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SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 28 Jan 1952

SUBJECT Reasons Behind Franc Leskosek's Removal
from the Federal Government of Yugoslavia

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE ACQUIRED

ICE COPY

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LIST BELOW)

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DATE OF INFO.

CIRCULATE SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. The Slovene leader, Franc Leskosek, was reportedly removed from the Yugoslav Federal Government and forced to return to Ljubljana because of dissention caused by ideological and tactical reasons in the Yugoslav Politburo between the Slovene group on the one hand, and the Serbs and Croats on the other.
2. Slovene Communists who stand solid behind Leskosek nominated him as Minister of Industry in the Slovene Republic. He is, however, virtually prevented from assuming office by the UDB of Ljubljana, who have practically forced him to enter a clinic for "reasons of health". As a result, a delegation of leading Slovene Communists travelled to Belgrade where a very agitated meeting of the Politburo took place. The final decision is allegedly pending the return of Slovene Communist delegates who are currently attending the United Nations meeting of the General Assembly in Paris. Leskosek is almost a prisoner, held under strict surveillance.

Comment: The UDB is persecuting Leskosek because of a typewritten memorandum circulated by him to leading Yugoslav Communists, stressing that financial policies of the Federal Government were damaging to the Party and contrary to Marxist teachings.

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Document No. 11

No Change in Class.

Declassified

Class. Changed To: TS ~~S~~ **(P)**

Auth: HR 70-2

Date: 3-1-AUG-1978

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