

14 August 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Information Services

FROM: Chief, Classification Review Division

SUBJECT: Contact with the Eisenhower Presidential Library for Information on the Awarding of a Medal to General Draza Mihailovich

1. C/CRD received a telephone call this date from David Haight of the staff at the Eisenhower Presidential Library. David stated that he had checked the Eisenhower papers, the staff files, under all subjects that could pertain such as Yugoslavia, Tito, Mihailovich, etc. and found no record to the event that Rep. Crane mentions.


2. Documents received from the Truman Presidential Library on 13 August 1985 confirmed that President Truman signed a citation that was to accompany the award of the Legion of Merit to General Mihailovich. Truman signed the citation on 22 April 1948, almost five years before Eisenhower became president. (Copies of the documents received from the Truman Library are attached.). Because of the dates and the fact that David Haight's searching had turned up nothing so far, I told David to consider the case closed and thanked him for his efforts.



C/CRD

Attachments:

Material from Truman Library

DA/OIS/CRD  (14 Aug 85)
retyped/kgr (15 Aug 85)

Distribution:

Orig - D/OIS w/att
1 - OLL w/att
1 - DCI/HS w/att
1 - D/PERS w/att
1 - CRD Presidential Library File w/att
1 - CRD Chrono w/o att

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HARRY S TRUMAN LIBRARY

Papers of Harry S Truman
Confidential Files

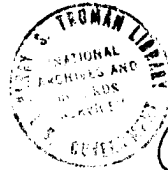
Miss Brewster
Please file completed
for the time being

[Signature]

HARRY S TRUMAN LIBRARY

Papers of Harry S Truman
Confidential Files

5481



C.F.
State

April 22, 1948

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR

MR. WOODWARD

x 20

Referring to your letter of April twenty-first, the President has signed the citation to accompany the award of The Legion of Merit posthumously to General Dragoljub Mihailovich, Yugoslav Army. The citation is returned to you herewith in accordance with your request.

357-B

x

x 364 misc

MATTHEW J. CONNELLY
Secretary to the President

elb

Citation as above.

DECLASSIFIED

E. O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)

Dept. of State letter, 7-15-75

By MLT-HL, NARS Date 1-16-76

Papers of Harry S Truman
Confidential Files

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



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
S/S-PR 093.112/4-948
CONFIDENTIAL



April 21, 1948

My dear Mr. Connelly:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Army dated April 9, 1948 transmitting for presentation at an appropriate time the decoration, citation, certificate, and extract copy of confidential orders relating to the posthumous award of the Legion of Merit, degree of Chief Commander, to General Dragoljub Mihailovich, Yugoslav Army.

Although it is not anticipated that the award will be presented to a recipient in the near future, in view of the present political situation, it would be greatly appreciated if in order to complete the enclosed citation you would be so good as to obtain the President's signature thereon and return the document to me.

Sincerely yours,

Stanley Woodward
Chief of Protocol

Enclosures:

1. From Department of the Army, April 9, 1948.
2. Citation.

The Honorable
Matthew J. Connelly,
Secretary to the President,
The White House.

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 11652, Secs 3(B) and 5(D) or (E)
Dept. of State
APR 25 1975
RENTAL FILE

CONFIDENTIAL

SAFV-3 091.713 Mikulovich,
(RE Jan 48) Dragoljub

9 APR 1948



The Honorable

The Secretary of State

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Department of the Army has approved the posthumous award of the Legion of Merit, Degree of Chief Commander, to General Dragoljub Mikulovich, Yugoslavian Army, for meritorious service to the Allied Forces from December 1941 to December 1944.

In view of the approved policy of the Department of State that this award be regarded as confidential, arrangements have been made in Department of the Army Confidential Orders. The award citation, certificate and an extract copy of Confidential Orders are transmitted herewith for presentation at such time as you deem desirable. May I invite your attention to the fact that the citation requires the signature of the President before being presented.

If presentation is accomplished, it is requested that The Adjutant General be furnished a report as to the name and relationship of the recipient to the late General. Also please report the date and place that the ceremony took place.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) KENNETH C. ROYALL

Kenneth C. Royall
Secretary of the Army

4 Encls.
Model
Citation
Certificate
Extract copy of Confidential Orders

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) of
1-18-77
By NLT-HC, NARS Date 1-16-77

CONFIDENTIAL



**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE LEGION OF MERIT
Degree of Chief Commander
Posthumous
TO
DRAGOLJUB MIHAILOVICH**

General Dragoljub Mihailovich distinguished himself in an outstanding manner as Commander-in-Chief of the Yugoslavian Army Forces and later as Minister of War by organizing and leading important resistance forces against the enemy which occupied Yugoslavia, from December 1941 to December 1944. Through the undaunted efforts of his troops, many United States airmen were rescued and returned safely to friendly control. General Mihailovich and his forces, although lacking adequate supplies, and fighting under extreme hardships, contributed materially to the Allied cause, and were instrumental in obtaining a final Allied Victory.

