

AF FORM 112—PART I
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COUNTRY GERMANY	REPORT NO. 51B-D-14492-D	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT CONFINEMENT AND SURVEILLANCE OF CARDINAL STEPINAC		
AREA REPORTED ON KRASIC; YUGOSLAVIA	FROM (Agency) 7050 AISW (USAF)	
DATE OF REPORT 13 - 20 Oct 54	DATE OF INFORMATION Dec 51 - May 52	EVALUATION C-3
PREPARED BY (Officer) W. L. VAN METER, Major, USAF	SOURCE 219536	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) None		
SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112-Part II.) I. PREAMBLE: SOURCE was member of Yugoslavian Militia Counter-Intelligence service Aug 50 - Dec 51. Highest rank held by SOURCE was 2nd Lt. SOURCE then was appointed by Croatian Ministry of Interior in ZAGREB (45 48N/15 58E) commander of militia post in KRASIC (coordinates unknown; located southwest of ZAGREB, district JASTREBARSKO (45 40N/15 39E)) with special order to guard Cardinal STEPINAC. SOURCE was on this duty Dec 51 - May 52, had close connection and cooperation with Yugoslavian Secret Police, knew all details how surveillance of confined Cardinal STEPINAC was carried out. SOURCE had no info other than given in this Rpt; all figures are approximate unless otherwise specified. II. CONFINEMENT AND SURVEILLANCE OF CARDINAL STEPINAC: On 4 Dec 51, SOURCE was summoned by phone to Croatian Minister of Interior Ivan KRAJACIC. When SOURCE came to minister's office in ZAGREB, at that time on "Opaticka" Street # 1, commander of militia for Croatian Republic, Colonel Lutva AHMETOVIC was present. Minister KRAJACIC appointed SOURCE commander of militia post in KRASIC and ordered him to report again next morning. When SOURCE came there again, 5 Dec 51, Minister KRAJACIC told SOURCE that Cardinal STEPINAC would be released from jail and transferred to KRASIC 6 Dec 51, and SOURCE would be responsible that the Cardinal would not be killed by Yugoslavian Communists or Soviet spies. Minister added that all militia men of his post in KRASIC were good Communists and former cooperators of Counter-Intelligence Service, and ordered SOURCE to treat them well and to instruct them to show politeness toward rural population of KRASIC. SOURCE was ordered to make a sketch showing disposition of guards in KRASIC during night, and to check all persons entering or leaving the house where the Cardinal would live. Same day, 5 Dec 51, SOURCE went to KRASIC by motorcycle, met the old commander of militia post with 5 militia men and gave them written order of Croatian Minister of Interior to go to JASTREBARSKO immediately. In the afternoon, 20 new militia men arrived in KRASIC; only 17 of them actually were militia men. 3 of them were "UDBa" officers (Uprava Drzavne Bezbednosti - State Security Administration) with special assignments, but wore normal militia uniform. One of these "UDBa" officers was Major Stevo LABUS, chief of clergy-section of State Security Administration in ZAGREB (ref to Rpt A, Sec X,1); names of 2 others unknown. 3 "UDBa" officers, although serving as ordinary militia men, were not subordinate to local militia commander. SOURCE inspected - INCL. DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR		

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terrain and immediately made a sketch in 2 copies showing disposition of guards during night. Commander of militia for Croatia, Colonel Lutva AHMETOVIC arrived in KRASIC in the evening, SOURCE handed over 2 copies of his sketch, one for militia commander personally, the other for State Security Administration in ZAGREB. Militia commander ordered militia men to show politeness toward population in KRASIC and always to salute Cardinal STEPINAC when meeting him on the street.

Same evening, militia commander gave SOURCE the following orders:

1. All persons not belonging to the parish of KRASIC, are forbidden to enter the church in KRASIC.
2. All motor vehicles coming to or leaving KRASIC between 0600 and 1800 hours are to be checked at a distance of 8km from KRASIC. Names and exact personal data of all passengers of motor vehicles, and numbers of licence plates are to be noted. Trucks are not permitted to carry any civilians not belonging to this truck. Suspected persons are to be arrested.
3. Commander of militia post in KRASIC was ordered to go every morning by motorcycle to JASTREBARSKO and to hand over to State Security Authority a written report with names and personal data of all persons having visited Cardinal STEPINAC on the preceding day. During winter, commander of KRASIC militia post had to go only to village GUOI (coord unknown) located between KRASIC and JASTREBARSKO) where he had to meet "UDBa" commander from JASTREBARSKO and to hand over reports.
4. Parson's house in KRASIC where Cardinal STEPINAC had to live, was to be guarded by one militia man between 0600 and 1800 hours. Militia man had order to note all car numbers, without stopping cars, to note how long passengers of each car were in the Cardinal's house, and to restrain all suspected pedestrians from entering the house. Inhabitants from KRASIC were permitted to visit Cardinal, but they were checked as to what they carried and their names and reason and time of visit were noted. Communists from KRASIC were not admitted. Practically, only the Cardinal's relatives could enter the house. Militia men guarding the house were relieved every 4 hours. For the first 6 weeks, this duty was done by 3 "UDBa" officers dressed in militia uniforms. Afterwards, they left KRASIC.
5. Parson's house was to be guarded by one militia man during night, i.e. from 1800-0600 hours. This guard continuously had to patrol around parson's house and adjacent church. Militia men were relieved every 2 hours.
6. Cardinal STEPINAC was permitted to move within the village KRASIC and to visit whomever he wanted. Militia man on guard duty had order to follow the Cardinal, to see where he went, how long he stayed there, whom he met. Possible attempts of the Cardinal to escape were to be prevented, if necessary by force.

