

SUBJECT: PLOSCZANSKA, Klementina Petrivna,  
390 Beech St., South Hempstead, L.I., N.Y.

DATE : 5 March 1963

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHODSEXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

1. Subject, aged 67, Ukrainian, peasant-widow, can hardly write and read, arrived in the States on 10 June 1962 from the Ukraine to join her daughter Eugenia and son-in-law Peter KWOZKO, residing under above address. In spite of her practically complete lack of education Subject has a relatively well developed innate intelligence and common sense. Her memory is average for her age.

Her knowledgeability is limited to her native village KHARYTONIVTSI of Zaliszczyki r-n, obl. TERNOPIL. The only places she went to in recent years, were ZALISZCZYKI and TERNOPOL. She spent all her life in village, working as common kolhospnik before her retirement several years ago. Since then she lived practically only on parcels sent to her from the States by her daughter.

Subject left still some relatives in the Ukraine and evidently this impeded <sup>somewhat</sup> her willingness to talk "too much". She was interviewed by C. and G. on 27 Feb 1963 at her house who introduced themselves as representatives of [REDACTED]. It took some effort to soften her and her daughter on their reservations in the very beginning but after "the ice" melted they agreed to arrange eventually for another interview.

The emigration proceedings - from Vyzov to the departure - lasted about 1 year. Early June 1962 Subject left by bus from ZALISHCHYKI to TERNOPOL and then by train to MOSCOW. It took her 24 hours to get from TARNOPOL to MOSCOW. In MOSCOW she stayed with a relative of her for one week in hotel "Inturist" paying NRubel 7.- per day for a room for two. From MOSCOW she flew by Aeroflot to AMSTERDAM and from there by KLM to NEW YORK.

2. Kolhosp "The Ukraine". It consisted of two villages KHARYTONOVTSI and HRYNKIVTSI (r-n ZALISHCHYKI, obl. TERNOPOL), united in 1959 into one collective farm. Prior to that the KHARYTONOVTSI-kolhosp was called after "SHCHORSS".

"The Ukraine"-kolhosp produces white tobacco, and vegetables, mainly tomatoes. As to its wealth it belongs to the average ones in fertile part of the Western Ukraine.

The Chairman of the kolhosp is MAMALYGA, fnu, Ukrainian, from Eastern Ukraine.

The brigades-chief in KHARYTONOVTSI is SHIVYHA, Ivan, local Ukrainian, non-party man, a good and honest individual. The raion-representative from ZALISHCHYKI who frequently came to the collective farm was SHOLUDKO, fnu, Ukrainian from Eastern Ukraine.

In 1961/62 earnings of kolhospniks were rather low. They were paid 80 dkg white and kopeck 30 per working day. In previous years it was somewhat better though Subject remembered only once, several years ago, they were paid 2-3 kg per working day.

5 March

In 1962 all kolhospnyks employed with cultivation of tobacco were remunerated only in cash. At one time there were rumors that in the near future same kind of wages will be introduced for all kolhospnyks, without any exceptions. Later on, however, these rumors faded away and all remained as it was before. The earnings were usually paid in two installments: "the advance" and "the rest". The advance was paid during the harvest proportionally to the amount of completed till then working days.

The requirements for one working day differed. Sometimes one had to work 2 full days for one working day. Subject remembered that at one time it was necessary to bind 300 sheaves to make a working day.

### 3. KHARYTONOVTSI, r-n ZALISHCHYKI, obl. TARNOPOL.

This is a small village of about 120 families. The population is thoroughly Ukrainian. A few Polish families were exchanged in 1946 for a few Ukrainian repatriants from behind the Curzon line. Immediately after the war KHARYTONOVTSI were subjected to quite a few raids of NKVD against the Underground during which at least 18 persons perished. In comparison with other villages and towns the deportations in KHARYTONOVTSI were relatively mild. Only 5 families were deported, 2 of which recently returned from Siberia. The resettlement and recruitment for work in other parts of the Ukraine was nil. Nobody went to Virgin Lands, although still in winter 1961/62 the recruitment-people asked for volunteers. At the same time they tried to recruit people for work in other oblasts but nobody wanted to go. In this respect the situation in KHARYTONOVTSI was quite stabilized when compared with other villages. Thus, quite a few people were resettled several years ago to ZAPOROZHIA-OBLAST from KOROLIVKA, and TLUSTE was completely resettled still in 1940s, to same oblast.

