

101. 1927., listopad 26., Izvješće poslanika Johna Dyneleyja Princea State Departmentu o političkom stanju u Kraljevini SHS nakon izbora i utjecaju kralja Aleksandra Karađorđevića na politički život u kojem se ističe i mišljenje da je kralj „najposobniji politički poglavar države u Europi“.

NARA, M 358, R 4, 860h.00/331

[...] ⁵⁴⁹

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Belgrade, October 26, 1927.

Despatch No. 310.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report, as a supplement to the Legation's Despatches No. 286 ½ of September 24, 1927, and No. 307 of October 24, 1927, regarding the internal situation of Yugoslavia, that on October 25, 1927, the two factions of the Democratic Party represented respectively by Mr. Davidović and Mr. Marinković, the Foreign Minister, came to an agreement in party session, according to which the Democratic Party expressed its full confidence in Mr. Davidović and also in the Democratic Ministers – Mr. Marinković and others now in the Government coalition with the Radicals under Premier Vukičević. As the Department will note from my last despatch, Mr. Marinković expressed doubts as to the outcome of his party dispute with the leaders Mr. Davidović and it looked very much as if the present Coalition Ministry were about to fail.

There can be no doubt that the King is responsible for the bolstering up of the present coalition, as he had a long interview with Mr. Davidović at Topola two days ago, during which he is said practically to have ordered the recalcitrant Democratic leader to consent to a part agreement for the present. What means the King used to persuade Davidović to come over to his way of thinking are of course unknown, but the result must be highly satisfactory to every one except the rank Radić opposition.

The communiqué issued by the Democratic group states that it regards as “absolutely necessary a close collaboration between the two parties now combined in the Government Coalition and also a permanent contact between all the members of the

⁵⁴⁹ Državni pečat.

Democratic group and the Democratic representatives in the present government on the one hand, and on the other hand between the entire Democratic Party and its President and Chief, Mr. Davidović, whom the group begs now to devote himself with his usual self-sacrificing effort to establishing order within the Democratic Party ranks.”

All this means that the Radical under the Premier and the Democrats in Parliament under Mr. Marinković will be expected to continue as before, that is, after a great storm the wind has quieted down for the time being.

That there are further signs of trouble, however, may be seen from the utterances of the disappointed Mr. Radić, who in combination with Messrs. Pribičević and the “turn-coat from the Radical Party, Yovan Yovanović”, has declared that the agreement now renewed by the Democrats is tantamount to a rejection of the Radić proposition to form a controlling bloc. This indicates that the opposition will continue its efforts to bring about a vote of lack of confidence in the Skupština against the Coalition Government.

I must regard the potent interference of the King in internal politics as highly significant of the constantly growing power of the Monarch. The Greek Minister, Mr. Polychroniadis while discussing the matter with me to-day even went so far as to state that the Yugoslavs are living under a very thinly veiled autocracy. It is well known that the present Coalition was created by the King personally when he sent the Skupština packing home last April, thus ensuring more than four months of peace to the nation as the Ministry without the Skupština was not liable to dissolve. The King must be looked upon as the most able political chief of state in Europe. That he is inclined to take a leaf out of Mussolini’s book seems apparent and that he will have the hearty support of the very powerful military organization is seen by the openly expressed desire of such men as General Zečević⁵⁵⁰ and Metropolitan Varnava⁵⁵¹ at Skoplje (Legation’s Despatch No. 305) for the establishment of real “Beneficent dictatorship”, and the relegation of the Belgrade politicians to a state of political emasculation!” This latter state of affairs really would be welcomed by every class of people in Yugoslavia except the immediate followers of the politicians themselves.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
 Your obedient servant,
 John Dyneley Prince⁵⁵²
 John Dyneley Prince
 American Minister.

File No. 800 – Quintuplicate.

⁵⁵⁰ Zečević, Milutin.

⁵⁵¹ Varnava (Rosić, Petar) (1880. – 1937.), mitropolit u Skoplju 1920. – 1930., srpski patrijarh 1930. – 1937.

⁵⁵² Vlastoručno.