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LETTER DATED 28 DECEMBER 1948 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FEDERAL PEOPLE'S  
REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL  
TRANSMITTING A NOTE REGARDING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE  
FREE TERRITORY OF TRIESTE

December 28, 1948

Sir,

Upon the instruction of the Government of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia, I send the enclosed note regarding the administration of the Free Territory of Trieste.

I beg to request that this note be circulated among the members of the Security Council and to have this note reproduced as a Security Council document.

Permit me, sir, to assure you of my high consideration.

Sincerely,

Joza Vilfan

Permanent Representative of the F.P.R.  
of Yugoslavia to the United Nations

Mr. Fernand van Langenhove  
President of the Security Council  
United Nations  
Lake Success, New York

/The Government

The Government of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia has the honour to address the Security Council, which in accordance with Article 2 of Annex VI of the Treaty of Peace with Italy, assures the integrity and independence of the Free Territory of Trieste, and to draw its attention to new violations of the provisions of the Permanent Statute of the Free Territory of Trieste, and the instrument for the Provisional Regime of the Free Territory of Trieste, on the part of the Allied Military Administration of the Anglo-American zone of the Free Territory of Trieste.

1. The Allied Military Administration for the Anglo-American zone has issued decree No. 193 of 9 April 1948, dealing with identification cards. Article 2 of the decree provides for the issuance of new identification cards by the mayors (presidents of the communities) to all persons living in the respective communities, and Article 3 determines the validity of the old identification cards to the date of 31 December 1948. According to this decree the local authorities of the community of Trieste will issue identification cards only in the Italian language. This procedure, which will be applied in the city of Trieste when the new identification cards are issued, is contrary to the provisions of the Permanent Statute of the Free Territory of Trieste. Article 7 of Annex VI of the Treaty of Peace with Italy provides that the official languages of the Free Territory of Trieste are Italian and Slovene. Article 7, paragraph 1 of Annex VI is valid with regard to the provision of Article 2 of Annex VII, which reads that all provisions of the Permanent Statute will also be applied during the period of the Provisional Regime as and when these provisions prove to be applicable and in so far as they are not superseded by Annex VII. The proof that this article is applicable in this concrete case is first of all the practice hitherto. The identification cards which have been valid up to now were printed in the Slovene language as well. Furthermore, the Zone is a unit with regard to the validity of the provisions of the laws and there is no legal reason for any distinction between the community of the city of Trieste and other communities in this Zone. The Slovene language has to be applied as an official language on the identification cards not only in other individual communities but also on the identification cards of the community of Trieste, as has been the case up to this time.

2. In filling out the new identification cards the inhabitants of the Free Territory of Trieste are requested to fill in the space about citizenship not with "Citizen of the Free Territory of Trieste" but with "Italian Citizen." This request of the local authorities, which is inspired by the attitude of the Allied Military Administration, is also contrary to the Treaty of Peace with Italy, which in Article 6 of Annex VI

/provides

provides for the definition of citizenship of the Free Territory of Trieste. To this Article 6 of Annex VI, Article 2 of Annex VII has to be applied, which provides that all articles of the Permanent Statute will also be applied during the period of the Provisional Regime as and when these provisions prove to be applicable and in so far as they are not superseded by Annex VII of the Treaty of Peace. Article 8 of the Instrument of the Provisional Regime of the Free Territory of Trieste provides that to the elections to the Constituent Assembly the same conditions are valid as are provided in the Permanent Statute for the elections to the Popular Assembly; and, since for the Constituent Assembly of the Free Territory of Trieste only citizens of the Free Territory of Trieste are entitled to vote, it is evident that citizenship of the Free Territory of Trieste must exist in the period of the Provisional Regime, and that in accordance with Article 2 of Annex VII, the provision of Article 6 of the Permanent Statute of the Free Territory of Trieste, concerning citizenship can and must be applied.

The Government of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia protests emphatically against these violations of the provisions of the Treaty of Peace with Italy concerning the Free Territory of Trieste on the part of the Allied Military Administration for the Anglo-American Zone of the Free Territory of Trieste. The Government of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia hopes that the Security Council will ensure the observance of the provisions of the Permanent Statute with regard to article 2 of Annex VII of the Treaty of Peace.

Beograd, 25 December 1948

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