 5 *Nova Makedonija*, 30 March 1985.

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FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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SUBJECT. YUGOSLAV-BULGARIAN RELATIONS: THE MACEDONIAN QUESTION

Discussion of the opposing Yugoslav and Bulgarian viewpoints on the Macedonian question took up a large part of the official calls made by S.A. Minister for Ethnic Affairs, Mr C.J. Sumner, on his recent visits to Skopje and Sofia. The subject was repeatedly raised by officials in both cities, all of them making the point that the subject was of particular importance in the Minister's area of responsibility. Although the discussions added nothing new to the argument of either side, they were a reminder that this issue, involving Greece as well as Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, remains an irritant in intra-Balkan relations.

2. Macedonian Vice-Premier Točo Tulevski began his commentary by explaining that "Greater Macedonia" also included a large part of Western Macedonia and Northern Greece. He, and other officials in Skopje, continually referred to these areas as "the other parts of Macedonia". He calculated the number of Macedonians in Bulgaria as about 200,000, but would not hazard an estimate for Greece. Tulevski praised Australia's policy of multiculturalism, but warned that "misleading Greek and Bulgarian propoganda on the Macedonian issue" being circulated in the migrant community in Australia was perpetuating a quarrel which migrants "should have left behind them in Europe".

3. The criticisms of Macedonian Republican President of the International Relations Committee, Simoski, were largely directed against Greece. Simoski considered that while Papandreou himself showed a more enlightened attitude on the question, "strongly chauvinist" elements in Greece still prevented acknowledgement of the rights of the Macedonian minority. He referred to a new Greek law on recognition of foreign academic qualifications which, he said, was specifically directed against the University of Skopje and which had reduced the number of Greek Macedonian students studying there from over 1,000 to less than 70.

4. Boge Sotirovski, President of the Macedonian Home Office for Migrants, lauded Australia's support for the teaching of Macedonian as a community language, saying that this "righted a wrong" suffered by the Macedonians for many centuries, and acknowledged their distinct cultural heritage. He stated that the primary aim of his organization was "the free association of ethnic Macedonians abroad"

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and complained that Greek and Bulgarian representatives in Australia continually sought to divide the community. He cited Adelaide as a problem area in this respect, referring particularly to the activities of a former Greek Consul-General.

5. The call on Archbishop Angelarij of the Orthodox Church of Ohrid and Macedonia and other Church officials underlined that Church's key role as a focal point of Macedonian nationalism, in Australia as well as in Yugoslavia. Two of the clergy present had spent some years working in the migrant communities in Sydney and Melbourne, and spoke in the same terms as had the government officials earlier, of Greek "interference" in their activities there. They acknowledged that their Church's relations with the Greek and Bulgarian Orthodox Churches were completely overshadowed by differences on the Macedonian problem. (In the Church's case, a further dimension is added to the problem by the Serbian Orthodox's Church refusal to recognize the independence of the Macedonian Church. This refusal, a member of the Macedonian LC Central Committee declared last week, "lends support to factors and activities which are hostile towards our country and its integrity" - a singularly rare declaration of common Church-State interests for Yugoslavia).

5. A series of senior Bulgarian officials also dwelt at length on the subject, mainly in the context of general Yugoslav-Bulgarian relations, which Vice-Foreign Minister Popov described as "not very good". The Bulgarians were at pains to emphasize that they had made no territorial claims on (Yugoslav) Macedonia as Yugoslavia was continually stating. Popov gave the view that the Macedonian issue was a fiction resurrected whenever Yugoslavia wanted to direct attention from its internal problems and that the so-called Macedonian language was merely a regional variant of Bulgarian, "closer than Serbian is to Croatian". He claimed that Yugoslav Foreign Affairs Minister Mojsov, a prominent theorist in the Macedonian cause, had registered his nationality as Bulgarian when enrolling at Sofia University. His enrolment form had "somehow got into the hands of some French journalist" and had been published in the French press last year. (We have not been able to verify this anecdote, but it does give some idea of the tone of Popov's comments.)

6. The issue was again raised by Dimitrov of the BCP Central Committee Department for International Relations and Matev of the Committee for Bulgarians Abroad. Matev, like his counterpart in Skopje, said that the problem was particularly relevant to the migrant community in Adelaide, although he of course took the line that it was interference by Yugoslav representatives which was sowing discord there.

7. (Comment) There may be a number of reasons why the Macedonian question was accorded such prominence in

officials' statements to the Minister. It was apparent in both Skopje and Sofia that Adelaide was seen as a centre of Macedonian-Greek-Bulgarian polemics in Australia; although the number of migrants from the region in Adelaide is small, it appears that the various factions are active in support of their respective causes. Mr Sumner's itinerary was also doubtlessly noted with interest and made officials on each side of the question the more anxious to put across their views. Finally, the distinctly sour tone of Bulgarian officials' comments on Yugoslavia reflected irritation at a range of foreign policy differences: the two countries' opposing approaches to the concept of Balkan Co-operation and the Nuclear Free Zone in particular; Yugoslav support of Eurocommunism in West Europe (and frank condemnation of the pro-Soviet breakaway group of the Spanish Communist Party); and the present harmony in US/Yugoslav relations apparent during President Špiljak's recent visit to America, which had just concluded when Mr Sumner visited Bulgaria.

*Janet Gardiner*

(Janet Gardiner)  
Third Secretary

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of Stambulov (1894); the Bulgarian nationalists had reason to believe that the Russian government would attempt to restore the Bulgaria of the San Stefano treaty. In March 1895 a Supreme Committee for Macedonia and Adrianople (Vrkhoven Makedonski Odrinski Komitet) was formed at Sofia; its aim was to prepare the incorporation of the whole of Macedonia and the province of Adrianople into Bulgaria. Ferdinand was not opposed to the idea of maintaining a pro-Bulgarian agitation in Macedonia and Thrace but ordered his war ministry to keep the V.M.R.O. and the Supreme committee under control. This, he thought, should be simple, because both were to be supplied with money and arms from Sofia. The first president of the Supreme committee was Traiko Kytanchev, but, as the real power was in the hands of the war ministry, the position of president was not easy and changes were frequent. From 1899 the president of the committee was Boris Sarafov (1872?-1907). His main task was to send guerrilla bands (hence the name of *komitaji* or "committeemen") into Macedonia to coerce the population into declaring itself Bulgarian and to make certain that the V.M.R.O. would follow Sofia's line.

Sofia was not the only Balkan capital from which such irredentist activity was organized in Macedonia. Athens was disconcerted by the progress of Bulgarian propaganda. The Greek religious and educational organizations were well established but fighting a defensive battle. To counteract the Bulgarian activities and also to bring about a war with Turkey, a newly formed Ethniki Etairia was sending guerrilla bands of *andartai* into Macedonia. These succeeded in provoking the Greco-Turkish War (*q.v.*) of 1897, which ended in the complete defeat of Greece and thus benefited the Bulgarian movement. By then the Turks were sufficiently informed about the underground activities of the V.M.R.O. and of the Supremists; to counterbalance their influence the Porte inclined to favour other nationalities. Serbia, cut off from expansion in Bosnia-Herzegovina by the Austrian occupation, could look only southward. The patriotic society Narodna Odbrana ("National Defense"), controlled by the ministry of war, started sending *cheti* (companies) of underground fighters into Macedonia to encourage a pro-Serbian movement among the Macedonian Slavs, and a Serbian source mentions the names of Jovan Dovezenski, Djordje Skopljanec, Gligor Sokolovic and Jovan Babunski (Stojkovic) as the most famous *chetnitsi*. At the same time Belgrade began to agitate for the restoration of the Serbian patriarchate of Pec; a prolonged conflict with the Phanar secured only the appointment of a Serb, Msgr. Firmilian Drazic, as archbishop of Skopje in 1902. In 1905 a Rumanian bishop was appointed at Bitola. At that time there were about 40 Rumanian schools in Macedonia, including a *gymnasium* at Bitola founded in 1866 by the priest Apostol Margaritis. The Bulgars did not like this Serbian and Rumanian trespassing into a land that they considered their own; but they concentrated their efforts on combating the Greeks and the Grekomans (as they called pro-Greek Macedonian Slavs). At this time it was Lambros Koromylas, the Greek consul general at Salonika, who directed the whole secret organization of agents and bands upholding Hellenism against the Bulgars.

The terrorist activities of Bulgarian, Greek, Serbian and Turkish elements created so serious a situation in Macedonia that on Feb. 21, 1903, the Russian and Austro-Hungarian ambassadors presented identical notes to the Porte demanding the appointment of an inspector general for the three Macedonian *vilayets* and the reorganization of the *gendarmerie* with the aid of foreign officers. Sultan Abdul-Hamid II accepted the scheme, and the Sofia government, under Russian pressure, pretended to have dissolved the Supreme committee.

The V.M.R.O., however, was unreachable, and on Aug. 2 a general rising started in Macedonia, no doubt inspired by Sofia. The Supremist agents assured Gruev and Delchev that, once the insurgents had tied down a sufficient number of Turkish forces, the Bulgarian army would intervene. By the end of September, however, the rising was suppressed and the Bulgarian army, although partly mobilized, did not cross the frontier. Having achieved a complete surprise, the insurgents had some initial successes but they were eventually defeated. According to Bulgarian sources, the insurgents numbered 15,000, of whom 948 were killed as compared with

3,087 Turk. killed. Turkish repression was ruthless; 105 Macedonian villages comprising 9,830 houses were destroyed, 100,000 noncombatant Macedonian Slavs were shot and 60,953 rendered homeless. Thousands fled to Bulgaria, and their leaders complained of having been betrayed by Sofia. But Ferdinand was gratified because, he thought, the federalist tendencies of the V.M.R.O. had suffered a decisive blow so that thenceforward it would be easy to control.

On Oct. 9, 1903, the Russian and Austro-Hungarian governments submitted to the Porte a second part of their reform plan, called after the place where the emperors Nicholas II and Francis Joseph I met, the Mürzsteg program; this also was accepted by the Russian and Austrian civil advisers were attached to Hussein Pasha, the Turkish inspector general of Macedonia, and an Italian general was entrusted with the reorganization of the *gendarmerie*.