The chairman of silrada was in June 1962 a local Ukrainian, MELNYK, fnu, aged 45, non-party man. His secretary was a local girl, also Ukrainian.

KHARYTONOVTSI had a "semylitka", director of which was from nearby TORSKE. At school they teach in Ukrainian but Russian is obligatory too.

The local CLUB had a library in which majority of books was Russian although there were no Russians in village at all.

In 1960 was completed the electrification of KHARYTONOVTSI.

The current comes from BILCHA. There were, however, still quite a few houses without electricity since some people considered it to be too expensive and preferred to use petrol-lamps.

Monthly fee is NR 0.60 per average.

In recent years quite a few people built and repaired their houses. Shortly before Subject's departure a woman sold her house (2 rooms and narrow corridor) at NR 700.- There were also houses at NR 2,000.- and 3,000 in ZALISHCHYKI.

To buy a house one has to have a licence from raion. Not everybody was capable to get it. Thus, a man who returned from Siberia could put as owner only his son who was still in Siberia but not himself.

4. The Youth. "They know they are Ukrainians". Many a young man and woman left for cities and a great many still would like to follow them now. But it is not easy, anyway, more difficult than before. In particular, it was very difficult to get admission to higher education since one had to pay for it. Also there was still shortage of labor in villages and kolhosps were very reluctant to let people desert them.

Young people go to Club to dance and watch movies. Many don't shun alcohol either.

Every year 2-3 young men were drafted to the Army. They serve far away from their home. Coming from the Army they would speak Russian but pretty soon switch again to their native language.

Hard work in Kolhosp, restrictions on moving to towns, limited admissions to higher education, all that did not endear at all the system with the youth. Just on the contrary. The youth complained openly about the regime and criticized even when their parents tried to warn them.

5. Parcels from the West. They helped very much the people. In general they created some sort of "inflation" on sent goods because of increased supply. Thus a kerchief that was Rubel 30.- several years ago, now is available for Rubel 15-18.-.

The post does not deliver parcels to villages but the recipients have to pick them up at the Raion post office in ZALISHCHYKY. All parcels are checked inside in presence of the addressee by post-officials. Every recipient is also obliged to buy "voluntarily" Soviet propaganda books for at least Rubel 10.-

6. Food and Money shortage. Since last monetary reform prices practically did not change. 1 kg of pork or beef still varies between NR 1.80 and 1.50 depending on season. There is however a very great shortage of meat in general, also in towns. There has been no butter for last three years at all. Instead people use their own sunflower-seed-oil.

Recently, there appeared quite a lot of textiles but so expensive that hardly any kolhospnik could afford to buy it. A good woolen material was still R 20-30.- per meter.

The main thing was however that money was getting more scarce than ever before.

7. Speculation. In recent years there was a real speculation boom. Still in 1961, even Subject went with other women to TERNOPOL with tomatoes and other vegetable-stuff. In 1961 authorities started a serious drive against any kind of speculation. Subject heard people talking about "big cases" in cities but she did not remember details.

8. General situation. The village population did not feel any really big basic changes since Stalin's death. Misery continues to reign though somewhat milder than before. The only improvement is abolition of deportations and massive arrests. But people are still afraid to talk openly. Only the youth seemed not to care much about what was going to happen later on.

TB, anemia, and other various diseases are very widespread nowadays among rural population. Medical and sanitary services are good and there are more doctors and nurses than ever before. Most of them are young and many come from Eastern Ukraine.

The population wants and expects some changes though nobody says how they are to come. They are against the regime and ~~they~~ do not believe Khrushchev's promises any longer. Also sputniks have little appeal. The people would prefer more meat and bread instead.

In ZALISHCHYKI Soviet authorities built many new buildings, an oil-factory and a fruit-conservation-factory. Also TERNOPOL has been completely rebuilt. But this is being taken for granted for any regime would have to do it and would do so without the inhuman hardships imposed on common people. This is the way the common people reason to-day.

9. Church. The church in KHARYTYNOVTSI is closed. Previously it was served by the priest from HRYNKIVTSI and then from TORSKE. Now the priest comes only for funeral or baptism. For every individual case of any ritual performance the priest has to have permission from raion. He cannot, for example, bury someone without authorities' approval, for which one has to pay.