

MEETING BETWEEN OUR REPRESENTATIVE AND A UKRAINIAN FROM POLAND, IN PARIS, ON SEPTEMBER 15-18, 1957. *y. Val'ko says I never met him in Paris*
 THIS UKRAINIAN, WHOM WE SHALL DESIGNATE WITH THE LETTERS M.K., IS AN ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT THE POLYTECHNICAL COLLEGE IN DANZIG AND CAME TO PARIS WITH A GROUP OF PROFESSORS AND STUDENTS TO GET ACQUAINTED WITH WESTERN EUROPEAN ARCHITECTURE. THE FACT THAT M.K. IS A UKRAINIAN IS KNOWN ONLY TO ONE PROFESSOR WHO IS OF CZECH ORIGIN.

WE KNOW THE REAL NAME AND BIOGRAPHY OF M.K. HE IS ABOUT 30, A NATIVE OF WEST UKRAINE, A CONSCIOUS UKRAINIAN PATRIOT AND CIVIC LEADER. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT HE IS A PARTY MEMBER.

ON THE BASIS OF SEVERAL MEETINGS DURING FOUR DAYS, OUR REPRESENTATIVE REPORTED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION GAINED FROM M.K.:

1. POSITION OF UKRAINIANS IN POLAND.

ACCORDING TO M.K., THE POLES HAD TO RECOGNIZE THE UKRAINIAN MINORITY OFFICIALLY, BECAUSE THIS PROBLEM EXISTED SINCE THE VERY BEGINNING. HAVING DISPERSED THE UKRAINIANS ALL OVER POLAND, AND PARTICULARLY ON TERRITORIES WHICH FORMERLY BELONGED TO GERMANY, THEY DID NOT SUCCEED IN LIQUIDATING THE UKRAINIAN PROBLEM. THE UKRAINIANS MAINTAINED CLANDESTINE CONTACTS WITH EACH OTHER FOR SOCIAL, RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL PURPOSES. STUDENTS KEPT IN TOUCH WITH EACH OTHER, EVEN IF THEY ATTENDED DIFFERENT UNIVERSITIES. THEY GOT TOGETHER TO OBSERVE NATIONAL HOLIDAYS, AS E.G. THE SHEVCHENKO OR IVAN FRANKO ANNIVERSARIES, PARTICULARLY THOSE UKRAINIANS WHO HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM WEST OF THE CURZON LINE. M.K. BELIEVES THAT THE INITIATIVE TO RECOGNIZE THE UKRAINIAN MINORITY CAME FROM THE POLISH AND NOT THE SOVIET SIDE. MOSCOW IS AT PRESENT TRYING TO EXERT ITS INFLUENCE UPON THE UKRAINIAN SOCIAL AND CULTURAL SOCIETY ALONG THE LINE OF THE THREAT AND NECESSITY TO OPPOSE SO-CALLED UKRAINIAN BOURGEOIS NATIONALISM. M.K. DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT PERMISSION TO RENEW UKRAINIAN ACTIVITIES IN POLAND WAS A MANEUVER OF THE POLISH OR SOVIET GOVERNMENT DESIGNED TO UNCOVER UKRAINIANS WHO HAVE BEEN PASSING AS POLES AND THEN TO REMOVE OR LIQUIDATE THEM.

THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE UKRAINIAN SOC.-CULT.SOC. WAS ~~STEPAN MAKUCH~~, A FORMER MEMBER OF KPZU (COMMUNIST PARTY OF WEST UKRAINE, A SOVIET-SPONSORED PARTY WHICH WAS ACTIVE AMONG THE UKRAINIANS IN POLAND BETWEEN THE TWO WORLD WARS). HE IS A CONSCIOUS UKRAINIAN. THE PRESENT HEAD OF THE SOCIETY IS ~~HRYHORY BOYARSKY~~, A MEMBER OF THE UNITED POLISH WORKERS' PARTY (COMMUNIST). ON THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE SOCIETY IS ALSO ~~I.Y. SHCHYRBA~~, A SOVIET CITIZEN WHO PROMOTES THE MOST ORTHODOX LINE OF MOSCOW'S POLICY. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE SOCIETY IS ~~VOLHA VASYLKIV~~, ALSO A COMMUNIST. THERE ARE SOME CONSCIOUS UKRAINIAN NON-COMMUNISTS ON THE BOARD, TOO.