In 1905 Hilmi carried out in the three *vilayets* the first census of population since the Turkish conquest, which disclosed the following results: Muslims 1,720,007; Greeks 648,962; Bulgars 537,000; Serbs 167,601; Jews and others 77,386; total 3,171,690. The "Muslims" were included Turks and Albanians inhabiting the western part of the Bitola *vilayet* and the northwestern part of the Kosovo *vilayet*; under "Greeks," all the "Patriarchists," i.e., Greeks of Greek, Slavonic or Rumanian speech; under "Serbs," only those attending Serbian churches and schools, who were confined to the northern and northwestern districts of the Kosovo *vilayet*.

A Bulgarian source, dealing with Macedonia proper (i.e., excluding the Albanian and "Old Serbian" *sanjaks* of the Bitola and Kosovo *vilayets*), gave the following figures for 1905: in a total population estimated at 2,258,224, there were 1,370,949 Christians, 819,235 Muslims and 68,040 Jews. From the point of view of nationalities, this source stated that there were 1,181,336 Bulgars, 499,204 Turks, 228,702 Greeks, 128,711 Albanians, 80,767 Jews, 68,040 Jews, 54,557 gypsies, 700 Serbs and 16,207 others (Armenians, Circassians, etc.).

In June 1908, when King Edward VII paid a visit to Nicholas II at Reval (Tallinn), an Anglo-Russian program of limited autonomy for Macedonia was prepared; but one month later the bloodless revolution of the Young Turks broke out. The internal conflicts between the various nationalities in Macedonia came temporarily to a standstill. Using this opportunity, Bulgaria proclaimed itself independent and Ferdinand took the title of tsar. The hopes of Macedonian populations that the new Turkish regime would grant them territorial autonomy were disappointed. The policy pursued by the Young Turks, who attempted to transform a multinational Ottoman empire into a national Turkish state, brought about a gradual *rapprochement* between the governments of Bulgaria, Serbia and Greece. This *rapprochement* was converted in the summer of 1912 into a military alliance, and in October the allies, declaring that promises of reform in Macedonia and elsewhere had not been fulfilled, attacked Turkey.

**The Balkan Wars and World War I.**—Bulgaria and Serbia concluded an agreement stipulating that Bulgaria should annex "the territory east of the Rhodope mountains and the river Struma while Serbia was to annex the lands lying "north and west of the Sar Planina." But so great was their mutual distrust that the agreement could be reached as to the destiny of the main bulk of Macedonia. The Serbo-Bulgarian treaty of March 13, 1912, stipulated that, if autonomy for the rest of Macedonia were found to be impossible, the two states were to accept a partition along a line running roughly southwestward from Kriva Palanka through Veles to Ohrid; alternatively, the Russian emperor would be asked to arbitrate and fix the Serbo-Bulgarian frontier in Macedonia. Between Greece and Bulgaria the feud was even deeper; and no previous agreement had been reached as to the ultimate distribution of territory to be taken from Turkey. Such a situation was fraught with danger, and, after the Balkan league's victorious campaign against the Turks, the Bulgars, on June 29, 1913, suddenly turned on their allies. Defeated by both Serbs and Greeks, attacked from the rear by the Rumanians, the Bulgars had to sue for peace. (See BALKAN WARS.) By the treaty of Bucharest of Aug. 10, 1913, Macedonia was divided: Greece took the southern half of Macedonia with a new northern frontier running from Lake Prespa through

to Lake... and the lower... with the Iirin... World War... and of re... entered the... and rapidly... parts of Serbia... but only in 19... which le... treaty of Neuil... unchanged... (Strumica) to... 13,361 sq... Bulgarian or... the 1920s and 19... Balkan W... of population... had fled or b... Bulgarian Mace... 1918; and i... had withdraw... moreover, a... Bulgars left the east... Slavophones... A much mo... under the Lausanne... great in Anatolia: 3... of the 1,222,000... their place.

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Yugoslav securit... more difficul... exploit the organiz... among Bulgarian p... when a governmen... Velchev took powe... were arrested at... Turkey, whence he... World War II:... in 1941 by the A... Macedonia; a few... into Albania... Italians, while Sal... occupied the gas cl... On July 12, 194... Zaslavov, on beha... as Ionnidis, on be...

World War II:... in 1941 by the A... Macedonia; a few... into Albania... Italians, while Sal... occupied the gas cl... On July 12, 194... Zaslavov, on beha... as Ionnidis, on be...

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... a narrow northern ... g Serbian dialect ... bulgarian, and ... ost populous ... pguage. ... are a fixed acco ... t, "the mill") ... owels: a from the ... son singular of ... "to have" ( ... ions with definite ... ve it to him ... : woman," žen ... ).

... Macedonian Liter ... ionskiot literar ... jazik (1965); ... vol. (1961-66); ... rečnik (1963). ... (H. G. L.) ... given to the ... across or arou ... onsiderations ... ns. The populatio ... ave been large ... ixtures; but ... edonia in the ... introduced. Wh ... A.D. into eastern ... the eastern ... t Constantinop ... nis time the pop ... osition was ... ars. The arriv ... r-reaching colo ... Greek. The ... y, and in the ... was included ... lves became ... garian empire ... of a local con ... the Comitop

... Macedonia; and one of them, Samuel, founded the empire some- ... described as the West Bulgarian, which comprised much of ... the Balkan peninsula. This was destroyed by the Byzantine em- ... II, who in 1018 brought all its territory back under ... le. (See BULGARIA: History.)

... Migratory movements and invasions continued. Nomadic ... found in Macedonia a region well suited to their mode of ... Turkic invaders, called Polovtsy by the Slavs and Kumans ... the Greeks, were crossing the Danube and entering Byzantine ... ; some of them settled in Macedonia and were later known ... Vardariotes. While the brothers Ivan and Peter Asen were ... the foundations of the second Bulgarian empire, the Nor- ... under William II of Sicily captured and sacked Salonika ... (1185). After the diversion of the fourth crusade to Constanti- ... in 1204, a Latin kingdom of Salonika was set up; but this ... overthrown in the 1220s by Theodore Angelus, the Greek ... of Epirus, who thereafter ruled over most of southern ... Macedonia and styled himself emperor of Salonika in opposition ... the Greek emperors of Nicaea. Theodore Angelus was in turn ... dethroned in 1230 by the Bulgarian tsar Ivan Asen II, who then an- ... toward southern Macedonia, except Salonika, to his own dominions; ... but the Bulgars were themselves defeated in 1246 by the Nicaean ... emperor John III Vatatzes, who then took for himself not only ... southern Macedonia but also much of what had been Bulgarian ... since the beginning of the century. In the 1280s the Serbs began ... to encroach on western Macedonia; and after their victory over ... the Bulgarian tsar Michael Shishman (1330) their ruler Stephen ... Dushan could pursue a series of campaigns against the Byzantines ... Greek rule in Constantinople had been restored by the Nicaeans ... (1261). By 1346, when Stephen Dushan was crowned "tsar ... of the Serbs and Greeks" at Skopje, all Macedonia except the ... vicinity of Salonika was in Serbian hands.

**Turkish Rule.**—The Ottoman Turks, meanwhile, had already ... begun to make incursions into the Balkans. They held most of ... Macedonia by 1371; and their victory at Kosovo in 1389 sealed ... the fate of the Serbian empire. Salonika fell into Turkish hands ... for the first time in 1387, for the second in 1391 and finally in 1430. ... The best lands in the plains were distributed among the Turkish ... chiefs and a system of feudal tenure was developed. The Christian ... peasants either were driven to the less fruitful regions or remained ... on the lands assigned to the Muslim lords, to whom they paid a ... (See SERBIA: History.)

The ethnic conditions of Macedonia were still further compli- ... cated. Large colonies of Turks were settled in the plains, while ... the Muslim Albanians (called Arnauts by the Turks and Shkipetars ... by the Serbs) spread eastward, occupying much land in western ... Macedonia. The Serbian element, which had been strengthened ... under Stephen Dushan, was weakened by the great northward emi- ... gration of 1691 and 1740. The national consciousness of Serbs ... and Bulgars alike suffered a heavy blow when the patriarchates of ... Preor or Ipek (Serbian) and of Ohrid (Bulgarian) were abolished ... in 1766 and 1767 respectively. From that time the spiritual con- ... sciousness of the Christian peoples in the Balkans became vested solely ... in the Greek Phanar or ecumenical patriarchate of Constantinople. ... The Greeks continued to live in towns controlling trade, but from ... the 16th century onward they had to face serious competition ... among the Sephardic Jews, who, expelled from Spain, founded ... prosperous communities at Salonika and in other Macedonian ... towns. There were also, as centuries before, Vlachs (called Kuts- ... ovlachs by the Greeks and Tsintsars by the Slavs) and a few Ar- ... menians.

With the decadence of the central power in the Ottoman empire ... the condition of the Christian population of Macedonia worsened. ... The reforms of 1839 and 1856, both of which proclaimed the ... equality of races and religions, remained unfulfilled. In 1864 ... Macedonia was divided into three *vilayets* or provinces; that of ... Salonika; that of Monastir (Bitola), which included parts of Al- ... bania; and that of Kosovo, with the capital at Uskub (Skopje), ... which protruded into "Old Serbia."

**The Resurgence of Bulgaria.**—In the 19th century the Rus- ... sian empire, in pursuance of its designs on Istanbul and the Turkish ... straits, presented itself in the Balkans in the guise of a liberator,

addressing itself in particular to the Bulgars. Russia started by ... pressing the Porte to agree to the creation of an autocephalous ... Orthodox Church for the Bulgarian people. After some resistance, ... the Porte acquiesced, hoping to strengthen its grip on the Balkans ... by dividing its Christian subjects. In 1870 Sultan Abdul-Aziz issued ... the firman creating the Bulgarian exarchate with jurisdiction ... over 15 dioceses: "Christian" and "Greek" were no longer synony- ... mous in European Turkey. The ecumenical patriarch succeeded ... in postponing for two years the appointment of the first Bulgarian ... exarch and then excommunicated him and his flock as schismatics.

In 1878, after a victorious campaign, Russia compelled Turkey ... to recognize the independence of Bulgaria. By the treaty of San ... Stefano (March 3), the new Bulgarian state was given the whole ... of Macedonia, except Salonika and the Khalkidhiki (Chalcidice) ... peninsula. But Great Britain had also its protégés in the Balkans ... and immediately and energetically vetoed this treaty as unfair to ... the Greeks of Macedonia. The treaty of Berlin (July 13), to which ... all the great powers were signatories, created in the northern part ... of the Danube *vilayet*, as Bulgaria was then styled, a Bulgarian ... principality with Sofia as capital under the suzerainty of the sultan; ... in the southern part was formed an autonomous province of Eastern ... Rumelia, with Plovdiv as capital, under a Christian governor ... appointed by the Porte, with the assent of the powers. Russian- ... sponsored Bulgaria was thus seriously reduced in size, but the ... Macedonian strongholds of Hellenism remained under Turkey.

