

Subject: KOCHUBEY, Yuri N [ ]  
Source : as usual [ ]  
Date : 24 May 1968

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

Following is the gist of information obtained from Subject during his visit to Source's house on 22 May 1968, from 19.30 to 23.30 hrs.

1. On his arrival Subject noticed the 5th issue of Suchasnist and with a great interest read the article about Skaba. He made a few notes and commented that indeed the Suchasnist had very well and "properly" characterized Skaba. On the other hand he was surprised the editors evidently did not know about Kondufor's removal as well, or at least it was the impression he inferred from the article.

2. Fedir Ovcharenko, the author of the article in Komsomolskaya Pravda about Ginzburg, Dobrovolsky and Co, could not be the same Fyodor D. Ovcharenko who had succeeded Skaba. Even Subject, though in much lower position, would never take on himself to write such an article. Moreover it was incompatible with Ovcharenko's position. Most probably, the Ovcharenko from Komsomolskaya Pravda was a fictitious name, and quite probably possibly deliberately chosen.

One could never exclude the possibility that someone wanted to use this name for some special reason. "One never knows those things" - was Subject's conclusion. But he was positive the two Ovcharenkos were different persons.

3. Subject does not know personal KAPTO, the new leader of organsol. On his speech in which KAPTO attacked the Unionists and former nationalists, Subject commented that evidently the party was worried about revival of religious feelings among the young people and nationalistic trends in general. In Subject's opinion, the respective parts of KAPTO's speech were not his own but dictated from CC. One has to realize that even people like KAPTO have just to say what they are being told to.

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4. The best way to "deal" with Travets was to isolate him from his emigre contacts and to ignore him completely. "Let him maintain contacts with the 'repressives' only".

Shevell raised his head recently but sooner or later he will have to go, to . This will come despite the fact that today he goes together with the CC. In Subject's opinion both, Shevell and the KGB conduct a wrong policy and when Subject returns to Kiev he will try to prove to CC "with facts". The CC has to realize that such policy is simply harmful for the whole Soviet system and the present trend has to be changed for the better in order to avoid further complications and exacerbations. He hopes he will succeed at least in some aspects. Moreover that he hopes to have <sup>in his efforts</sup> some support even from some friends of Shevell, like, for instance, CHE NIAVSKY Viktor.

5. Travets crossed out "good" name from the guest - list at the Mission in New York. Subject should not worry about it. In case, Travets would try to "har" Source from <sup>Michael Denisov</sup> POLANYCHKO, she should take initiative herself to get in contact with him. Anyway, [ ] CHE will maintain contact with Source but he will be only for that purpose. "Politics" should be discussed with POLANYCHKO. Source should simply demand from POLANYCHKO to start action along cultural exchange with emigre. In the first place she should suggest such things as publication of emigre poets and writers in the press, visits of emigre artists to the line, exchange of books and publication with emigre scientific institutions also. Of course, Source can talk about these things also with others but she should concentrate on "big fish" like POLANYCHKO, BILOKONOS and alike. She could talk sincerely with CHE but she must keep in mind that his authority is quite small in comparison with that of POLANYCHKO or BILOKONOS.

6. In the things mentioned above it is not think there will be arrests or other harsh form of persecution against such people as CHE, POLANYCHKO or alike. This would make only too much turmoil and would "pour oil on the fire". In fact, only, just recently Levy in published Osuda. This would also indicate that at least for the time being he will be left in peace.

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7. Asked whether he could give any demonstrations in Kiev in any way, as it had had none in recent years, Subject replied that under present tense circumstances and general excitement anything could happen.

8. Source and her friends should always read very carefully speeches and pronouncements by such people as SHULEST, SHCHERBYTSKY and V. ... and should not bother with their usual phraseology which is a must for everybody. They should read between the lines.

Because whatever one says about these people, in Subject's opinion, they are good Ukrainians and are concerned about the Ukraine.

It is the one who called SHULEST a nationalist and the situation <sup>at one time</sup> was such that either SHULEST or SHCHERBYTSKY had to go. So Shulest had to make Ukaba go.

