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AFTER I HAD DELIVERED YOUR DEMARCHE ON ANGOLA AND MADE A TOUGH PROTEST ABOUT TOTH TO ASK ME IN A ROUND-ABOUT BUT UNAMBIGUOUS WAY WHETHER THE POSITIONS I EXPRESSED ON BEHALF OF THE USG WERE TO SOME EXTENT COLORED BY YUGOSLAVIA'S MID-EAST POLICY, OTHERS HAVE SUGGESTED ALMOST FROM THE DAY I ARRIVED THAT MY BACKGROUND WOULD AFFECT MY PERCEPTION OF YUGOSLAVIA.

3. OF COURSE THIS IS ALL BALDERDASH. AS YOU KNOW I HAVE BEEN SYMPATHETIC TO YOUR MID-EAST POLICY AND INDEED IN MY REPORTING CABLES HAVE GIVEN YUGOSLAVS CREDIT FOR HELPING TO HEAD OFF SOME ANTI-ISRAELI RESOLUTIONS. ALTHOUGH I MAY WELL BE SOMEWHAT TOUGHER ON THE YUGOSLAVS THAN A NUMBER IN YOUR DEPARTMENT, IT IS NOT BECAUSE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE "PROTOCOLS OF ZION". PUTTING ASIDE MY PERSONAL FEELINGS (WHICH I CAN) THIS GOY PERCEPTION PERMITS THEM TO DEAL WITH ME OTHER THAN AS THE FULL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

4. FINALLY, REFTTEL (B) REVEALS GOY APPRAISAL OF REASONS FOR USG SUPPORT AS TOTALLY ASCRIBABLE TO PRE-ELECTION POLITICS. IT CERTAINLY SOUNDS AS IF BELOVSKI IS REPORTING THAT CERTAIN CIRCLES (TO USE THE YUGOSLAV PHRASE) IN THE DEPARTMENT WOULD LOVE TO GET RID OF ME BUT CAN'T UNTIL AFTER THE ELECTION (WHICH I AM SURE IS TRUE).

5. IN SUM THEN, THE YUGOSLAVS PLAN TO ISOLATE ME UNTIL AFTER THE ELECTION AND IN THE MEANTIME TREAT MY CONTINUED PRESENCE HERE NOT AS A REFLECTION OF U.S. POLICY TOWARDS YUGOSLAVIA BUT RATHER IN TERMS OF DOMESTIC POLITICAL EXIGENCIES. UNDER THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES, I DOUBT MY CONTINUED USEFULNESS TO ANYONE. I WOULD STAY HERE UNTIL HELL FROZE OVER IF I THOUGHT IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR U.S. INTERESTS AND IF I WAS TO GET THE KIND OF TRULY SOLID BACKING (INCLUDING RECIPROCITY VIS-A-VIS BELOVSKI) WHICH WOULD FORCE THE YUGOSLAVS TO DEAL WITH ME. BUT I DON'T BELIEVE THE FORMER AND DON'T FORESEE THE LATTER.

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6. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE TIMING OF AN ANNOUNCEMENT AND YOUR DESIRE AS TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE. MY OWN VIEW IS APPROXIMATELY SEPTEMBER 1 (BY THE WHITE HOUSE OF COURSE) AND OCTOBER 1.
SILBERMAN

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