The artificial division of Bulgaria into two units did not last ... long; on Sept. 18, 1885, Bulgarian nationalists deposed the gover- ... nor and proclaimed the union of Eastern Rumelia with Bulgaria. ... To the general surprise the coup succeeded, because Turkey ab- ... stained from intervening; and a Serbian attack on Bulgaria was ... very soon repulsed (see SERBO-BULGARIAN WAR). The Russian ... emperor, however, was offended because his protégé Alexander of ... Battenberg, first prince of Bulgaria, with the advice of Stefan ... Stambulov, then the speaker of the Bulgarian *sobranje*, had dared ... to proclaim the unification without asking for Russian help. To ... recover their influence in Sofia, the Russians organized a *coup ... d'état* on Aug. 21, 1886, which enforced Alexander's abdication. ... On July 7, 1887, Ferdinand of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha was elected ... second prince of Bulgaria. But clumsy Russian diplomacy only ... increased the Bulgarian people's spirit of independence. Stam- ... bulov, now premier, saw clearly that it was in Bulgaria's interest ... to establish friendly relations with Turkey; he was thus able to ... secure exequatur for Bulgarian bishops at Ohrid and Skopje in 1890 ... and at Veles and Nevrokop in 1894. In 1894 Ferdinand felt strong ... enough to dismiss Stambulov and to make his peace with Russia, ... but he continued to cultivate the good grace of the sultan, his ... suzerain. In 1898 Bulgarian prelates were appointed bishops of ... Bitola, Debar and Strumitsa. In 1900 Bulgaria had 785 schools in ... Macedonia; Serbia had only 178 and Greece 927.

**Komitaji, Andartai and Chetnitsi.**—The Sofia nationalists ... argued that the Slavs of Macedonia spoke a dialect akin to Bul- ... garian and therefore should be regarded as Bulgars and that all ... Macedonia should be incorporated into Bulgaria. The Belgrade ... nationalists affirmed that, as the Macedonian Slavs retained the ... custom of *slava* (feast of ancestors), common to all Serbs but not ... occurring among the Bulgars, they could not be genuine Bulgars, ... but were at best superficially bulgarized Serbs, whose land, it was ... argued, should be incorporated into a greater Serbia. The Greek ... nationalists maintained that the few hundred thousands of "Slavo- ... phones" whom they acknowledged to be in Macedonia were at- ... tracted by the superior Greek culture and considered themselves of ... Greek nationality. The Rumanians had no territorial claims in ... Macedonia but considered it useful to support the Vlachs, whom ... they called Arumanians.

The liberation of Macedonia from the Turks was desired by all ... non-Muslim Macedonians. To prepare it, a group of Macedo- ... Slavonic leaders, Dame Gruev (1871-1906), Gotse Delchev (1871- ... 1903), Yane Sandanski (1875-1915) and others, formed a secret ... Internal Macedonian Revolutionary organization (Vatreshna ... Makedonska RevolutSIONna Organizatsia or V.M.R.O.) in Salonika ... in Nov. 1893, which put forward a slogan of "Macedonia for the ... Macedonians" and the idea of a Balkan federation. After the fall

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(F)  
73/6/3

File No. 31/1/3

# DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Record of Conversation with H.E. Mr A. Vayenas, Greek Ambassador

on 20 January 1981

Officers Present Mr R.S. Laurie, A/g F.A.S. EANZ Division  
Mr B.J. Hitchcock, West Europe Section

MAIN SUBJECTS (S): PRIME MINISTER'S INVITATION, CULTURAL AGREEMENT, LIMITED DOUBLE TAXATION AGREEMENT, SOCIAL SECURITY AGREEMENT, USE OF THE TERM 'MACEDONIAN', VISIT OF MR CHRISTOYANNIS TO AUSTRALIA. GREEK ACCESSION TO THE EC

The Ambassador called at his request for a general discussion of outstanding bilateral issues. He began by mentioning that during his call on the Prime Minister he had repeated the invitation to the Prime Minister to visit Greece. Mr Laurie noted that the Prime Minister was very much aware of the invitation but had not yet given close consideration to his travel plans for 1981.

The Ambassador said that both the cultural agreement and the limited double taxation agreement on airline profits would be ratified in the near future. The tax agreement had now passed the Committee stage of consideration. The Ambassador noted however that an early resumption of flights to Australia by Olympic airways might facilitate the process as this would remove the onesided appearance of the agreement. Mr Laurie reiterated our concern that the tax agreement be ratified as soon as possible.

The Ambassador then raised the question of the use of the term 'Macedonian' by the Australian media. He said that the Greek community had been particularly upset by the use of the term 'Macedonian' in a recent television program. The Ambassador said that he discussed the matter with Mr Macphee who had promised to provide a written answer. Mr Laurie said that while the Government could explain the sensitivities involved to the Australian media it could not however give them directives in this regard. Mr Laurie suggested that the Ambassador might consider explaining the Greek point of view himself during his contacts with the public and the media. The Ambassador noted that corrections had been made to certain Government publications but urged that the matter continue to be treated seriously.

*Mr. Godfrey  
This also  
cuts across  
Yugoslav  
sensitivities.  
Mr  
28/1*

DISTRIBUTION: SEC → AS (EUR) ATHENS DEPT I.& E.A. .. /2  
DEP SECS AS (EP) TRANSPORT  
FAS (EANZ) AS (OEE) CERHOS (PM&C)  
FAS (ECO) AS (CIC) DEPT. OF SOC. SECURITY  
FAS (CIC) AS (ICR)

ACTION: EUR.

Report prepared by [Signature]  
(B.J. Hitchcock)

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Mr Laurie undertook to pass on the Ambassador's comments to the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs.

With regard to the proposed Social Security Agreement the Ambassador said that Greece was in a position to provide a fresh draft as soon as Australia indicated that it was ready to commence negotiations. He noted that some three years had passed since agreement had been reached in principle to proceed with an agreement. The Ambassador emphasised that Australia would benefit financially from the agreement as far more Greeks would return to Greece in their old age and would, under such an agreement, become the responsibility of the Greek Government. Mr Laurie undertook to inform the Ambassador of the progress made within the Government on consideration of this issue.

The Ambassador then mentioned that the Director of the Overseas Greek Division of MFA, Mr Christoyannis, would be attending a meeting of the Greek Orthodox Church in Sydney on Sunday 25 January at the invitation of the Archbishop. Mr Christoyannis would also visit Melbourne and Canberra. (He did not request any assistance with the visit).

The Ambassador also mentioned that an announcement was expected shortly regarding arrangements to bring the Alexander the Great Exhibition to Australia in 1983 or 84. He also noted that on 21 January he would be signing the building contract for the new Chancery and Residence in Yarralumla.

Asked about the Greek public's attitude towards membership of the EC the Ambassador said that the majority were in favour of membership as there would be clear benefits for Greece, particularly in the agricultural sector. The opposition party had changed its position from flat opposition to that of negotiating a better deal for Greek accession.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

~~3/13/16~~  
73/6/3

41

2 May 1977

Dear John,

As discussed on the telephone this morning I enclose a paper on 'Macedonia' for delivery to Mr Hamer's office before his departure on his overseas tour at the end of this week.

Yours sincerely,

(K.I. Gates)  
Head, West Europe Section

Mr A.J. Melhuish,  
Senior Foreign Affairs Representative,  
Flotta Lauro Building,  
486 Bourke Street,  
MELBOURNE, VIC. 3000



2/1/52  
2/2/52

2 Nov 1952

Dear John,

I enclosed a copy of the letter from the  
Director of the FBI, dated 10/29/52, for delivery to  
you. The letter is being delivered to you by  
mail at the end of this week.

Yours sincerely,

(S. J. Davis)  
S. J. Davis, Director

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
400 ...  
Washington, D.C.

Confidential

(F)

40

MACEDONIA

73/6/3.

The territory covered by the historical-geographical term 'Macedonia' has for long been an area of contention and competition between the powers that have figured in the history of the Balkans. Today it is divided among the states of Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Greece. Strategically located and ethnographically complex, Macedonia typifies the Balkan problem of conflicting interests and rival peoples.

Slav tribes settled in the region, an area considerably larger than Yugoslavia's Macedonian republic, in the seventh century, at which time the territory was under the control of the Eastern Empire. During the ninth century much of Macedonia was incorporated by the Bulgars into the first Bulgarian Empire. In the latter half of the tenth century the region again came under Byzantine domination, and was troubled by repeated uprisings of the Macedonian Slavs.

During the fourteenth century most of Macedonia was conquered by the Serbian ruler Stephen Dusan, who set up his capital at Skopje. After the death of Dusan the Serbian empire disintegrated and, following the battle of Kosovo in 1389, the major part of Macedonia came under Turkish control and remained so until the twentieth century.

As Bulgarian nationalism developed in the nineteenth century, the Bulgarians were successful in gaining Turkish approval for a separate Bulgarian Orthodox Church (the Exarchate). Since the authority of the Exarchate covered most of Macedonia and part of Serbia as well as Bulgaria, the church became a means of extending Bulgar influence, a fact particularly resented by the Serbs.

Rivalry between Serbs, Bulgars, Greeks and Turks increased in the late nineteenth century. Russian troops invaded Turkey in 1877 and dictated the terms of the Treaty of San Stefano (1878), which provided for a greatly enlarged autonomous Bulgaria that was to include most of Macedonia. Opposed by the Austro-Hungarian and British Governments the Treaty of San Stefano was quickly nullified by the Treaty of Berlin. This treaty, which disappointed almost all elements of the Balkan population, returned Macedonia to Turkey, established an independent but greatly reduced Bulgaria, and allowed Austro-Hungarian forces to occupy Bosnia and Hercegovina. The end result was to increase Serbian and Bulgarian rivalry in Macedonia, and Bulgaria continued to use the Treaty of San Stefano as a basis for its claims to the area.

Bulgarian, Serbian and Greek organisations launched intensive propaganda campaigns in Macedonia to strengthen their particular claims. In 1896 an underground independence movement, the Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organisation was organised within Macedonia. Torn between competing forces, the Macedonian peasants responded to the organisation's slogan 'Macedonia for the Macedonians!'

