

Subject: A Trip to Lvov and Kiev in Sep 1964

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Source: Rev, V, Italy

Date: 8 Oct 1964

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
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1. Source returned on 29 Sep 1964 from his trip to Lvov and Kiev ( he left Rome, Italy on 6 Sep 1964). In Kiev he stayed in hotel <sup>of the</sup> "Inturist" for 3 days, and the rest in Lvov with his brother and two sisters. Source went both ways by train via CSR. The Soviet border he crossed at CHOP. Customs control was very strict though conducted in a very polite manner. Customs officers spoke Ukrainian. They found several books " The Life of St Ivan Bosko" in Ukrainian which Source wanted to give to his relatives. The books were retained by customs officers and returned to him on his departure from CHOP on the way back to Rome, Italy.

2. In Lviv Source registered with militia. Militiamen were ostensibly polite and were really at pains to leave "a cultured impression" about themselves.

In Kiev, at the hotel, food and service were rather good and again he noticed a tendency to show themselves efficient and "improved". (Source was in the Ukraine two years ago and could make comparisons).

3. According to Source, following strong protests of Ukrainian students against the usage of Russian in lecturing, at Lvov University lectures are being read now in Ukrainian. Demands of Russian students to retain Russian were overruled and in consequence even Africans have to learn in Ukrainian. Students and the entire Ukrainian community in Lvov consider that to be their major achievement.

On the whole, from what Source heard and saw, his opinion about Ukrainian students and other youth was very positive. Young people are

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patriotic , active, critical, and quite outspoken in their opposition to the regime. They also show great fondness of everything Western ,including fashions. Referring to his visit to the Ukraine two years ago, Source expressed the view that "Ukrainian youth is definitely on their way up".

4. In Soviet - Chinese conflict many people in West Ukraine were against China. Their explanation: China wants war and has promised West Ukraine to Poland. No Ukrainian would agree to return under Polish rule whatever happens.

Re-introduction of Ukrainian at the University and some general relaxation of the atmosphere in the Ukraine ,mainly on nationalities -level ,<sup>that</sup> were observed by the Source, had been ascribed by local people to the Soviet -Chinese conflict. In view of serious trouble with Chinese, Russians had to make some "unwritten" concessions.

5. In Lvov Subject met with SOKIL, Ksenia, one of the nuns mentioned in "Ogoniok" # 46, of Nov 1963. SOKIL told Source that all involved in this affair were not prosecuted but only subjected to search and interrogation after which the KGB released them. Nuns returned to their work in hospitals. Also their "unofficial monasteries" ( they live in groups at private addresses) were not dispersed.

6. There are many Hungarian, Czeck and Slovak tourists coming to West Ukraine, mainly to Lviv. They bring with them extra clothes , shoes and other articles which they sell to local population. Particularly Hungarians come always with "full hands". As a result, even people from Kiev and other parts of Eastern Ukraine come to Lviv to get "satellite - goods".

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