THE BOARD OF THE SOCIETY AND THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF "NASHE SLOVO" ARE UNDER CONTINUOUS PRESSURE OF THE UKRAINIAN MASSES. FOR EXAMPLE: AT ONE MEETING YOUNG MEMBERS DEMANDED ESTABLISHMENT OF CULTURAL CONTACTS WITH THE UKRAINIAN SSR AND EXTENDING AID TO UKRAINE BY DISTRIBUTING BOOKS. THEY CAME UP WITH A DECLARATION THAT IF SOVIET UKRAINE AND THE UKRAINIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE IN KIEV WILL NOT TAKE AN INTEREST IN THEM, THEY WILL APPEAL TO THE UKRAINIAN FREE UNIVERSITY IN MUNICH. AFTER THAT, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY

IS SAID TO HAVE STATED THAT IF SOME PEOPLE WANT TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE UKRAINIAN FREE UNIVERSITY, THEY DON'T HAVE TO TALK ABOUT IT IN PUBLIC. GENERALLY SPEAKING, YOUTH HAS JOINED IN THE SOCIETY'S ACTIVITIES. OLDER PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY INTELLECTUALS, SEEM TO BE AFRAID AND ONLY A FEW ARE WORKING ACTIVELY. FOR EXAMPLE, UKRAINIANS OCCUPYING RESPONSIBLE POSITIONS IN THE POLISH COMMUNIST PARTY, ARE NOT ACTIVE IN THE UKRAINIAN S-C. SOCIETY. AMONG SUCH ARE THE PROVINCIAL PARTY SECRETARY IN GDANSK (DANZIG), TRUSH, AND THE PROVINCIAL PARTY SECRETARY IN LUBLIN, HOLOD.

THE UKRAINIAN SC SOCIETY DOES NOT RECEIVE ANY SUBSIDIES FROM THE SOVIET EMBASSY, BUT FINANCIAL AID IS GIVEN BY THE EMBASSY TO THE RUSSIAN "OBSHCHESTVO" FOUNDED IN 1945. LATELY, SCHOLARLY INSTITUTIONS IN THE UKRAINIAN SSR HAVE BEEN TRYING TO ESTABLISH CONTACTS WITH THE UKRAINIAN SC SOCIETY BY SENDING THEIR PUBLICATIONS AND NEWSPAPERS. CHORAL ENSEMBLES COME FROM UKRAINE TO POLAND, TOO. THIS YEAR TWO PROFESSORS FROM KIEV TAUGHT AT COURSES FOR TEACHERS OF UKRAINIAN IN POLAND AND 5 STUDENTS WENT TO KIEV TO STUDY UKRAINIAN LITERATURE AT KIEV UNIVERSITY.

THERE ARE ABOUT 200 UKRAINIANS STUDYING AT VARIOUS UNIVERSITIES IN POLAND: WROCLAW (BRESLAU), CRACOW, WARSAW, LUBLIN AND GDANSK (DANZIG).

CONTACTS BETWEEN UKRAINIANS IN POLAND AND THE UKR.SSR.

ACCORDING TO M.K., SUCH CONTACTS EXIST DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY. DIRECT CONTACTS CONSIST OF: VISITS OF RELATIVES IN THE USSR BY UKRAINIANS FROM POLAND AND (FOR THE TIME BEING ONLY IN EXCEPTIONAL CASES) VICE VERSA. SUCH TRIPS ARE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO UKRAINIANS IN THE UKRAINIAN SSR. IN CONVERSATIONS THEY ARE INTERESTED IN THE ACTIVITIES OF UKRAINIANS IN POLAND AND THEY ASK ABOUT EMIGRES IN THE FREE WORLD, TOO. THERE IS MUCH INTEREST ON THE PART OF SOVIET UKRAINIANS IN THE WEST'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE UKRAINIAN PROBLEM. FOR EXAMPLE: NEWS ABOUT OBSERVANCES OF UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY (JANUARY 22ND) IN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND IN THE SEVERAL STATES GAVE THE UKRAINIANS A GREAT SPIRITUAL UPLIFT.