Competition over Macedonia eventually led to the Balkan Wars of 1912-1913. Montenegro, Serbia, Greece and Bulgaria joined together in a successful campaign to drive the Turks from Macedonia. However the victors were unable to reach agreement on the division of the territory and Bulgaria attacked the Greek and Serbian forces in Macedonia. A peace treaty, signed in Bucharest in 1913, ceded north and central Macedonia to Serbia, granted the southern region to Greece, and provided for a small extension of the Montenegro frontiers. Bulgaria retained a small portion of eastern Macedonia. The areas of old Macedonia that came under Serbia control in 1913 were included within the Serb territory in the Post World War I Kingdom of Yugoslavia. This area has been given the status of a republic in post World War II Yugoslavia.

In 1945 the Yugoslav Government put forward plans for a Balkan Federation which included the voluntary entry of Bulgaria into the Yugoslav federation as the seventh republic, as well as the incorporation of Albania and the Greek section of Macedonia. The Yugoslavs advocated the immediate incorporation of Bulgarian Macedonia into the Yugoslav Macedonian Republic. Although receptive to the principle of a union the Bulgarians insisted on a relationship of equality rather than submission to Yugoslavia. The proposal was deferred when Stalin expressed his disapproval of the concept of a Balkan Federation. In 1947 Tito renewed his efforts for the incorporation of Greek Macedonia whilst providing assistance to the Greek Communist rebels. Yugoslavia's break with the USSR effectively ended Yugoslavia's attempt to gain control of Greek and Bulgarian Macedonia.

Macedonia still exerts an influence on Balkan politics. Under the Yugoslav Constitution the rights of all minorities are guaranteed. Minorities, including Macedonians, may use their own language and script. This Constitutional enshrinement of the principle of the prevention of assimilation requires Yugoslavia to be seen by all its minorities to be

active in the protection of the national minority interests of any one of these minorities. This has led to Yugoslav/Bulgarian acrimony over Bulgarian Macedonia. Yugoslavia claims that a campaign of repression has been carried out and that public supporters of a distinct Macedonian nationality have been arrested by Bulgarian authorities. Yugoslavia has claimed that as well as denying national minorities the right to their own cultural life, Bulgarian policy includes pretensions to Yugoslav territory. Yugoslavia objected strongly to census figures released by Bulgaria which showed that the Macedonian component of the Bulgarian population had dropped from 180,000 in 1956 to 8,000 in 1965. Bulgaria has stated that it does not have any claim on Yugoslav territory and recognises the existence of the Republic of Macedonia within the Yugoslav state. However it has accused Yugoslavia of manufacturing a Macedonian nation. Macedonia remains as a significant obstacle to improved Yugoslav/Bulgarian relations.

The Macedonian issue involves Greece much less than Yugoslavia or Bulgaria. Population changes and 'hellenisation' by education, and other influences, have moved the linguistic line close to the Yugoslav border. Yugoslav/Greek relations are not adversely effected by the Macedonian issue, despite the fact that the Greek policy of hellenisation is similar to the Bulgarian policy of assimilation. The difference appears to be that the Greek position is less insensitively stated and that, historically, relations between Yugoslavia and Greece have been better than between Yugoslavia and Bulgaria.



73/6/3<sup>37</sup>  
(11)

Yugoslavs to Expand Macedonia's Foreign Broadcasts

The Yugoslav Macedonian Republic has begun construction of a powerful transmitter that will considerably increase the range of its radio and television broadcasting to neighboring countries.

The Yugoslavs say the new network--scheduled for completion in 1977--will broadcast both Macedonian and foreign language programs to an area more than ten times the size of Macedonia itself. This will invite squabbles with the Greek and Bulgarian governments, neither of which recognizes the existence of Macedonian minorities within their borders.

The more serious arguing over these broadcasts will certainly occur between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia, where the minority issue is intensified by suspicions that Sofia has irredentist intentions toward Macedonia.

(SECRET)

November 13, 1974

File 73/6/3

CONFIDENTIAL

THE MACEDONIAN PROBLEM

The Macedonian problem continues to be an issue in Yugoslav-Bulgarian relations, but there are indications that both Belgrade and Sofia want to freeze the problem and concentrate on improving bilateral co-operation.

The Macedonians, who consider themselves a distinct ethnic group, are dispersed over the terrain in which the frontiers of Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Greece join. Administered by three separate governments, the Macedonian people see themselves as a divided nation, and hope for eventual reunification under their own government. The largest group of the divided Macedonians forms a constituent republic of the Yugoslav Federation with Skopje as its capital. A smaller group of some 200,000 live in South Western Bulgaria, and a further group in northern Greece.

Macedonian nationalism is centred on Skopje. It is from there that the separate identity of the Macedonians is fostered, appeals for reunification disseminated, and the grievances of Macedonian minorities in Bulgaria and Greece ventilated. Macedonians in Bulgaria, a much smaller component of the Bulgarian population, have been obliged by the Bulgarian Government to renounce Macedonian identity or suffer economic discrimination. The attitude of the Bulgarian and Greek Macedonians towards the nationalism fostered in Skopje is hard to assess, but they would appear to prefer unification within the Republic of Macedonia to their present dispersal.

There is fundamental disagreement between Belgrade and Sofia as to the ethnic status of the Macedonians. Belgrade accepts that there is a separate Macedonian people with its own

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language and culture. Sofia, however, insists that all people calling themselves Macedonian are in fact members of the larger Bulgar group, which includes the people who live in the Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia, and that they should all rightly belong in Bulgaria. The Macedonians apparently feel a slightly greater ethnic affinity towards the Bulgars than to any of the nationalities comprising the Yugoslav Federation, but the relative autonomy which the Macedonians enjoy in Yugoslavia seems more attractive than any potential political arrangements within Bulgaria.

Although the Bulgarian Government has stated that it has no wish to unite all Bulgars within the Bulgarian state, it nevertheless persists in claiming that Yugoslavia's Macedonians are in fact ethnic Bulgars. This irritates the Yugoslav Government and has resulted in continuing criticism by each Government of the other. However, Sofia now seems willing to freeze the question and strive for greater co-operation within Belgrade. This is possibly the result of pressure from the Soviet Union, which is anxious to establish the principle that existing European boundaries are immutable and also to seek an improvement in Soviet-Yugoslav relations.

CONFIDENTIAL



→ 73/6/3 34  
9

Belgrade Sees Moscow Shift on Macedonia

Belgrade is claiming that the new edition of the Great Soviet Encyclopedia describes Macedonian history in a manner that supports the Yugoslavs in their long-standing dispute with Bulgaria.

The volume that treats Macedonia has just hit the streets and is not yet available in Washington. The Yugoslavs assert, however, that its wording suggests "a new stage" in the development of a Macedonian nation followed the socialist revolution in Yugoslavia. If true, this would mark a change from the 1954 edition, in which suggestions of strong ties between Bulgaria and Macedonia implied support for Sofia's claim that the Macedonians are actually Bulgarians.

It is entirely possible that Belgrade is dramatizing certain limited changes in the encyclopedia and is deliberately ignoring any Soviet nods in Sofia's direction. Such treatment would bolster domestic support for Tito's closer relations with Moscow and, at the same time, convey the impression that Sofia's refusal to recognize the existence of a separate Macedonian nationality is losing Soviet support.

The Yugoslavs are also crowing with delight because the new encyclopedia describes the origins of the Macedonian uprising against the Germans in 1941 as part of an "all-Yugoslav national movement." This assertion, if true, would contradict Bulgaria's claim that its troops liberated Macedonia from the Nazis. (CONFIDENTIAL)

hr. Peter  
EE

JN

April 4, 1974

58  
⑦ 73/6/3 ⑧



③

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY  
BELGRADE

In reply quote No  
Memorandum No 867

28 November 1973

INTERNAL SECURITY  
U.S.A.  
NO 6 8 53 AM '73  
NON INDEX SUBJECT

9/1/3

The Secretary,  
Department of Foreign Affairs,  
CANBERRA.

FAREWELL CALLS ON BULGARIAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER

Because the Foreign Minister, Mr Mladenov, was tied up with meetings, I found myself dealing with the First Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Traikov. A very reserved, dour, almost sullen man whose duties are, apparently, mainly in the administrative area, he strayed only reluctantly from a singularly uninspired and platitudinous brief.

2. On political as on economic relations, Traikov voiced only generalities. We did not, he said, have territorial pretensions on each other nor did our interests collide in third countries; consequently, there was no obstacle to the development of our political relations. Australia could buy much more from Bulgaria, and vice versa, if our mutual ignorance was overcome. This led me to ask if he thought Bulgaria's declared intention to have 83% of her total trade conducted within Comecon left scope for substantial increases in trade with Australia, particularly as we currently had only a very small toe-hold in the Bulgarian market. Traikov repeated the familiar litany (see our memorandum 744 of 25 October 1973) to the effect that the annual growth of Bulgarian trade provided ample scope for an increased Australian trade within the 17% of Bulgarian trade reserved for non-Comecon countries. Traikov said Bulgaria was interested in economic cooperation as well as trade, and thought we could explore this. Areas he mentioned included animal husbandry.

3. Traikov's offering in the cultural area contrived to be politically provocative. He observed that there were a substantial number of "Bulgarians" in Australia and, while his Government did not wish to impede their integration into the Australian community, he assumed that our Government would not object if they maintained their Bulgarian cultural heritage.

4. I did not feel that this blatant intrusion of Bulgarian-Yugoslav differences could be allowed to pass. I assured him that, while it was the wish of the Australian Government that migrants would in due time decide to become Australian citizens, we also wanted them to retain cultural links with their homeland so that Australia's own culture would be enriched. I then said that, as Ambassador also in Yugoslavia, I felt obliged to observe that the precise national origins of the immigrant group of whom he spoke were a matter of dispute - some claimed to be Greeks, some to be Yugoslavs and some to be Bulgarian.

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5. This reservation, which I thought had to be entered but which I made as unprovocative as hasty improvization would allow, produced a certain coolness. During the official luncheon that followed, however, Traikov returned to the point, and said that Bulgaria accepted the current borders in the Balkans; he graciously added that provided I was talking in terms of geographical origin and not of politics, he did not mind if I referred to the Bulgarian settlers in Australia as Macedonians.

