

~~FOR~~ COORDINATION WITH ^{ed} State

FOR OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

DST 2617

In reply refer to
SY/RMU

March 5, 1953

SECRET - SECURITY INFORMATION

To: Mr. Frank G. Wisner,
Deputy Director, Plans,
Central Intelligence Agency.

From: Mr. J. W. Ford. *JWF*
Director,
Office of Security.

Subject: DURCANSKY, Ferdinand

Reference is made to your memorandum of October 31, 1952,
SO DB-59415 with regard to the subject.

As stated in the above, Durcansky was listed as a war
criminal in 1946. This was done by the United Nations War
Crimes Commission in London at the request of the Czechoslovak
Government. After a trial in absentia, he was condemned to death
by the Slovak People's Court in Bratislava, April 1947.

For your information, the Swiss inquiries as to whether
the United States still considers Durcansky a war criminal and
if he would now be permitted entry into this country, may partially
be based on the fact that in 1944 the United States and United
Kingdom requested the Swiss government not to grant asylum to
war criminals. The question of whether the United States now
regards the alien as a war criminal should only be discussed through
diplomatic channels and a direct response is therefore to be avoided.

No request for a visa has been submitted to the Department
since 1950, and therefore no evidence presented through official
channels to refute adverse allegations concerning Durcansky.
Accordingly, the Department perceives no basis for a reversal of
its previous unfavorable opinion. There is no objection to the
Swiss government being informed to this effect.

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