

CLASSIFICATION S-E-C-R-E-T

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia/Austria

DATE DISTR. 26 July 1955

SUBJECT Minister Falser's Views on Czech
Obstruction of the Austrian Treaty

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[Redacted]

1. [Redacted] the Czech government did everything possible to prevent such a settlement and to retain Soviet troops in Eastern Austria. He has described the Czech policy on the Austrian Treaty as "two-faced and insincere" and that the Czechs intervened with the Soviets against an [Redacted] of the Berlin Conference of 1954 and at the Moscow [Redacted] November 1954, as well as on numerous earlier occasions.
2. An important factor in this attitude of the Czech government, according to Falser, was fear of a new Anschluss, which, together with the remilitarization of Germany, is considered a serious threat to Czechoslovakia.
3. Falser's views on the role of Czechoslovakia in the State Treaty are shared by Yugoslav Ambassador to Prague Ivo Vejvoda, who also believes that Czechoslovakia used its influence in Moscow to prevent the evacuation of Soviet troops from eastern Austria. Vejvoda told Falser in early April 1955 that [Redacted] are still opposing a Soviet withdrawal from Austria, [Redacted] The Yugoslav Ambassador expressed the view that the [Redacted] continue in what Falser termed its "war psychosis" until [Redacted] in [Redacted] threatened militarily from the west.
4. According to Falser, Vejvoda recalled that, at a Warsaw conference of Eastern European states in 1948, at which Yugoslavia was still represented, Czech Foreign Minister Vladimir Clementis was so insistent upon the problem of Austrian and Czech security that the Soviet Foreign Minister finally assured him that the Soviet Union would find a way, even without the occupation of Austria, to turn back any military threats to Czechoslovakia.¹

Comment. Clementis became Czech Foreign Minister on 15 June 1948. The [Redacted]

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1. The Austrian Minister to Prague, Meinrad Falser, is of the opinion that, prior to the recent settlement of the Austrian State Treaty, the Czech government did everything possible to prevent such a settlement and to retain Soviet troops in eastern Austria. He has described the Czech policy on the Austrian Treaty as "two-faced and insincere" and maintained that the Czechs intervened with the Soviets against an Austrian settlement at the time of the Berlin Conference of 1954 and at the Moscow Security Conference of November 1954, as well as on numerous earlier occasions.
2. An important factor in this attitude of the Czech government, according to Falser, was fear of a new Anschluss, which, together with the rearmament of Germany, is considered a serious threat to Czechoslovakia.
3. Falser's views on the role of Czechoslovakia in the State Treaty are shared by Yugoslav Ambassador to Prague, Ivo Vajvoda, who also believes that Czechoslovakia used its influence in Moscow to prevent the evacuation of Soviet troops from eastern Austria. Vajvoda told Falser in early April 1955 that the Czechs were still opposing a Soviet withdrawal from Austria on purely military grounds. The Yugoslav Ambassador expressed the view that the Prague government will continue in what Falser termed its "war psychosis" until it is certain that it is not threatened militarily from the west.
4. According to Falser, Vajvoda recalled that, at a Warsaw conference of Eastern European states in 1948, at which Yugoslavia was still represented, Czech Foreign Minister Vladimir Clementis was so insistent upon the problem of Austrian and Czech security that the Soviet Foreign Minister finally assured him that the Soviet Union would find a way, even without the occupation of Austria, to turn back any military threats to Czechoslovakia.¹

[REDACTED] Comment. Clementis became Czech Foreign Minister on 15 June 1948. The Cominform denunciation of Tito came two weeks later.

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