*R. H. Robertson*

(R.H. Robertson)  
Ambassador

TO: THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
FROM: THE AMBASSADOR

RE: BULGARIAN SETTLEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA  
The following information was obtained from a report of the Australian Government regarding the settlement of Bulgarian immigrants in Australia. It is noted that the majority of these immigrants are of Macedonian origin. The report states that the Bulgarian Government has expressed its willingness to accept the current geographical borders in the Balkans, provided that the term 'Bulgarian' is used in a geographical rather than a political context when referring to these settlers in Australia.

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
INWARD CABLEGRAM

73/6/3  
①<sup>37</sup>

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FROM

TOD 4.2.72...1709 LT

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY  
VIENNA

TOR 5.2.72..0845 LT

143 UNCLASSIFIED

FOR IMMIGRATION CANBERRA.

SKOPJE FREELANCE AUTHOR/WRITER CINGOSKI LIVKO LEAVING BELGRADE FEBRUARY 6 WITH GROUP FROM MACEDONIAN WELFARE SOCIAL ORGANISATION MATICA TO TAKE PART IN CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS FOR BIRTHDAY OF MACEDONIAN HERO DELCEV GOCE IN AUSTRALIAN CITIES.

CINGOSKI HAS NOT ASKED NOR BEEN OFFERED BRANCH ASSISTANCE BUT HOPES TO CONTACT JOURNALISTS AND OTHER INFORMATION SOURCES.

HE PLANS TO STAY IN AUSTRALIA SEVERAL MONTHS WRITING ON MACEDONIAN MIGRANTS.

EXACT ITINERARY AND ARRIVAL DATE UNKNOWN BUT GROUP BELIEVED TO BE PLANNING MELBOURNE SYDNEY ADELAIDE AND QUEANBEYAN VISITS.

LOCAL CONTACT IN MELBOURNE MACEDONIAN COMMUNITY MR. RISO ALTIN APPARENTLY ARRANGED GROUP'S ITINERARY.

HE CAN BE CONTACTED THROUGH MACEDONIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH ORGANISATIONS AT 52 - 54 YOUNG STREET FITZROY.

BELGRADE CABLE 84 OF JANUARY 19 REFERS.  
LETTER FOLLOWING.

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IMMIGRATION (C) T/T  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
ASIO (C-M)  
PM AND C  
PM'S

ACTION : CPI

SEC DEPSEC(A) DEPSEC(B) PR SLA FAS(PW) EAME FAS(DVP)  
ICR SAS(LGL) LTB CPI FAS(MS)

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DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

INWARD CABLEGRAM

73/6/3

HP2

I.6557

FROM

TOD 20.1.72...1120 LT

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY  
BELGRADE

TOR 21.1.72...0874 LT

87 UNCLASSIFIED

ADDRESSED CANBERRA 87, REPEATED LONDON (FOR CLO) 18.

FOR IMMIGRATION REPEATED SCORPION MELBOURNE.

VISITOR VISA APPLICATIONS FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF MACEDONIAN MATICA.

DANCO ZOGRAFSKI, YUGOSLAV, BORN TITO VELES 23.9.20,  
PROFESSOR IN ECONOMICS, UNIVERSITY OF SKOPJE.  
ZIVKO CINGOSKI, YUGOSLAV, BORN OHRID 13.8.35 WRITER OF  
SKOPJE.  
CVETANKA JAKIMOVSKA, YUGOSLAV, BORN PERNIK 10.9.27 AN  
ARTIST WITH MACEDONIAN NATIONAL THEATRE, SKOPJE.

THEY DESIRE PROCEED TO AUSTRALIA BEGINNING FEBRUARY TO  
TAKE PART IN CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS ARRANGED BY MACEDONIAN  
ORTHODOX CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS IN PERTH, ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE,  
SYDNEY, QUEANBEYAN.

ARRANGEMENTS BEING MADE BY MR. RISTO ALTIN 52-54 YOUNG  
STREET, FITZROY, VICTORIA.

ZOGRAFSKI AND JAKIMOVSKA DESIRE STAY ONE MONTH AND  
CINGOSKI REMAIN FURTHER TWO MONTHS FOR PURPOSE WRITING ARTICLES  
ON MACEDONIAN MIGRANTS AND AUSTRALIA IN GENERAL.

FARES AND MAINTENANCE GUARANTEED BY MATICA.  
MAY VISAS BE ISSUED.  
PLEASE PASS DETAILS TO DIRECTOR INFORMATION.

IMMIG (C)  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
ASIO (M)  
PMS

ACTION: CPI

SEC DEP SEC (A) PR SLA FAS(PW) EAME FAS(DVP) ICR SAS(LGL)  
CPI FAS(MS)

CONFIDENTIAL

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File: 73/6/3

23 December, 1971

CONFIDENTIAL

The Secretary,  
Department of Trade and Industry,  
CANBERRA.

Australian Ambassador's Visit to Macedonia

....  
We enclose a copy of a memorandum from the Australian Ambassador in Belgrade describing a recent visit he made to Macedonia. He reports discussions with Macedonian officials on subjects including immigration and trade between Macedonia and Australia, which may be of interest to your Department.

2. A copy of this memorandum and attachment have been forwarded to the Department of Immigration.

(A.C. Kevin)  
for the Secretary

The Secretary,  
Department of Immigration,  
CANBERRA.

For information.

KM

(A.C. Kevin)  
for the Secretary

CONFIDENTIAL



28  
CONFIDENTIAL (4)

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY  
BELGRADE

In reply quote No. 1/2.....  
Memorandum No. 767.....

14 December, 1971

CENTRAL REGISTRY  
O D.E.A. O  
DEC 21 3 39 PM '71  
NOM. INDEX. SUBJECT

73/613

The Secretary,  
Department of Foreign Affairs,  
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

VISIT TO SKOPJE : MACEDONIAN VIEWS ON POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

While in Skopje, I had two opportunities for substantial discussions about current political trends in Yugoslavia. The first, with Dr Bogoev (the President of the Republican Executive Council) took place on 2 December, before Tito's speech at the Karadjordjevo meeting had been publicized; it dealt mainly with the controversy about the foreign exchange and trade system and, although conducted in English, was at times a little difficult to follow. The second, with Mr Cemerski (the President of the League of Communists of Macedonia), was held just after his return from Karadjordjevo, and provided a chance for a more immediately topical probing - unfortunately, however, the interpretation was inadequate.

The Foreign Exchange System

2. I opened this subject with Dr Bogoev by inviting him to expand on the remarks he had made to a "Borba" correspondent. As reported on 22 November, he had said, in effect, that regionalization of foreign exchange and foreign trade would undermine the bases of the single Yugoslav market.
3. Bogoev, who left me in no doubt about his eagerness to relinquish his present office and return to his economics chair at Skopje University, gave a notably moderate and balanced reply.
4. He first confirmed his view that maintenance of the unity of the Yugoslav market was the central issue in the controversy about the future foreign exchange and foreign trade system. I was a little surprised when he went on to assert that the problem was actually less serious than press accounts of competing positions made it appear: bargaining positions had been stated at length, and the final decision would - as usual in such arguments in Yugoslavia - be a compromise conforming to nobody's absolute position.

*Mr. Keenan } - to see.  
Mr. Gals }  
P.S. show to Mr. Cohen &  
file on 73/613.  
22.12.71 B. [Signature]*

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2. CONFIDENTIAL

5. His own guess as to the outcome was that it would be agreed to credit notionally to each Republic's account the foreign exchange that Republic had earned. Two schedules of imports would at the same time be established. The Republics would be authorized freely to expend their foreign exchange credits on items listed on the first schedule, which, in his conception, would cover essential raw materials and, perhaps, such imported items as agricultural produce and equipment, Yugoslavia's domestic production of which was sufficiently efficient that import competition could be withstood. (Bogoev's description of this second category of items ties in with his "Borba" interview, in which he had also said that too high protection, and its maintenance for too long, could prolong the "infantile" period of individual branches of industry and postpone their becoming competitive in international markets.) The second schedule would cover items, import of which would be subject to some sort of control, through quotas or a requirement for Federal permission. Against this "qualitative" approach the Croats wished to have unfettered disposal of a percentage of their holdings.

6. Bogoev would allow the Republics to supplement their foreign exchange possibilities under the foregoing by giving them access to foreign exchange markets set up through the banking system, purchasing currency between fixed parities. In this area also, there was disagreement. As he saw it, the only way to ensure coherence and consistency in the market was to give one Federal bank a dominant role, with the regional banks following its lead. The Croats, on the other hand, would organize the foreign exchange market on a regional basis, giving the Federal bank no special rights.

7. Bogoev concluded by saying that Yugoslavia would ultimately have to work towards a system comparable with that obtaining in market economies, under which the domestic economy would be subject to dinar, rather than foreign exchange, stimulation.

8. I am, of course, quite unable to say whether the views somewhat inadequately summarized above were expressed in the light of the knowledge he may well already have had of what had occurred at Karadjordjevo, or whether they should now be regarded as superceded.

#### Republican Nationalism

9. As I have already mentioned, I was given an exceedingly compressed report of the meeting of the LCY Presidential Council only about ten minutes before seeing Mr Cemerski on the morning of 3 December. Needless to say, I asked him for his impressions of the meeting and his view on the implications for the future shape of the federal Yugoslav state. His very measured response, rather bowdlerized by the interpreter I fear, was as follows:

- (a) as President Tito had warned, the promotion within Yugoslavia of the national identities of the Republics could all too easily slip over into unacceptable, regional nationalism, chauvinism, and, ultimately, separatism;

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- (b) Yugoslavia would continue on its socialist, democratic, self-managing course. Nevertheless, all the Republics must realize that their ability to develop their national identities was only safe within a Federal Yugoslavia. Many countries outside Yugoslavia did not understand what was going on here, and were only waiting for the chance to exploit developments, and intervene. This was, after all, the Balkans, and the Balkanization of Yugoslavia could easily occur;
- (c) student turbulence had been a recurrent feature in many countries, including the capitalist West. He wondered, for instance, how many people now recalled the details of the disturbances at the Sorbonne. Nevertheless, it would be well for all to remember that those disturbances had begun the process of bringing down even such an institution as Charles de Gaulle.

10. The main point in Cemerski's reply to a question about the role of the LCY in the current and foreseeable situation was that the League was conscious of the lessons of history. Although the League was convinced that its socialist, democratic and self-managing ideology was in fact in the best interests of the Yugoslav people, it had to take full account of the lesson that any political philosophy, be it capitalist or socialist, would in time collapse unless it had gained the willing support of the people and answered their aspirations.