AN INDIRECT CONTACT IS DISTRIBUTION OF "NASHE SLOVO" IN UKRAINE WHICH IS READ VERY AVIDLY. ACCORDING TO M.K., PEOPLE IN KIEV ASK FOR "NASHE SLOVO" AT NEWSSTANDS. THERE IS A GREAT DEMAND FOR BOOKS FROM THE WEST, INCLUDING THOSE PUBLISHED BY UKRAINIAN EMIGRES. SUCH BOOKS CAN BE SENT TO THE UKRAINIAN SSR FROM POLAND. M.K. REPORTS THAT ALL SUCH BOOKS ARE SOUGHT AFTER IN THE UKRAINIAN SSR, EVEN THOSE THAT WERE PROHIBITED BEFORE THE WAR, AND PEOPLE PASS THEM FROM HAND TO HAND.

UKRAINIANS IN POLAND AND EMIGRE UKRAINIANS.

UKRAINIANS IN POLAND KNOW QUITE A LOT ABOUT EMIGRE UKRAINIANS THEY GATHER INFORMATION FROM LISTENING TO RADIO BROADCASTS AND FROM NEWSPAPERS WHICH THEY GET IRREGULARLY. ALL GOOD NEWS IS

ORALLY AND FINALLY REACHES INTO THE UKRAINIAN SSR. THEIR PRIMARY DEMAND TO THE EMIGRES IS THAT EMIGRES UNITE AND THAT PEACE REIGN AMONG THEM FROM WHICH COOPERATION ON THE EXTERNAL SECTOR WOULD RESULT. THEY BELIEVE THAT UKRAINIAN EMIGRES ARE IN A POSITION TO HELP OR HARM THE UKRAINIANS IN POLAND AS WELL AS IN THE USSR. THIS WOULD DEPEND ON WHAT IS BEING PUBLISHED IN THE EMIGRE PRESS AND HOW VARIOUS POLITICAL PROBLEMS ARE ANALYZED. M.K. BELIEVES THAT IN GENERAL THE UKRAINIAN EMIGRE PRESS SHOULD WRITE ABOUT UKRAINIANS IN POLAND AND IN THE USSR, BUT IT SHOULD NEITHER SCOLD THEM FOR BEING COMMUNISTS NOR MAKE NATIONALISTS OUT OF THEM. IT SHOULD RATHER OFFER IMPARTIAL CRITICISM, PARTICULARLY OF THE AUTHORITIES.

REACTION TO WESTERN RADIO BROADCASTS

M.K. WAS VERY EMPHATIC ABOUT THE NEED FOR EMIGRES TO MAKE ALL POSSIBLE ATTEMPTS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF PROGRAMS BROADCAST OVER VOICE OF AMERICA AND RADIO LIBERATION. ACCORDING TO M.K. AND THE LISTENERS FOR WHOM HE WAS SPEAKING, THE BEST RADIO PROGRAMS ARE BROADCAST BY MADRID AND ROME. LISTENERS ARE NOT SATISFIED WITH BROADCASTS EXTOLLING THE HIGH STANDARD OF LIVING IN AMERICA AND IN THE WEST. THE PEOPLE KNOW THAT CONDITIONS IN THE WEST ARE BETTER AND IT DOES NOT MAKE PEOPLE OVER THERE ANY HAPPIER TO HEAR ABOUT THIS WHILE THEY ARE POOR. THEY WOULD MUCH RATHER LISTEN TO WHAT THE WEST IS DOING TO IMPROVE THEIR UNHAPPY LOT.

