

SECRET

Re : General Situation in the Ukraine, summer 1968
 Source : A Ukrainian intellectual residing in CSSR , See "N.B." on p.4.
 Date : 15 Dec 1968

1. Last summer Source spent his vacations in the Ukraine, partly in KOSMACH, in the Carpathian Mountains where he met Ivan DZIUBA and Olenka ANTONIV, wife of V. Chornovil. The latter told him that since February 1968 V. Chornovil is retained in a concentration camp in Vinnytsia area , she can see him once in six months, and no parcels are allowed. In June 1968 ~~he~~ Chornovil was beaten up . Several times he went on hunger strike. The camp itself is for common criminals. According to Source Olenka herself who is a medical doctor has been expelled from her job.

In summer 1968 the KGB continued with interrogation of some of Chornovils friends and witnesses who were in his favor. They were threatened of defending an enemy of the Soviet state. There is a dreadful possibility that CHORNOVIL might re-tried in 1969 and convicted "to isolation from society". Such rumors are circulating in Lvov.

2. Ivan Dziuba knew that his book had been published abroad in Ukrainian & English and will also appear in French and perhaps in other languages. He is working now on another book. Dziuba is suffering from TBC and some liver ailment. He was satisfied with the publications of his book and other materials abroad but warned against commentaries that might be used by authorities against him and other authors.

3. Son of SHELEST, student of Kiev University ordered at one time Ukrainian publications from Presov - "Dukla" and others. In June 1968 several people who were reading Presov Ukrainian publications were arrested and interrogated by the KGB . Among the arrested was KLEMPUSH, Vasil, Docent of Math at Kiev University. In addition to "usual interrogation" about reading of Presov publications, KLEMPUSH was accused of some other "crime" and sentenced to 1 year. Due to intervention on his behalf of his brother-in-law, a Colonel of the KGB, he was put on probation but relieved of ^{his} Docentura.

4. After 20 August 1968 the Slovak Central Post Office informed senders of Ukrainian literature and papers to Ukraine

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* Source confused Olenka , second wife of V.Ch. with his first wife who was a medical doctor. Olenka is a teacher.

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*Notes: This info was received
 from a source in 1971.*

that their mail will not be delivered to the Soviet Union and they have to stop it.

5. In October 1968 in Presov ^{Here} was acting as ~~editor~~ ^{for Ukrainian publication} ~~a Soviet officer~~ by the name HRYTSIUK, fnu, who claimed to stem from Carpatho-Ukraine, from Uzhgorod. His accent was, however, anything but Carpatho-Ukrainian. His first job was to cancel about 40 % of planned ^{Ukrainian} publications for 1969.

6. In August 1968 Source saw in Lvov inscriptions on walls, "We want Dubcek".

7. The conflict between the Soviet Union and China is regarded in the Ukraine as a positive phenomenon. Source heard comments like, "Were it not for Chinese, the Russians would eat us up", or "Were it not for Chinese, the Russians would introduce old Stalinist terror". Khrushchev is generally praised as the one who to a great extent "emptied the concentration camps". He was removed by "dogmatists".

8. Beside "local zakhalavni materials" there are also circulating ~~in the Ukraine~~ ^{various documents} and articles from abroad. Thus some people copied "the Declaration of 35 Ukrainian American Professors", "the Program of Action" of the CP CSSR, individual articles from Suchasnist, Ukrainsky Samostiynyk, and other papers. Also radio broadcasts are being distributed among friends.

Source also knew that parts of "Sobore" were ~~also~~ distributed in handwriting or rather typing.

According to Source he positively knew that students of Chernivtsi University were re-writing some articles from Ukrainsky Samostiynyk and the "2000 Words". He was told it by a student from Chernivtsi University whom he met in Zolochiv.

9. Source heard that Ivan SVITLYCHNY was earning some money as a bookkeeper in Poltava.

10. The Russification continues but there is also an increased resistance against it, mainly among young people. There are also Russians who condemned the russification but not many. There is a great friendship between Ukrainians and Georgians. The latter hate Russians.

11. Various wishes of radio listeners in the Ukraine addressed to Ukrainian broadcasts from the West:

a/ ~~XX~~ Enlarge the programs and give more information on Ukrainian activities abroad;

b/ ~~XX~~ Introduce a course of Ukrainian history and broadcast more historical materials to countervail official Russian historiography;

c/ Criticize and attack Soviet nationalities policy in concrete terms, demand amnesty for Ukrainian prisoners; demand more concessions for Ukrainians, ~~also~~ for those living in the RSFSR.

There were also suggestions to change the name of some stations. Thus, for instance, "Radio Liberty" should be changed into "Radio" or "Voice of Ukraine" or something like ~~that~~.

Source was told in the Ukraine that Western broadcasts ~~are~~ are more or less effectively jammed only in cities and that in some parts in the countryside they are ~~heard~~ received quite clearly. Source himself heard a broadcast of "Radio Liberty" in Uman which came through quite well.

Source was also told by people who came from Irkutsk area that they received Radio Svoboda quite clearly at least ~~in~~ in two locations - Cheremkovo and Usolye Sibirskoye.

N.B. The Source is the same as the one mentioned in your letter of Dec 18. However, he is a different person from "our source" with whom C.met. The Source of above information is over 40, lawyer by profession, married (his name , address etc are available).

The information was obtained late October. It seems that for one reason or another Source wanted to impress his friends abroad with his friendship with "important people" in the Ukraine and ~~for~~ indulged into some small inaccuracies like in case of Olenka Chornovil and Ivan Svitlychny, making a medical doctor and ~~temporary in Poltava~~ a ~~coolkeeper~~ of them, respectively.

On the other hand , Source gave some very valuable information, and also addressed in the Ukraine and in CSSR , for sending parcels for prisoners ~~to private individuals~~ in West Ukraine, and literature to CSSR.

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