In addition to this order, SOURCE personally ordered 2-3 militia men to walk in the village in order to intensify surveillance of the Cardinal's movements.

Militia commander, Colonel AHMETOVIC, told SOURCE that the Cardinal would arrive in KRASIC in the same evening and then returned to ZAGREB.

At 2300 hours, 5 Dec 51, three limousines arrived in KRASIC; first car with General DRAKULIC, former "UDBa" commander for Croatia, second car with Cardinal STEPINAC and a priest from ZAGREB cathedral as driver, third car with the chief of criminal justice section of the Croatian Ministry of Interior, name unknown. General DRAKULIC opened the door of the Cardinal's car. Cardinal STEPINAC was welcomed by the parson of KRASIC, Joza VRANEKOVIC, born in SAMOBOR

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(45 48N/15 43E), and conducted into the house. General DRAKULIC and chief of criminal justice section carried the Cardinal's luggage into the house, then left together with the priest, driver of second car.

Cardinal STEPINAC occupied rooms on 2nd floor of parson's house. SOURCE observed that light was turned out at 0300 hours in the morning. Next day, 6 Dec 51, in the morning, Cardinal went to nearby church, but did not celebrate mass. On this day, 10 cars with visitors, most of them diplomats from ZAGREB, came to KRASIC. Later on, visitors came every day, as long as SOURCE was there. On 7 Dec 51, 0600 hours, Cardinal STEPINAC celebrated an early Advent's mass. Church was overcrowded and half of KRASIC population standing outside of church. Inhabitants of town began to visit the Cardinal 5-6 days later, but militia admitted only a few of them usually relatives only.

SOURCE was ordered by "UDBa" commander in JASTREBARSKO, Capt. 1st class Joza DRPIC (ref to Rpt A, Sec X,4) to introduce himself to Cardinal STEPINAC and to ask the Cardinal if he considered a personal protection necessary or not. "UDBa" only wanted to know what the Cardinal would answer. On 8 Dec 51, SOURCE went into parson's house, asked the parson to announce him to the Cardinal, and accompanied by the parson, introduced himself to the Cardinal. Having been questioned about his security, the Cardinal answered he was very satisfied that militia organs were taking care of his security, however, he would prefer not to be shadowed by militia step by step. By order of "UDBa" commander DRPIC, SOURCE had to address the Cardinal with "Doctor". SOURCE then returned to militia post bldg, a former property of the Cardinal, and reported to Capt DRPIC what he talked to the cardinal. In the future, SOURCE met the Cardinal only twice in the courtyard of parson's house and spoke a few words only to him.

On 24 Dec 51, Christmas Eve, 5 "UDBa" officers from ZAGREB, all of them specialists for investigation of clergy, and Capt DRPIC from JASTREBARSKO came to militia post in KRASIC. There also came 2 "UDBa" agents from ZAGREB who had order to go to church to Christmas matins, to watch the Cardinal's sermon and to give a written report to "UDBa". Christmas service was attended by numerous people of town and of other villages, even from Slovenia, so that militia was unable to stop all of them.

All Sunday services and sermons were held by Cardinal STEPINAC. He went for walks very seldom, and then only to see his relatives. The Cardinal received money from the ZAGREB cathedral, and also many gift packages with food, mostly from USA. Housekeeper of parson's house were 5 nuns.

Militia men were not permitted to enter the church. Sermons of the Cardinal were watched by "UDBa" agents Jelka STEPINAC, a remote relative of the Cardinal, and Marija (called "Mara") STEPINAC, the sister of the Cardinal. They had to give written reports to operational officer of State Security Authority in JASTREBARSKO, first name Joza, who was responsible for the KRASIC area and lived in the militia post bldg in KRASIC. Marija STEPINAC met her brother, the Cardinal, every day, and had order to report to "UDBa" all details that her brother was doing at home. The Cardinal gave his siter Marija money and food, but did not like her because she had been a partisan during World War II. Another "UDBa" agent was Branko STEPINAC, son of Marija STEPINAC (i.e. the Cardinal's nephew), who also had order to report everything what the Cardinal was doing. The Cardinal liked Branko, gave him money and food. SOURCE knew that operational officer "Joza" also met other unknown agents in KRASIC who were ordered to watch the Cardinal.

