

Excerpt from the letter dtd 19 Oct 1964, from Kiev:

" As you know we already have a new regime. There is no difference, there is no danger for us , so don't worry. I don't know whether all details are known to you.

Here was a secret (zakrytyi) letter for party members the contents of which I know. The events have developed as follows:

From early October there was an action started to remove Khrushchev. Khrushchev was sure that Brezhnev, Mikoyan and others were his people as appointed by himself. He went to Pitsunda, Georgia to vacation on the Black Sea. Mikoyan was also there, resting. On 12 Oct a meeting and a plenum of the Central Committee of the CPSU were called simultaneously. At the meeting leaders began to attack Khrushchev and his policy. The first one who spoke against him was Suslov, the second - Shelest ( of Ukrainian SSR). Then they phoned Khrushchev to come to Moscow for there were important matters. Khrushchev unaware of anything did not want to come. They called him for three times and only on the third time he agreed to come. Mikoyan came to Moscow one day earlier.

When Khrushchev arrived in Moscow he was informed about the decision of the meeting. Khrushchev replied then that he wanted the plenum to meet, being unaware that the plenum already had met. He was told that the plenum was convened. Khrushchev addressed then the plenum and was still presiding over it.

The first one at the plenum who spoke against Khrushchev was Shelest. Khrushchev tried to reject the condemnation by joking and otherwise but he was compelled to sign his resignation. Podgorny was the only one who defended Khrushchev all the time. Immediately was also removed Adzubei, and the editor of "Pravda".

There were 3 charges against Khrushchev:

1/ his internal policy - agriculture. It was said that he had ruined agriculture pointing out that since 6 years the situation had worsened.

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Smolchurgh*

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They also did not like that Khrushchev wanted to separate the party from the management of agriculture and install instead specialists. He was also accused for having said in Rumania to cultivate maize and peas.

In this context Ukraine was mentioned only once, i.e. Khrushchev demanded this year that Ukraine should give 1,8 billion pud of wheat and it was said that Ukraine could give 1,3 billion puds at the most. Even when there had been a famine in Ukraine as she would have to give everything away without leaving anything for herself.

2/ Khrushchev was accused for making a "minister" out of Adzubei and for having sent him everywhere. He was accused for having given Order of Lenin to Nasser and Ben-Bolla who persecuted communists. The Soviet people disliked it very much.

3. He was also accused for travelling much abroad and thus spending very much money. He was accused for making abroad statements which were not to be easily explained afterwards by the party, as for instance, his statement on the frontier of East Germany.

It is not exactly known who is behind all that - if Mikoyan - then it is thought to be not bad because he would not so (much) oppress national minorities.

Last year Khrushchev was very much oppressing Ukrainians, many churches were closed, some Ukrainian schools were closed, in others the tuition of Ukrainian was decreased in half.

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