9. Needless to deny that ~~she~~ was the one who interrupted contacts with emigration. There were many reasons for that. Above all a fear that Kiev will come shorter out of it. Conducive to that impression were also all kind of public <sup>in the emigre press,</sup> ~~statements~~ <sup>addressing</sup> that emigration was getting more from contacts than Kiev. But the main reason lies in recent developments in the Soviet Union itself and in USSR. Still it would be wrong to do anything to break down all the contacts on the part of Source and her friends. They should be kept warm and cultivated, by all means. Subject put great hopes on DMYTRUK who had already become active and was quite impressed by her approach. Albeit, so far she was mainly concerned with the progressives on whom she started to work quite efficiently. Quite helpful will be also ~~the~~ lately signed agreement on cultural exchange between the USA and the USSR.

10. Asked about Davlychko, Subject said she had visited Source at one time, subject replied that they both were fine. As to Davlychko - so some people tried to isolate him from the delegation of CPC last year. And Spach, indeed, is being prepared for the role of a new Tychnya. Actually, "they" started to work on him when he was still in New York by giving him the post of Secretary in the Union of Writers. He is very

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intended and very sensitive. He is not easy to withstand powerful efforts of the ~~other~~ working on him.

But if ~~French~~ succeeds in ~~getting~~ ~~him~~, there is still KOROTYCH who will take ~~French's~~ place. We should ~~try~~ try to play one against the other. Korotych is already "putting ~~some~~ bronze on his stature".

Tychyna could not ~~withstand~~ and resist. Subject knew him personally. Tychyna suffered from a pathological fear which he acquired at the period "when all the others were ruined". He was broken down for all his life. But, for instance, SOSIURA was different. He could resist. It was not true he was mentally ill although he was put several times into a mental hospital. Sosiura was a mentally healthy man, he only suffered from a very high blood pressure.

11. There <sup>are</sup> three qualifications necessary for a diplomat, in Subject's view. These are: character, knowledge, and initiative. Every Soviet <sup>Ukrainian</sup> diplomat could do a great job by using them. He has always to stay within ideological and political directives from above but those are so wide and resilient as the Soviet Constitution and could be used accordingly. Unfortunately, most people prefer to restrict themselves to the necessary <sup>minimum</sup> only. Others, lack proper qualities. For instance, Shevchenko Sergei. He is not a bad man but he is completely unprepared for his job. In this respect POLANYCHKO is quite different and Subject hopes he will do a great deal more than his predecessor.

12. Subject asked whether it was true the Cardinal Slipyi was coming to Canada. When Source confirmed, he commented, "it was good".

13. Discussing French recent events Subject said that the party in the Soviet Union is very sensitive to everything going on among the working class and as the latter's party would not allow it to violently oppose the Soviet system, on a scale like that in France.

14. When Source asked Subject to tell her <sup>in the future</sup> on whom she could rely in the mission and whom to avoid, he smiled and said she knew herself who is who and judging by her first <sup>hand</sup> appraisal of Kravets, she needed no help from Subject.

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Also when asked to agree on some "sign" in the letter by which subject would tell her it were time for source to come to Kiev, subject replied he would write straightforwardly it was time to come and it was better this way because otherwise he might confuse the ~~xxxx~~ signs and make mistake.

15. According to subject he did not think SKABA will stay for long at his present position with the Institute in Kiev.

16. It was quite unpleasant to make PhDs and other higher degrees at Kiev University because of <sup>existing base</sup> pettiness, small jealousies, and too great an influence of party potentates on University affairs. Therefore, quite a few people go to Moscow, Leningrad, and recently also to Lvov. RYZIK defended his thesis in MINSK.

17. KHMIL'S daughter, the poetess, is going to come to New York, on a visit.

18. Subject hopes to be back in New York after his thesis or rather ~~xxxxxx~~ after two years or so. Now he will work at the Foreign Ministry in Kiev.

19. According to subject it was wrong when the emigres thought all Soviet diplomats were KGBists. It was not true. "Should <sup>it</sup> be ~~so~~ true then there would be a terrible shortage of KGBists inside the Soviet Union!" he joked.

20. Subject took with him "Holy Bible".