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CAPTIVE COUNTRIES

DRAZHA MICHAJLOWIC'S SUCCESSOR DIES IN HANNOVER

SOURCE MUNICH: RFE News Bureau.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: August 9 1956.

EVALUATION COMMENT: According to additional information available here General DAMJANOVIC was leader of the group very friendly toward RFE. All his efforts were concentrated on bringing about unity within the much divided Yugoslav emigration in order to fight Communism more successfully. It is, however, doubtful whether General DAMJANOVIC's group will retain its cohesion after the death of its leader.

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General Miodrag DAMJANOVIC died in the afternoon of August 4 in the HANNOVER "Agnes Karl Klinik" after a long illness. The general was the chairman of the Yugoslav Soldiers and Freedom Fighters Organization of the Royal Yugoslav Army of Drazha MICHAJLOVIC and was regarded as MICHAJLOVIC's legitimate successor.

An officer of the Yugoslav Army's Ordnance forces, DAMJANOVIC was interned by the British upon TITO's request but released and rehabilitated after an investigation proved his innocence. He is the founder and spiritual leader of the above mentioned organization, members of which reportedly have continued their fight against TITO Communists in their home country.

DAMJANOVIC suddenly fell ill in June 1955 with an unspecified illness. He successfully underwent an operation in FRANKFURT and was discharged from the hospital but in March 1956 again fell ill and was hospitalized in the "Agnes Karl Klinik" where he died last Saturday.

DAMJANOVIC was often called the "General Anders" of the Yugoslav emigration and had many friends among influential American and British politicians and statesmen.

He was buried in HANNOVER on August 8 1956. His organization publishes the newspaper "Ravnogorski Borac" edited by KASAPINOVIC in Germany.

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