(Sgd) HARRY S. TRUMAN

THE WHITE HOUSE

TRANSMITTAL SLIP			8 August
TO:			
ROOM			
REMARKS:			
for discussion at 3 pm meeting today.			
FROM: DD/OIS			
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION	

STAT

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
ROUTING SLIP**

TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X		
2	DDCI		X		
3	EXDIR		X		
4	D/ICS				
5	DDI				
6	DDA		X		
7	DDO		X		
8	DDS&T				
9	Chm/NIC				
10	GC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/OLL	X			
14	D/PAO				
15	VC/NIC				
16	D/PERS		X		
17	C/History Staff		X		
18	D/OIS/DA		X		
19					
20					
21					
22					
		SUSPENSE	13 Aug 85		
			Date		

Remarks
 To 13: Please have appropriate response for DCI signature (note that DCI may not be proper source of all info sought).

[Redacted Signature]

Executive Secretary
 6 Aug 85
 Date

3637 (10-81)

STAT

MEMBER OF CONGRESS
12TH DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS



65-2821

OFFICES:
SUITE 1035
LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
202/225-3711

WAYS AND MEANS
COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
TRADE
SOCIAL SECURITY

REPUBLICAN STUDY COMMITTEE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

SUITE 101
1450 SOUTH NEW WILKE ROAD
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL 60005
312/394-0790

56 NORTH WILLIAMS STREET
CRYSTAL LAKE, IL 60014
815/459-3399
312/223-3030

ROBERT C. COLEMAN
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

August 1, 1985

DD/A Registry
85-2744

Honorable William J. Casey, Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

On March 28, 1948, based on the recommendation of General Eisenhower, President Harry Truman awarded the Legion of Merit in the degree of Chief Commander to General Draza Mihailovich of Yugoslavia for leading important resistance forces against the enemy which occupied Yugoslavia during World War II. Furthermore, despite the fact that the Allies had withdrawn support of Mihailovich in favor of supporting Tito and his communists, General Mihailovich and his forces were responsible for the rescue of over 500 American airmen shot down over Yugoslavia in WWII. Recently declassified OSS reports conclusively verify that the Allies decision to abandon Mihailovich was the result of an extensive disinformation campaign spearheaded by Soviet-recruited spies within the British military.

What I would like to know is the following:

1. What was the basis of General Eisenhower's recommendation that the Legion of Merit be awarded to General Mihailovich?
2. In light of the fact that the Allies abandoned Mihailovich, why did President Truman believe it was necessary to bestow upon him the highest award the U.S. can give to any foreigner?
3. Why was the U.S. State Department successful in keeping this commendation classified until congressional pressure forced its declassification in 1968?

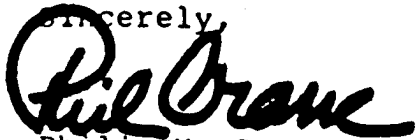
In reference to these questions, I would like a member of your staff to brief me on those considerations that played into what appears to be a most inconsistent policy decision. Finally, if there is any remaining classified information

Honorable William Casey
August 1, 1985
Page Two

concerning the case of General Mihailovich, I would like it to be made available for my review. Please have your staff contact Jeff Crane at 225-3711 to make any necessary arrangements.

Thank you for your assistance. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phil Crane". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Philip M. Crane, M.C.

PMC/jc

OS 85-455



Harry S. Truman Library

Independence, Missouri 64050

August 9, 1985

[redacted] Chief
Classification Review Division
Office of Information Services
CIA
Washington, D.C. 20505

Attention: [redacted]

Dear [redacted]

In accordance with your request, by telephone, for information concerning the awarding posthumously of the Legion of Merit to General Dragoljub Mihailovich of Yugoslavia, we have enclosed a copy of a document from the Papers of Harry S. Truman. If we can be of further service, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Sincerely,

George H. Curtin
for BENEDICT K. ZOBRIST
Director

Enclosure

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STAT

CONFIDENTIAL

9 August 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM:

[Redacted]

Chief, External Branch
Classification Review Division, OIS/DA

25X1

SUBJECT: Mihailovich Records at Truman Library

1. Mr. James Fuchs called from the Truman Library at 1145, Friday, 9 August, in response to my telephone request of the previous afternoon.

2. The Truman Library has the original citation of 9 April 1948 (slightly different date than in Congressman Crane's letter to the DCI) for the posthumous award of the Legion of Merit to General M. There are also an approval letter from Secretary of the Army Royals to the Secretary of State (probably Marshall at this time), and a letter from State's Protocol Chief Stanley Woodward to White House staffer Connolly (possibly I've got the jobs switched) saying that there was no name and relationship for the person to whom the posthumous award would be presented "at this time." These documents are being sent to [Redacted]. There is no document tracing how the Administration came to decide on the award. The citation mentions both the rescue of Allied airmen, and the fact that the undersupplied struggle of his forces contributed to the Allied cause. [Redacted]

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3. State had requested that the award be classified CONFIDENTIAL (Tito was breaking with Stalin about this time!). The documents were declassified in 1975-76.

4. Mihailovich was captured by the Partisans in March 1946 and shot on 17 July 1946.

25X1

[Redacted]

WARNING NOTICE
INTELLIGENCE SOURCES
OR METHODS INVOLVED

DA/OIS/CRD/

[Redacted]

(09 August 1985)

25X1

Distribution:

Orig - Ken McDonald, Chief, DCI History Staff

1 - [Redacted] Chief, CRD/OIS/DA

1 - [Redacted], DD/OIS

1 - CRD Chrono

1 - CRD File on Presidential Libraries

25X1