*R.H. Robertson*  
 (R.H. Robertson)  
*amb* Ambassador

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25 (3)

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CENTRAL REGISTER  
D.E.A.  
DEC 21 3 38 PM '71  
NOM. INDEX. SUBJECT

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY  
BELGRADE

In reply quote No. ... 1/2  
Memorandum No. ... 762

13 December, 1971

73/6/3

The Secretary,  
Department of Foreign Affairs,  
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

VISIT TO MACEDONIA : BILATERAL RELATIONS,  
INCLUDING MIGRATION

On the basis of two days spent in talks with senior officials in Skopje, I think it would be fair to say that Australia enjoys a rather special position in the Macedonian view of foreign countries. This, which is of course directly connected with the number of Yugoslav Macedonians living in Australia and migrating there each year, was reflected at many levels. At the lowest, I understand that the waiters at the hotel commented to my driver that they should give me special service as I was in a sense their ambassador. At the official level, it was reflected in the fact that I was able to secure interviews at the highest level in each branch of the Government, to the extent that Mr Cemerski, in particular, re-arranged his own programme so that he could see me less than an hour after he had returned from what must have been an extremely exhausting meeting of the Presidential Council of the LCY. Again (in some contrast with my conversations in Zagreb and Ljubljana) the professions of friendship for Australia and satisfaction with the relationship built up in the migration area were singularly untinged with criticism.

2. Without questioning the sincerity of these professions, I think I should at least raise the possibility that they may be influenced by a factor which from our point of view is a little extraneous. As mentioned in my introductory memorandum reporting the visit, the Macedonians tend to be sensitive and assertive about their new-found status as a separate nation within the Yugoslav Federation. The repeated and appreciative references to the fact that the Macedonian Orthodox Church is allowed freely to operate in Australia and that facilities are extended enabling the children of Macedonian migrants to be taught in their own language, lead me to suspect that one reason for the warmth of Macedonian expressions of good will may be that our practice helps to build up their separate national claims.

3. Whilst the political and migration branches of this Embassy should naturally do what they reasonably can to respond to the warmth of Macedonian feelings towards us, I think that there should be some caution about this. I have in mind particularly the two factors mentioned in my introductory memorandum, namely that Macedonian national pretensions are not universally accepted even in Yugoslavia and that, in any event, some restraints are likely to be imposed upon assertion of separate Republican

*M. Keenan*  
*Mr. Gray*  
*Cries to*  
*Imm. 7/91*  
*4 73/6/3/b,*  
*73/6/3 + M. Cooper*

*M. Boufer 22/12* CONFIDENTIAL

nationalisms following the attitude President Tito has been obliged to adopt in the face of the much more serious implications of Croatian extremist pretensions.

4. Turning now to specific observations made to me about bilateral relations, Dr Bogoev (the President of the Republican Executive Council), was plainly unhappy about Macedonia's loss of population through emigration, but, at least in respect of Australia as a destination, quite relaxed. He said that the arrangements made for the settlement of Macedonians in Australia appeared to be good and the migrants themselves to be happy in their new home. He regretted that in its present stage of economic development the Republic of Macedonia was unable to provide all of its people with jobs. Nevertheless, the time would come when the drain of population to other countries would compete with the Republic's own needs. When this situation arose, I could be sure that the Republican authorities would not use administrative action to stop or to divert the flow. Their acceptance of normal democratic principles required that they should rely on increasing the attractiveness of job opportunities, social services and the like within Yugoslavia itself. Dr Bogoev observed that there were one or two areas in which the picture could be improved, such as the fact that Australian pensions were not portable to other countries, but he mentioned this without rancour or emphasis (the same problem was raised, in the same low-key way, by the Republican Secretary for Labour, Mr Isjanovski).

5. The President of the Macedonian Republican Assembly, Mr Mincev, spoke of the relationship in similarly warm and virtually unqualified terms. He said that, as places of permanent residence as distinguished from temporary foreign employment, Australia and Canada were now the favoured destinations for potential Macedonian emigrants; the figures were respectively about 7,500 per annum as against 4,000. With a total annual outflow of, I think, 55,000 guest workers and migrants, the departure rate from Macedonia was higher than that of Slovenia but less than that of Bosnia-Herzegovina. The Macedonian authorities were well content with the manner in which the assimilation of their people into Australian society was facilitated. They did not wish people of Macedonian origin to lose contact with their homeland and he noted that the activities of the Macedonian Church in Australia and the teaching of the Macedonian language in schools were helping to prevent this; at the same time, however, the Macedonian authorities wished the migrants to integrate into their new fatherland. Mr Mincev expressed the belief that Macedonians refrained from carrying with them the political causes active in Europe. Rather engagingly, he said that, now that Macedonians had their own state within Yugoslavia, they were no longer addicted to the terrorism for which they had once been notorious. He went on to say that the educational standards in those parts of Macedonia from which migrants to Australia mostly came were quite good and to express the belief that migrants from the Republic had been able to fit readily into such areas of the Australian economy as the skilled metal trades. (It is of incidental interest that the rest of my conversation with Mr Mincev essentially consisted of fielding his persistent and well-informed questioning about the Australian economy and the implications of our

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developing trade relationship with Japan, on which matter he wondered what steps we were contemplating to achieve some balance between the relatively low prices the Japanese were paying for our raw materials and the relatively high prices they were asking when they came to re-export to us the finished products).

6. Mr Cemerski spoke more briefly but to the same general effect on the subject of bilateral relations.

Economic Co-operation

7. The possibilities for greater economic co-operation and trade between the two countries were discussed only at the lunch tendered to myself and Miss Svenne by Dr Bogoev. The discussion lacked the persistence and outright commercialism which had attended a similar occasion in Ljubljana. Nevertheless, Dr Bogoev referred to several possibilities such as the importing of oriental tobacco from Macedonia for blending with Australian tobacco and tendering for Australian contracts by a Skopje construction enterprise. This enterprise, I gathered, had been brought together after the earthquake and had acquired considerable expertise in a number of areas of potential interest to Australia, including building, road and dam construction and flood control. This expertise had been acknowledged by the gaining of contracts in a number of foreign countries. I said that I would note these possibilities, but, as he would appreciate, it was largely up to Yugoslavia to bring them to fruition. Australia was an open market in which a prerequisite to success was hard work on the part of the would-be exporters. At a later point in the conversation I deliberately referred to the reservoir of talent which had been retained by the Snowy Mountains Authority, since I did not wish Dr Bogoev to be left under any misapprehension that Australia itself lacked planning and managerial skills in the area about which he had been talking.

Conversation with Republican Secretary for Labour

8. My conversation on 3 December with Mr Isjanovski, the Macedonian Secretary for Labour, covered a wide range of subjects, and struck me as being rather useful.

9. Mr Isjanovski opened the conversation by expressing his gratification that I had included an appointment with his office in the programme for my first visit to Skopje. In common with other members of the Macedonian administration, he expressed satisfaction with the manner in which the Macedonian community in Australia was being assimilated (he confirmed the figures which I had heard elsewhere to the effect that the community of 80,000 Macedonians was divided approximately equally between people originating from the present Yugoslavia and those from Greece). He referred to the protracted negotiations for bringing into effect the Migration Agreement and said that he would greatly regret any further delay in centralizing in Belgrade the movement of Yugoslav migrants to Australia and in eliminating the role of third countries.

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10. This gave me the opportunity to ask him for his interpretation of the division of responsibility between the Federal and Republican authorities in the migration area which will follow the constitutional amendments. I said that in my understanding the Federal Government had in practice been negotiating with us on the terms of the Agreement only following close consultation with the Republics. Would this in effect be the future division of responsibility? Mr Isjanovski replied that, under the constitutional amendments, the Federal Secretariat for Labour had devolved to the Republican Secretariats a wide range of its former functions and duties. It had, however, retained co-ordinating responsibility in respect of migration agreements with foreign countries. He said that the present position could be illustrated by reference to a rather awkward current argument with the Austrian authorities. As I would probably be aware, the Federal Republic of Germany was the destination most favoured by guest workers of Yugoslavian origin, largely because the German authorities were prepared to extend to those workers German social services including unemployment benefits from the moment of their arrival in the country; West Germany also co-operated with Yugoslavia in arrangements whereby the continuity of the membership of Yugoslav guest workers in Yugoslavian social services schemes was maintained. The consequence of this preference on the part of the guest workers was that many who had initially gone to other Western European countries such as Austria in time wished to move on to work in German industry. The Austrian authorities were, however, doing their best to prevent this onward movement, employing confiscation of passports and other discriminatory measures to this end. All the Republican Governments had views and information on this subject, but, rather than dealing direct with the Austrian authorities, they were contributing this material to a Federal dossier for negotiation with Vienna. While formal negotiations with foreign governments would thus be reserved to Belgrade, the Republican Labour authorities would deal direct with foreign Governments on matters directly within Republican jurisdiction, such as the arrangement of medical checks and language preparation.

11. Mr Isjanovski then made an incidental point of some interest. He observed that the Federal and Republican authorities in Yugoslavia felt inhibited from making any suggestions, still more from using any pressure, to influence guest workers in their choice of destination. The Czech authorities had recently asked the Yugoslav Government for some thousands of guest workers, and had been rather put out when Belgrade had replied that although information about employment opportunities in Czechoslovakia could be disseminated, Yugoslavia did not regard its workers as chattels and took full account of their own preferences.

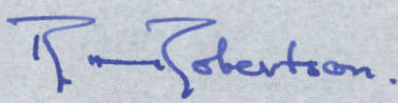
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....

14. Additional copies of this memorandum are attached in case you may wish to pass them to other Departments.



(R.H. Robertson)  
Ambassador



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AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY  
BELGRADE

In reply quote No.  $\frac{1}{2}$   
Memorandum No. 762

13 December, 1971

The Secretary,  
Department of Foreign Affairs,  
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

VISIT TO MACEDONIA : BILATERAL RELATIONS.  
INCLUDING MIGRATION

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*RHR*  
(R.H. Robertson)  
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BELGRADE

In reply quote No. 1/2  
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2. Without questioning the sincerity of these professions, I think I should at least raise the possibility that they may be influenced by a factor which from our point of view is a little extraneous. As mentioned in my introductory memorandum reporting the visit, the Macedonians tend to be sensitive and assertive about their new-found status as a separate nation within the Yugoslav Federation. The repeated and appreciative references to the fact that the Macedonian Orthodox Church is allowed freely to operate in Australia and that facilities are extended enabling the children of Macedonian migrants to be taught in their own language, lead me to suspect that one reason for the warmth of Macedonian expressions of good will may be that our practice helps to build up their separate national claims.

