

95. 1927., srpanj 5., Izvješće poslanika Johna Dyneleyja Princea State Departmentu o političkoj situaciji u Kraljevini SHS u kojem ističe i svoju ocjenu političkoga djelovanja Stjepana Radića.

NARA, M 358, R 4, 860h.00/320

[...]⁵²⁴

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Belgrade, July 5, 1927.

Despatch No. 252

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

With reference to my last semi-monthly despatch, No. 242 of June 20, 1927, on the internal political situation in which it was stated that general elections have been announced for September 11th I have the honor to report that the electoral campaign started by the various political parties has again brought to the surface the bitter antagonism which exists among the political groups in this country.

A particularly characteristic incident has taken place in South Serbia (Macedonia), in connection with a propaganda trip of two emissaries of Mr. Stephan Raditch, his nephew Pavle Raditch, and a Baron Schwegel⁵²⁵, a former Austro-Hungarian Consul in the United States, a Slovene by origin and known to be extremely averse to the King, the Slovene Clerical Party, and to the Serbs. Both men were attacked by nationalists near Skoplje, and had to escape under the protection of the authorities who finally succeeded in getting them out of the hands of the mob and putting them into a Belgrade train. While Mr. Stephan Raditch accuses the Government of having inspired the whole incident, the Belgrade press is naturally very well pleased with the failure of Raditch to create a bond of interest between the discontented Macedonians and the disgruntled Croats.

The conditions inside the Radical Party continue to remain extremely confused. The life-work of the late Mr. Pashitch for the formation of a strong and disciplined Serbian party, which was for many years the pivot around which revolved Serbian, and later

⁵²⁴ Državni pečat.

⁵²⁵ Schwegel, Ivan Krizostom.

Yugoslav political life, is now more and more threatened by strife among the Radicals. Although efforts are being made to conserve the unity of the party, the divergencies among its various fractions are so considerable that it is possible that the Radicals will present entirely separate lists of candidates in the elections. To-day's press reports that a regular fight took place at yesterday's meeting of the Radical Party at Valjevo, near Belgrade, during which thirty people were seriously injured. Further details indicate that the incident was provoked by two rival groups of Radicals who could not come to an understanding as to the choice of the local Radical candidate to Parliament. The Central Committee of that Party is mostly composed of unscrupulous and well known corruptionists who surrounded Pashitch in his old days and who were responsible for many of the reproaches made against him toward the end of his career. Mr. Vukitchevitch and the other Radical Minister of his Cabinet have a better reputation and enjoy the complete confidence of the King, whereas the third important faction of the Radical Party, headed by the late Prime Minister Mr. Ouzounovitch, has apparently decided to join Mr. Vukitchevitch in his present attempt to weaken the influence of the Central Committee of the Radical Party. The numerous Cabinet crises since the retirement of the late Mr. Pashitch from active politics (April 1926) have to a great extent been provoked by petty intrigues and ambitions in the Radical Party and I believe that the King in ordering general elections was fully aware of the necessity of clearing a situation which was becoming prejudicial to the interests of the country and which has long since appeared a travesty in the eyes of foreign observers.

Mr. Vukitchevitch's situation is nevertheless very difficult. Not being well known in his party it is hard for him to combat the influence of the Central Committee, which is still using and abusing for its own private aims the prestige of the late Mr. Pashitch. The relations of the Radical Ministers with their colleagues, members of the Democratic Party, are far from being good and are not likely to improve as the elections approach. Besides this there always exists the danger of a change of attitude on the part of Mr. Stephan Raditch. Although he has expressed on many occasions during the past two years his loyalty to the King and to the "united motherland", I am not so sure that he may not change his policy now that the Serbian political parties are weakened by internal dissention. I still continue to believe that Mr. Raditch himself is more of an ambitious intriguer than a deliberate enemy of Yugoslavia but I have no doubt that some of his intimate collaborators, such as the above mentioned Baron Schwegel, are deliberately working against the best interests of the Kingdom, and have joined forces with the Raditch Party with the sole object of using it as a shield for their destructive, if not separatist, aims.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
 John Dyneley Prince⁵²⁶
 John Dyneley Prince,
 American Minister.

⁵²⁶ Vlastoručno.

DOKUMENTI

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96. 1927., srpanj 13., Izvješće poslanika Johna Dyneleyja Princea State Departmentu o njegovu razgovoru sa Stjepanom Radićem na Bledu o izborima, kampanji i djelovanju HSS-a u Bosni, Makedoniji gdje „oružništvo provodi vladavinu terora protiv svih neradikalskih glasača“, očekivanjima na budućim izborima, odnosu s Italijom.

NARA, M 358, R 4, 860H.00/321

[...] ⁵²⁸

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Belgrade, July 16, 1927.

Despatch No. 259

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that on July 13th, I had two interviews with Mr. Stefan Radić, the President of the Croatian Peasant Party and the most cogent force of the Opposition to the present Coalition Government of a branch of the Radical Party with the Democrats.

Mr. Radić, who is looked upon by all conservative elements in Yugoslavia as the chief danger to the future integrity of the state, has been comparatively quiet during the past six months, as he has been engaged in marshalling his cohorts preparatory to the coming elections in September. He informs that he has succeeded in obtaining “complete

⁵²⁷ Potpis nečitak, strojopis.

⁵²⁸ Državni pečat.