GENERAL INFORMATION

M.K. REPORTED THAT THE POLISH AUTHORITIES WERE RELEASING SOME MEMBERS OF THE UKRAINIAN UNDERGROUND (UPA) FROM PRISON. RECENTLY A FORMER UPA SOLDIER RETURNED TO HIS FAMILY IN POLAND FROM A CONCENTRATION CAMP AT KARAGANDA AND HE CONFIRMED REPORTS WHICH WE HAD RECEIVED EARLIER. THE DEMANDS OF THE STRIKERS WERE IDENTICAL WITH THOSE REPORTED IN THE LETTER OF UKRAINIAN POLITICAL PRISONERS TO THE UNITED NATIONS. THIS UPA MEMBER'S FATHER IS LIVING IN ENGLAND (NEAR LONDON) AND IS MAKING ATTEMPTS TO HAVE HIM COME OVER AND JOIN HIM.

M.K. EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO VISIT THE WEST AGAIN, OR BETTER YET, TO STAY FOR ABOUT A YEAR'S STUDIES ABROAD.

BOOKS HANDED OVER BY OUR REPRESENTATIVE

M.K. READILY AGREED TO TAKE BACK 12 UKRAINIAN BOOKS WITH HIM AND PLACED AN ORDER FOR "THE UKRAINIAN ENCYCLOPEDIA" WHICH HE WILL TRANSMIT TO UKRAINE. HE ALSO TOOK THREE COPIES OF ISSUES NO. 5, 6 AND 7-8 OF "THE INFORMATION BULLETIN." HE PROMISED TO SEND THE "IB" TO UKRAINE AND TO HELP DISTRIBUTE IT IN POLAND. HE WILL WRITE US A LETTER, ADDRESSING IT TO ONE OF THE MAIL BOXES OF "IB." HE WILL ALSO PROVIDE US WITH ADDRESSES OF INCONSPICUOUS PEOPLE TO WHOM THE "IB" AND BOOKS CAN BE MAILED. HE ALSO PROVIDED US WITH TWO ADDRESSES IN GDANSK TO WHICH WE CAN MAIL "SUCHASNA UKRAINA" AND "UKRAINSKA LITERATURNHA HAZETA."

M.K. THANKED FOR THE HOSPITALITY EXTENDED TO HIM AND ON BIDDING FAREWELL PROMISED TO WRITE FROM POLAND, REPORTING WHAT THINGS CAN BE SENT AND TO WHAT ADDRESSES. HE THOUGHT THAT HE COULD TAKE BOOKS ALONG WITH HIM BECAUSE THE CUSTOMS INSPECTION WAS VERY CURSORY. HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT A GOOD FRIEND OF HIS WAS GOING TO KIEV TO CONTINUE HIS STUDIES THIS YEAR AND THAT HE WOULD SPEAK TO HIM AND MAKE CONTACTS THROUGH HIM.

HE ADDED THAT WHEN PACKAGES WITH FOOD OR CLOTHING ARE SENT TO POLAND, A BOOK CAN ALWAYS BE ADDED AND THINGS CAN BE WRAPPED IN NEW NEWSPAPERS. SUCH PACKAGES PASS INSPECTION, BUT THE METHOD SHOULD NOT BE OVERDONE.

OUR NOTE:

1. IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN AND WIDEN CONTACTS OF THIS KIND IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO SUPPLY OUR REPRESENTATIVES WITH SMALL COLLECTIONS OF BOOKS WHICH ARE APPROPRIATE FOR TRANSMISSION TO THE USSR AND TO SATELLITE COUNTRIES.
 2. IT IS ALSO NECESSARY FOR OUR REPRESENTATIVES TO HAVE A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF CASH TO COVER THE ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH MEETINGS AND CONVERSATIONS. SOMETIMES IT IS MOST ESSENTIAL TO BUY A SMALL GIFT. (IN THIS INSTANCE, OUR REPRESENTATIVE TOOK M.K. FOR A VISIT TO HEADQUARTERS OF SHEVCHENKO SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY AT SARCELLES NEAR PARIS AND THE SOCIETY'S EMPLOYEES PRESENTED HIM WITH A NECKTIE AND SWEATER AND ALSO THROUGH OUR REPRESENTATIVE \$ 15 AND 5,000 FRANCS IN CASH).
 3. IT IS INDISPENSABLE THAT WE MAINTAIN OUR REPRESENTATIONS IN OTHER COUNTRIES, E.G. ITALY, BELGIUM, ETC. WHICH ARE OFTEN VISITED BY TOURISTS AND OTHER VISITORS FROM THE USSR.
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Part 3
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SITUATION OF UKRAINIANS IN SIBERIA