3. Whilst the political and migration branches of this Embassy should naturally do what they reasonably can to respond to the warmth of Macedonian feelings towards us, I think that there should be some caution about this. I have in mind particularly the two factors mentioned in my introductory memorandum, namely that Macedonian national pretensions are not universally accepted even in Yugoslavia and that, in any event, some restraints are likely to be imposed upon assertion of separate Republican

nationalisms following the attitude President Tito has been obliged to adopt in the face of the much more serious implications of Croatian extremist pretensions.

4. Turning now to specific observations made to me about bilateral relations, Dr Bogoev (the President of the Republican Executive Council), was plainly unhappy about Macedonia's loss of population through emigration, but, at least in respect of Australia as a destination, quite relaxed. He said that the arrangements made for the settlement of Macedonians in Australia appeared to be good and the migrants themselves to be happy in their new home. He regretted that in its present stage of economic development the Republic of Macedonia was unable to provide all of its people with jobs. Nevertheless, the time would come when the drain of population to other countries would compete with the Republic's own needs. When this situation arose, I could be sure that the Republican authorities would not use administrative action to stop or to divert the flow. Their acceptance of normal democratic principles required that they should rely on increasing the attractiveness of job opportunities, social services and the like within Yugoslavia itself. Dr Bogoev observed that there were one or two areas in which the picture could be improved, such as the fact that Australian pensions were not portable to other countries, but he mentioned this without rancour or emphasis (the same problem was raised, in the same low-key way, by the Republican Secretary for Labour, Mr Isjanovski).

5. The President of the Macedonian Republican Assembly, Mr Mincev, spoke of the relationship in similarly warm and virtually unqualified terms. He said that, as places of permanent residence as distinguished from temporary foreign employment, Australia and Canada were now the favoured destinations for potential Macedonian emigrants; the figures were respectively about 7,500 per annum as against 4,000. With a total annual outflow of, I think, 55,000 guest workers and migrants, the departure rate from Macedonia was higher than that of Slovenia but less than that of Bosnia-Herzegovina. The Macedonian authorities were well content with the manner in which the assimilation of their people into Australian society was facilitated. They did not wish people of Macedonian origin to lose contact with their homeland and he noted that the activities of the Macedonian Church in Australia and the teaching of the Macedonian language in schools were helping to prevent this; at the same time, however, the Macedonian authorities wished the migrants to integrate into their new fatherland. Mr Mincev expressed the belief that Macedonians refrained from carrying with them the political causes active in Europe. Rather engagingly, he said that, now that Macedonians had their own state within Yugoslavia, they were no longer addicted to the terrorism for which they had once been notorious. He went on to say that the educational standards in those parts of Macedonia from which migrants to Australia mostly came were quite good and to express the belief that migrants from the Republic had been able to fit readily into such areas of the Australian economy as the skilled metal trades. (It is of incidental interest that the rest of my conversation with Mr Mincev essentially consisted of fielding his persistent and well-informed questioning about the Australian economy and the implications of our

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developing trade relationship with Japan, on which matter he wondered what steps we were contemplating to achieve some balance between the relatively low prices the Japanese were paying for our raw materials and the relatively high prices they were asking when they came to re-export to us the finished products).

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#### Economic Co-operation

7. The possibilities for greater economic co-operation and trade between the two countries were discussed only at the lunch tendered to myself and Miss Svanne by Dr Bogoev. The discussion lacked the persistence and outright commercialism which had attended a similar occasion in Ljubljana. Nevertheless, Dr Bogoev referred to several possibilities such as the importing of oriental tobacco from Macedonia for blending with Australian tobacco and tendering for Australian contracts by a Skopje construction enterprise. This enterprise, I gathered, had been brought together after the earthquake and had acquired considerable expertise in a number of areas of potential interest to Australia, including building, road and dam construction and flood control. This expertise had been acknowledged by the gaining of contracts in a number of foreign countries. I said that I would note these possibilities, but, as he would appreciate, it was largely up to Yugoslavia to bring them to fruition. Australia was an open market in which a prerequisite to success was hard work on the part of the would-be exporters. At a later point in the conversation I deliberately referred to the reservoir of talent which had been retained by the Snowy Mountains Authority, since I did not wish Dr Bogoev to be left under any misapprehension that Australia itself lacked planning and managerial skills in the area about which he had been talking.

#### Conversation with Republican Secretary for Labour

8. My conversation on 3 December with Mr Isjanovski, the Macedonian Secretary for Labour, covered a wide range of subjects, and struck me as being rather useful.

9. Mr Isjanovski opened the conversation by expressing his gratification that I had included an appointment with his office in the programme for my first visit to Skopje. In common with other members of the Macedonian administration, he expressed satisfaction with the manner in which the Macedonian community in Australia was being assimilated (he confirmed the figures which I had heard elsewhere to the effect that the community of 80,000 Macedonians was divided approximately equally between people originating from the present Yugoslavia and those from Greece). He referred to the protracted negotiations for bringing into effect the Migration Agreement and said that he would greatly regret any further delay in centralizing in Belgrade the movement of Yugoslav migrants to Australia and in eliminating the role of third countries.

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10. This gave me the opportunity to ask him for his interpretation of the division of responsibility between the Federal and Republican authorities in the migration area which will follow the constitutional amendments. I said that in my understanding the Federal Government had in practice been negotiating with us on the terms of the Agreement only following close consultation with the Republics. Would this in effect be the future division of responsibility? Mr Isjanovski replied that, under the constitutional amendments, the Federal Secretariat for Labour had devolved to the Republican Secretariats a wide range of its former functions and duties. It had, however, retained co-ordinating responsibility in respect of migration agreements with foreign countries. He said that the present position could be illustrated by reference to a rather awkward current argument with the Austrian authorities. As I would probably be aware, the Federal Republic of Germany was the destination most favoured by guest workers of Yugoslavian origin, largely because the German authorities were prepared to extend to those workers German social services including unemployment benefits from the moment of their arrival in the country; West Germany also co-operated with Yugoslavia in arrangements whereby the continuity of the membership of Yugoslav guest workers in Yugoslavian social services schemes was maintained. The consequence of this preference on the part of the guest workers was that many who had initially gone to other Western European countries such as Austria in time wished to move on to work in German industry. The Austrian authorities were, however, doing their best to prevent this onward movement, employing confiscation of passports and other discriminatory measures to this end. All the Republican Governments had views and information on this subject, but, rather than dealing direct with the Austrian authorities, they were contributing this material to a Federal dossier for negotiation with Vienna. While formal negotiations with foreign governments would thus be reserved to Belgrade, the Republican Labour authorities would deal direct with foreign Governments on matters directly within Republican jurisdiction, such as the arrangement of medical checks and language preparation.

11. Mr Isjanovski then made an incidental point of some interest. He observed that the Federal and Republican authorities in Yugoslavia felt inhibited from making any suggestions, still more from using any pressure, to influence guest workers in their choice of destination. The Czech authorities had recently asked the Yugoslav Government for some thousands of guest workers, and had been rather put out when Belgrade had replied that although information about employment opportunities in Czechoslovakia could be disseminated, Yugoslavia did not regard its workers as chattels and took full account of their own preferences.

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14. Additional copies of this memorandum are attached in case you may wish to pass them to other Departments.

RHR  
 (R.H. Robertson)  
Ambassador





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AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY  
BELGRADE

In reply quote No. <sup>1/2</sup> .....  
Memorandum No. 762 .....

13 December, 1971

The Secretary,  
Department of Foreign Affairs,  
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

VISIT TO MACEDONIA : BILATERAL RELATIONS.  
INCLUDING MIGRATION

On the basis of two days spent in talks with senior officials in Skopje, I think it would be fair to say that Australia enjoys a rather special position in the Macedonian view of foreign countries. This, which is of course directly connected with the number of Yugoslav Macedonians living in Australia and migrating there each year, was reflected at many levels. At the lowest, I understand that the waiters at the hotel commented to my driver that they should give me special service as I was in a sense their ambassador. At the official level, it was reflected in the fact that I was able to secure interviews at the highest level in each branch of the Government, to the extent that Mr Cemerski, in particular, re-arranged his own programme so that he could see me less than an hour after he had returned from what must have been an extremely exhausting meeting of the Presidential Council of the LGY. Again (in some contrast with my conversations in Zagreb and Ljubljana) the professions of friendship for Australia and satisfaction with the relationship built up in the migration area were singularly untinged with criticism.

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RHR

(R.H. Robertson)  
Ambassador



73/6/3

2

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY  
BELGRADE

In reply quote, No. 1/2.....  
Memorandum No. 761.....

10 December, 1971

The Secretary,  
Department of Foreign Affairs,  
CANBERRA

Official Visit to Macedonia

As you know, I made my initial round of calls in Skopje on 2 and 3 December. I was accompanied by Miss Svenne, who undertook a separate programme primarily oriented towards her future responsibilities in the Embassy in the information and cultural area, and by Mrs Markovic as interpreter.

2. The Macedonian authorities had arranged for me to make contact at gratifyingly senior levels, my appointments being with:

Mr Angel Cemerski, President of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Macedonia

Dr Ksente Bogoev, President of the Executive Council of Macedonia

Mr Mincev, President of the Macedonian Assembly

Mr Drageljub Stavrev, President of the Skopje City Assembly

Mr Vite Isjanovski, Republican Secretary for Labour.

3. As also occurred in respect of my initial visit to Zagreb, my timing could have been improved. President Tito's speech at the opening of the Karadjordjevo meeting of the LCY Presidential Council was made public only after the greater part of the programme in Skopje had been completed. I was, however, informed of the broad lines of his criticisms of the Croatian Central Committee just before fulfilling my engagement with Mr Cemerski.