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Another sister of the Cardinal, Terezija (called "Reza") STEPINAC, widow, was no agent. The Cardinal liked her and usually on Sundays went to her place for dinner.

Operational officer "Jozs" was called back to JASTREBARSKO Feb 52, but remained operational officer for the KRASIC area. His special duty in KRASIC was taken over by operational officer, first name "Pero", born Dalmatian, "UDBa" specialists for investigation of clergy, who came from KARLOVAC (45 29N/15 33 E) and lived in the militia post bldg. "Pero" did not tell SOURCE any details of his duty, SOURCE only knew that "Pero" met "UDBa" agents Marija, Branko and Jelka STEPINAC. "Pero" even had meetings with the Parson VRANEKOVIC. SOURCE had impression that "Pero" attempted to recruit him as "UDBa" agent. SOURCE only heard from "Pero" that the Cardinal was writing a book.

Letters forwarded by and mailed to the Cardinal were not opened. SOURCE was ordered by "UDBa" commander in JASTREBARSKO to recruit the KRASIC post-office employee Djuro BABIC to work as "UDBa" informant and BABIC agreed. His daily reports contained exact addresses of forwarded and received letters and packages, description of envelopes and packages, their weight, and contents of packages. Daily reports were handed over by SOURCE to "UDBa" commander in JASTREBARSKO.

Entire militia personnel in KRASIC had order to talk to local citizens and to find out their opinion about the Cardinal. Written reports contained these observations were submitted to "UDBa" commander in JASTREBARSKO.

Militia post in KRASIC had 17 rifles, Yugoslavian model 48, manufactured in KRAGUJEVAC (44 OLN/20 55E), 5 rounds; 7 submachine guns, copy of Soviet SHPAGIN, made in KRAGUJEVAC, partly drum, partly box magazine; 2 German MG 42 light machine guns; 2 wooden boxes with total of 100 hand grenades. Submachine guns, machine guns and hand grenades were provided for defense. Militia men on duty were armed with rifles.

Local Communist Party Committee in KRASIC had about 10 members. SOURCE gave them order not to undertake anything against the Cardinal and to notify him if they would find out that anybody would plan or prepare actions against the Cardinal.

III. PERSONAL DATA:

Marija STEPINAC, called "Mara", the Cardinal's sister, "UDBa" agent, 40 years, born in KRASIC, 1.75m, corpulent, brown hair, brown eyes, red complexion. She was widow and had 1 son, Branko STEPINAC. Her husband was killed during World War II as Red partisan. She likes to drink. Was a partisan herself after 1943 and member of Communist Party, but later dismissed from party for unknown reasons.

Branko STEPINAC, son of Marija STEPINAC, "UDBa" agent, 20 years, born in KRASIC, 1.78m, slender, brown hair, brown eyes; single. Completed high school in KARLOVAC, was then student at ZAGREB University. Came to KRASIC every Sunday. Was suffering from tuberculosis of lungs.

Jelka STEPINAC, remote relative of the Cardinal, "UDBa" agent, 28 years, born in KRASIC, 1.60m, slender, blond hair, blue eyes, married, no children. Was for 5 years in ZAGREB to become a nun, but returned to KRASIC because of sickness. Had close connection with nuns who were housekeepers of parson's house in KRASIC.

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Djuro BABIC, chief of KRASIC post office, "UDBa" informant, 45 years, born in LIKA region (44 46N/15 10E), 1.80m, stocky, black hair, black eyes, thick black eyebrows, married, no children.

IV. GENERAL INFORMATION:

SOURCE heard from "UDBa" operational officer "Jeza" from JASTREBARSKO that Cardinal STEPINAC previously was imprisoned in a separate small house in the prison in LEPOGLAVA (46 13N/16 02E) where he had several rooms and a small private chapel. He had radio, received newspapers, and was permitted to celebrate mass. The house was surrounded by a separate wall and no prison officials were permitted to enter this house. The Cardinal had no contact with other prisoners. Food was brought to the Cardinal by a militia officer. The Cardinal allegedly rejected TITO's proposal of release if he would leave Yugoslavia.

SOURCE heard from Major LABUS, chief of clergy-section of State Security Administration in ZAGREB, that Croation Government proposed to Cardinal STEPINAC to go to the island HVAR (43 07N/16 45E) where he would live in the bishop's house. The reason of this proposal was to make surveillance of Cardinal STEPINAC easier. However, the Cardinal rejected this proposal and demanded the right to live and to die in his native place, KRASIC.

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