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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

6 June 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: AECASSOWARY/36-B's Trip to the Ukraine and Czechoslovakia

1. When AECASSOWARY/29 was in Europe this spring he talked with A/36-B who visited in the Ukraine and in Czechoslovakia in March of this year. She was invited to Kiev by the Ukrainian Union of Writers, which offered to assist her in her research for the anthology of Ukrainian modern prose on which she is working and which will be published in German. A/36-B took 24 books into the Soviet Union with her and a copy of the article "The Ukrainians Argue Back"; which appeared in the 25 January 1969 issue of The Economist and which favorably commented on the Dzyuba and Chornovil books. When she was questioned about all the books by customs officials, she showed them her official invitation from the Writers Union and was permitted to keep them with her and was asked no further questions.

2. In the Ukraine, Subject had contact with many of the Ukrainian dissidents. She learned that Ivan DRACH was readmitted to the Party. Ivan DZYUBA continues to work in the translating department at the Dnipro publishing house. Valentin MOROZ, who was to have a new trial, will not be tried again. He is expected to be released from the prison camp in the autumn of this year. A/36-B was told the authorities have come to the conclusion that trials only create additional headaches for them. It is more difficult now to maintain contact with the prisoners in the Mordvinian camps. Mykhaylo MASYUTKO, who is serving a six year sentence is ill with cancer or severe gastritis but prison authorities force him to get by on the regular prison diet. The Kiev dissidents asked A/36-B to have the AECASSOWARIES arrange for aid for MASYUTKO and other Ukrainian prisoners through the International Red Cross. Yuri SHUKHEVICH has been released. He was in prison since age 15 and as a result lacks any formal education. Ivan DZYUBA and his colleagues are determined to help

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him receive the education of which he was deprived. Zina FRANKO was told by OVCHARENKO (Fyodor D., chief of the ideological section of the CC CPU) that he was looking out for her, but that he could not do anything to help Ivan DZYUBA, Yuri BRAYCHEVSKY, Ivan SVITLYCHNYI and Mykhaylyna KOTSYUBINSKA because if he did, "I would lose my head." He also told her that in the event of war or any other emergency, "you will all be shot." He expressed the opinion that if he had been in office two years sooner he could have done much to alleviate the plight of the dissidents. Viktor KUKSA, who was convicted for anti-regime activities and sent to a prison camp for three years when he hung a nationalist flag on the Economics Institute in Kiev on 29 April 1966, was released in January 1969 and is living in Kiev.

3. Vyacheslav CHORNOVIL inquired about the possibilities of receiving royalties for his book in the form of parcels, which he would make available to Ukrainian political prisoners. He supplied the address of a relative in the United States through whom parcels could be mailed.

4. Ivan SVITLYCHNYI told A/36-B that Vasyl MAKUKH immolated himself on 5 November 1968 on the Kreshchatyk in Kiev in front of the Stereo movie house. He had just returned from a Siberian prison, and reportedly was so depressed by the widespread Russification, after pouring gasoline over himself, he set fire to his clothes and began to run toward the monument of Lenin shouting "long live free Ukraine." He was seized by security police and taken in an ambulance to "the KGB hospital in Kiev" where he died the following day. He left a wife and two children. Ivan SVITLYCHNYI told Subject his home was search by the KGB on 28 February 1969. He was asked to surrender all dissident literature in his possession. He denied having any, but they found a copy of a Russian-language book, The Technology of Power, and made him sign a statement to the effect that the book was found in his home. According to A/36-B, the book is a translation from English. SVITLYCHNYI said that many of the Ukrainian dissident documents have been translated into Russian and are being circulated by Russian dissidents, who also are supporting the Tartars.

*Avtor-khan
book
Publ'd
by
CheKav
or
TsOPE*

5. Vyacheslav CHORNOVIL and Mykhaylo OSADCHY now are legally registered in Lvov. They are determined to be seen in public and refuse to let anyone form the opinion that they

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are sorry for their past deeds. CHORNOVIL plans to do some more writing and will try to get his manuscript out to the West. He currently is keeping busy working on a Ukrainian translation of a Serbian novel.

6. A/36-B encountered great sensitivity among Soviet military officers about the "occupation" of Czechoslovakia. She said they were suffering from an "occupant complex." The March issue of Moskva published an attack on Subject, confusing her with someone with a similar name who writes for the NTS.

7. A/36-B was questioned by KGB officers about the details of the planned transfer of OUN/Bandera headquarters from Munich to London, the KGB wanted to know whether the move could be stopped. She said she knew nothing about the move.

8. A/36-B talked with Hryhoriy KOCHUR and with him visited Victor PETROV (redefector), who KOCHUR said has been working with the KGB since 1937. Reportedly PETROV had a love affair with the wife of ZEROV. PETROV told A/36-B that he was working on his memoirs.

Who
is
Zerov,
Serov?

9. On 11 March of this year, A/36-B witnessed a celebration at the University of Kiev of the anniversary of the birth of Shevchenko, Ukraine's 19th Century poet laureate. The militia arrived to disburse the large crowd of at least 1500, and A/36-B saw one youth being arrested. A/36-B was told that such large "nationalist" demonstrations were not rare.

10. A/36-B and her husband visited in Czechoslovakia from 1 to 15 April where they met with several of the intellectuals in the Ukrainian community in Presov. They were told that Soviet conducted censorship had practically ceased but that there was internal censorship. It still is forbidden to mail Duklya to the Ukraine, but copies are being hand-carried at every opportunity. Orest ZILINSKY said he was planning to visit the Ukraine this summer and will then go on to Switzerland, where he will spend his vacation with Professor Volodymyr KUBIYOVYCH (editor of the Ukrainian encyclopedia - emigre).

* Mykola Zerov, who writes biographies during purges in the 1920's for being a neo-classicalist younger brother, wrote for Su channet, died in Germany several years ago.

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cc 74-124-29/3 cc A/36-B's file

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