4. One other introductory point needs to be made. In asking protocol to make arrangements for me, I had specifically mentioned that I would bring my own interpreter. I had done this because, when the most recent official visit was being arranged, the Macedonian authorities had asked that we help them with interpretation. On this occasion, however, they insisted on using their own Macedonian interpreter for my interviews. This change in the Macedonian attitude was helpful in one respect,

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73/43, 73/2

in that Mrs Markovic was thereby freed to assist Miss Svenne during her calls. On the other hand it greatly reduced the usefulness of my own programme, since the official interpreter was virtually without experience and possessed a sometimes almost unintelligible accent in English. Her interpretation completely broke down during my interview with the President of the City Assembly (which substantially did not matter greatly and which in any event was overcome by the fact that the President's protocol adviser was able to fill the breach). Much more seriously, however, she proved incapable of giving me a satisfactory interpretation of the extremely careful reply Mr Cemerski gave to my questions about the Karadjordjevo meeting and its background. This will, I fear, be painfully evident in my record of that conversation.

5. The insistence of the Macedonian authorities on providing their own interpreter was, I suppose, one practical manifestation of the linguistic nationalism which has been becoming very evident in that Republic. Given the history of the Macedonian people, somewhat self-conscious and exaggerated Republican nationalism is comprehensible, as also is the particular insistence that Macedonia's leaders and also such people as its university lecturers should use Macedonian and not Serbo-Croat. It is, however, worth bearing in mind not only that the more forceful pretensions to separate Macedonian nationality may run into some trouble by extension from Tito's speeches at Karadjordjevo, but also that they are greeted by a certain incredulity in some quarters, even in Yugoslavia, and by outright antagonism in neighbouring countries. This may be illustrated by reference to two examples. En route to Skopje, we visited the Serbian Orthodox Monastery at Studenica and had some conversation with the Deputy Abbott. I had the opportunity of asking this impressive gentleman a casual question about the Macedonian Orthodox Patriarch; he looked extremely dour and replied "that Patriarchate is a political creation upon which I shall not comment". This reply reflected, on the church level, the tendency of many Serbians still to claim that the present Republic of Macedonia was in fact more accurately described under its pre-war title of "South Serbia". The second example gives the other side of the coin. I received from the President of the City Assembly of Skopje a lavishly produced book dealing inter alia with the City's history; leafing through the sequence of photographs dealing with the City's successive occupations one could not help noticing that the editors made no differentiation in quality between the Turkish, Bulgarian and Serbian occupations, the last-mentioned being in right of the pre-war monarchy.

6. In subsequent memoranda I shall deal separately with bilateral relations (including emigration) as seen from Skopje, the Macedonian view of Yugoslavian political and constitutional developments, and City government in Skopje.

  
 (R.H. Robertson)  
 Ambassador



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5-73/6/3

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY  
BELGRADE

In reply quote No. 282 .....  
Memorandum No. ....

6th May, 1971

The Secretary,  
Department of Foreign Affairs,  
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600

Visit to Macedonia and Kosovo

From 26th to 30th April I visited Macedonia and Kosovo, generally recognized to be the poorest parts of Yugoslavia. My visit took me through Southern Serbia to Skopje and Ohrid in Macedonia and to Pec and Pristina in Kosovo.

Calls in Skopje

2. In Skopje I called on the following:
- (a) Mr. Uzunov, Member of Executive Council of Macedonia handling economic affairs;
  - (b) Mr. Bitoljanu, Vice President of the Skopje Skupstina (City Assembly);
  - (c) Mr. Bukleski, President, Matica Iseljenika (Cultural Institute) of Macedonia.

Call in Pec

3. Secretary and members of City Assembly.

General Impressions

(a) Southern Serbia

4. At this time of the year the Yugoslav countryside even in the poorer areas presents a pleasant scene. The lush country down the Morava valley from Belgrade to Nis is alternately farmed by large agricultural enterprises or by small farmers. Interestingly enough most of the small holdings are on the tops of hills, where the soil is less fertile and accessibility for farm machinery is poor. Presumably in years gone by the enterprises in this area took over the flat lowlands leaving the higher ground for smaller agriculture.

(b) Macedonia

(i) Skopje

5. Since the disastrous earthquake in Skopje in 1963 a considerable amount of rebuilding has been undertaken with foreign and local assistance.

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The Vice President of the City Assembly pointed out that in the past few years 14,000 houses and 10,000 flats had been built. Restoration work is still going on, and new buildings are appearing all over the city. There is an immense new military hospital and a fine modern art gallery (built by Poland) which houses an impressive collection of art donated by foreign countries. Skopje's reputation as a city to visit has been slight in past years, but it does not today present the unpleasant picture often claimed for it.

(ii) Eastern and Southern Macedonia

6. The country south and east of Skopje is reminiscent in parts of the Australian landscape - dry and agricultural. In some areas there is a considerable amount of tobacco and cotton production as well as wine growing. Macedonia produces practically all of Yugoslavia's modest cotton and tobacco crops and hopes that under the new Yugoslav economic marketing arrangements it will enjoy some benefits as the major producer of these products.

7. The present agriculture of southern and eastern Macedonia is generally poor however and it is easy to see how the average annual income per head in these regions is as low as \$350. The mule is the beast of burden and the hands and elementary farming equipment the tools of work. Together with what other Yugoslavs regard as Macedonian laziness these contribute to low productivity. Many of the villages lining the roads and tucked away in the hills are falling down and appear to have lost many of their inhabitants in recent years - some to the larger cities (Skopje's population has increased four-fold since the war) and some through immigration, e.g. to Australia. The standards of living are reminiscent of much of village life in Asia. Mountain scenery at this time of the year is impressive particularly around lake Ohrid, where some of the earliest Orthodox monasteries in Yugoslavia were founded.

8. Despite the backwardness of living standards, efforts are being made to develop the area. Along the border with Albania down the Black Drina river, a new road has been constructed and several hydro-electric power schemes are now in operation. (The road also has strategic value.) Other main linking roads are in good condition. Car service facilities are however scarce. Plans exist for expanding mineral production of which Macedonia has chromium, copper, lead etc. Small and medium industries are also being developed. Tourism is being encouraged by the restoration of monasteries and cleaning of their remarkable centuries-old frescoes and by the building of new hotels, particularly on Lake Ohrid.

(c) Kosovo

9. Kosovo is an autonomous province of Serbia, with a predominantly Albanian or "Shiptar" population. It is similar in many respects to Macedonia, having a low-income agricultural base. As in Macedonia, the Moslem and Turkish heritage is still evident, not so much in the pursuit of religion as in the quality of life, the nature of town markets and the still apparent Eastern architectural influences. Mosques are poorly attended and principally it appears by octogenarians. The Orthodox

churches and monasteries, particularly in Pec, where Serbian orthodoxy had its early foundations in the eleventh century, are used principally as tourist attractions for Yugoslavs and foreigners alike. Only a few of the most impressive and important ones obtain official assistance.

Macedonia and the Federation

10. During discussions in Skopje it was apparent that the Macedonians, like other nationalities in Yugoslavia, are very conscious of their individual history and of the need to do as much for themselves as they can. This view was however tempered by the realization that, as a very backward Republic, Macedonia must continue to rely on assistance from the Federal Government, i.e. from other Republics. Mr. Uzunov (Executive Council Member) expressed satisfaction that under the new constitutional arrangements the Federal Government will continue to assist Macedonia by making available grants for such purposes as education and health. The Federal Fund for the underdeveloped regions will also make funds available to Macedonia, although these will no longer be on a grant basis, but in the form of repayable credits at low interest rates. Mr. Uzunov said that about half the Republic's revenue came from turnover taxes levied on enterprises. Income taxes paid by farmers had fallen considerably in recent years.

Macedonia and its Neighbours

11. On the so-called "Macedonian issue", the Macedonians find themselves in an ambivalent position. They resent Bulgarian propaganda - on the basis of the San Stefano Treaty of 1878 - aimed at weakening the position of Macedonia as a Republic within the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The San Stefano Treaty, which never actually entered into force, is invoked by the Bulgarians to prove that the Macedonians who live in Yugoslavia should be regarded as blood brothers to the Macedonians in Bulgaria (who are by definition Bulgarian). Some Macedonians see in this policy evidence of Bulgarian territorial ambitions towards Macedonia. At inter-state level the problem has been the main reason for the cool relations existing between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. (This coolness was most recently apparent when Yugoslavia was represented at the Bulgarian Xth Party Congress only by its Ambassador in Sofia.)

12. As far as relations with Greece are concerned the boot is on the other foot. Macedonian press and radio media still maintain periodically that "Aegean Macedonians" are part of the Macedonian nation. The Greek Government has reacted sharply to a recent press campaign along these lines. The Acting Consul-General for Greece in Skopje told me that there was still a body of opinion in Macedonia which hoped that one day the territory lost to Greece by Macedonia after the Balkan wars of 1912-13 would be recovered. The Consul-General said that he led a miserable existence in Skopje as there was only one other Consul (the Turk) and the police had in effect warned off social visitors. He saw this as evidence, at least at the local level, of cool relations between Greece and Yugoslavia on the historical Macedonian question.

13. In the economic field however Greece and Yugoslavia (together with the UNDP) will be cooperating in substantial developmental projects along the River Vardar which runs through Skopje down to the Aegean Sea near Thessalonika. These projects will cover flood control, irrigation and hydro-electric production to increase the areas of arable land in Southern Macedonia and Northern Greece.

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Migration

14. The Macedonian officials to whom I spoke showed a mixture of realism and sensitivity on the extent of migration from Macedonia. Both Mr. Uzunov and Mr. Bukleski (who has visited Australia) recognized that the standards of living in Macedonia made it attractive for farmers and workers to seek employment elsewhere. Mr. Bukleski openly admitted however that Macedonian officials hoped that the outflow particularly of skilled workers could be stemmed, even though this might take as much as 10 years. His organization (the Matica Iseljenika) kept in touch with Macedonians overseas and hoped eventually that some of them would return. He was not hopeful that this would be the case for Macedonians who went to Australia. He acknowledged that much of the migration to Australia from Yugoslavia resulted from word of mouth from relatives. Mr. Bukleski believed that Macedonians were well treated in Australia and that Macedonian group activities were looked on favourably by the Australian authorities. He was glad that another Macedonian folk group would be visiting Australia in May. Some of these visits were financed by Macedonians in Australia and with others financial help was donated by the Matica Iseljenika itself. The Acting Greek Consul-General incidentally claimed that (Yugoslav) Macedonians were making some trouble in Australia for migrants from Northern Greece with Macedonian histories, but did not make an issue of the point.

15. A copy of this memorandum is being forwarded to the Australian Embassy, Athens.

D. W. EVANS

(D.W. Evans)  
Counsellor

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