During his stay in Poland our reporter K. met a Ukrainian student X., who was introduced to him by his friends in Poland. This student X. informed K. about the situation and conditions the Ukrainians live in Siberia.

Mr. K. could not learn the name of his informer. He found out that X. was a student of medicine, 22-23 years old and that he originally came from Kalush, Stanislav oblast. In 1948 X. was deported as a young boy, with his family to Siberia and lived since and up to 1956 ca 60 kilometers from Khabarovsk.

All deported Ukrainians live there as "special settlers". They are intelligentsia and peasants, live in barracks and work as woodcutters. Physicians work as doctors, priests as bookkeepers, others in the administration. Special brigades of lumbermen work in the woods and there occur often accidents resulting in death, or crippling. At first they all had to report to militia every other day, later it was changed to once a month. First they could go to the raion only with special passes, later they were permitted to go even to Khabarovsk.

"Special settlers" in Khabarovsk area are 75% Ukrainians from Galicia and Volynia, the rest are temporary settlers from the Caucasus, Turkestan sentenced for different crimes at home during the war. There were also Kolchak people as "special settlers" brought from Manchuria and China. After they are released they settle down in the area and work for the administration as brigadeers et cet. Militia and administration consists of Russians from ~~the~~ European Russia. Their attitude toward Ukrainians was first "unfavorably restrained" later on sympathizing. Basically the whole population of the area consists of Ukrainians and Russians. The latter call themselves Russian only in the last generation. They remember very well that they or their parents resettled from Ukraine after 1900. Ukrainian "special settlers" are being released with a so called "red passport" in which all the sentences are recorded and therefore it is practically impossible to get permission for residence and employment in the Ukrainian SSR. Only those who have good contacts and through "his man" can receive employment can go home. There were instances when people returned to the Ukrainian SSR, travelled back and forth and finally unable to get work came back to Khabarovsk.

The children of "special settlers" were taken immediately to 10 grade school, which are entirely Russian and do not have even lessons in Ukrainian language. Children and youth were approached and recruited to the Komsomol. Who does not belong to the Komsomol cannot graduate

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from high-school and be admitted to college. Usually Ukrainian youngsters don't join the Komsomol because of religious motives of their parents and therefore they are barred from college. They are frowned at ~~that~~ even in Siberia they resist re-education. In the 10th grade attended by X. because out of 30 students 21 were Ukrainians but only 9 of them passed the final examination, because they had not joined the Komsomol.

Ukrainian high-school graduates are admitted only to study in pedagogical Institutes, philology, medicine and agriculture. For lack of confidence they are refused admission to rail-road, poli-technical, military and aviation services. At medicine class in Khabarovsk attended by X. only 4 out 300 were Ukrainians. The rest were children of administration and party aristocracy from Russia and Siberia - Russians and also non-Russians from Siberia, Turkestan, China and Manchuria. They all speak Russian. X. joined Komsomol. He was convinced to do it by his brother for careerist motives. This fact estranged him from his Ukrainian colleagues. His second brother, worked as a physician in forensic medicine and in performing his duties met the MVD. The chief of the MVD passport department knew that his brother the doctor receives mail from Poland. When about one year ago the Poles were permitted repatriation this MVD man, for a bribe in the amount of 4.000 rubles and an apiary, registered the doctor as a Pole and that way he emigrated to Poland and arranged for X. to come over to Poland too.

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repetition
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