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28 September 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Contact with AECASSOWARY-2 on 9 and 10 September in Washington

During the undersigned's contact with Subject in his room at the Hamilton Hotel in Washington, the following was reported by Subject:

1. A letter from the Ukraine was received by Subject's wife in which the writer drew specific attention to the contents of a parcel received by one of Subject's contacts in Edmonton, Canada. There were several statements in the letter to the effect that "I hope you received and were able to take advantage of everything designated for you in the parcel containing the mushrooms." The parcel was sent from the Ukraine by Mykhailo OLYNYK, the husband of one of Subject's maternal aunts in Stanislav. Subject instructed his contact in Canada to carefully check the "mushrooms" because there must be something in with them. After a great deal of concern expressed by Subject and five months later, the contact finally discovered an 8½" x 11" sheet of white onion skin paper hidden inside the frame of a wall picture of the Blessed Virgin which was included in the parcel on which in the most minute handwriting there was a letter written by OLYNYK. OLYNYK visits Subject's father about three or four times each year. His letter gives details on how to get Subject's father from the Ukraine to Poland. Along with the letter was a short note in Subject's father's handwriting. The note states that if he knew Subject would be back there some day soon he would remain in place, but if not, then he would like to come to live with Subject if this could be arranged.

OLYNYK writes that Subject's father has a deep desire to spend the rest of his old age with his children (i.e., Subject and his family). He fears that the political situation in the USSR will soon change and that he will not be left to die in peace and therefore he desperately wants to get out. OLYNYK states that he has a good friend who could make (writer uses the word "zrobyty") all documents necessary for Subject's father to get to Poland for a three-month visit. He needs a statement from Subject's sister's mother-in-law in Poland to the effect that she would like him to visit her. OLYNYK states the document ostensibly coming from her in Poland could be produced by them in the Ukraine for a price but that Subject should write to her asking her to prepare for his father's visit and offer her some financial assistance. OLYNYK wants Subject to let him know whether or not he can get his father out from Poland within the three months' time. He said he would see that Subject's father is delivered safely in Poland but that it would be up to Subject to supply the financial aid to get him out from Poland.

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OLYNYK stated that if Subject was not able to get his father to the United States, he (OLYNYK) can produce regular immigration papers for the father to immigrate to Poland but that this would take a lot more money and someone in Poland would have to be willing to take the responsibility to care for him. OLYNYK asks Subject to finance this venture by mailing him woolen material for five or six complete suits of men's clothing which he could sell for a good profit.

2. Valentin TSEKCAN, about 35 or 40 years of age, member of United Nations delegation, spends much time circulating among Ukrainian emigres and often in the company of Ivan MALAKHOVSKY (see contact report dated 29 July 1959), employee at Surma Book and Manuscript Company.

When TSEKCAN first appeared at Surma he told Mr. Myron SURMACH that his name was Ivan LITVYNIENKO. When Mr. SURMACH sent a letter to Mr. LITVYNIENKO at the address he supplied, the letter was returned. SURMACH told him this on his second visit and he supplied the name TSEKCAN and the United Nations address. He asked SURMACH to save for him copies of all emigre publications, which he calls for in person each week.

3. Subject relayed verbally information which is all included in the reports of ABCASSOWARY-27 and V. STAKHIV regarding the ABCASSOWARY contacts at the Vienna Youth Festival and information regarding Evhen STAKHIV's travel to Poland which is included in a separate report.

4. Subject was asked to comment on the Soviets' overt contact with KOSHELIVETS during the Vienna Youth Festival, whether or not he felt there was a likelihood that the RIS was using this seemingly naive overt approach to try to recruit KOSHELIVETS and whether or not in his opinion KOSHELIVETS might be a vulnerable target. Subject commented as follows: KOSHELIVETS is one of the most intelligent younger generation Ukrainians in the emigration. Although he is knowledgeable of the political situation, his main interests definitely lie in the field of culture. He is extremely critical of the Soviet regime because of their suppression of Ukrainian culture. When SHEVCHENKO confronted him in Vienna with the fact that the Soviets had a lot of information on him, KOSHELIVETS interrupted SHEVCHENKO to declare his position; to wit, that in case he expected to talk him into returning to the Ukraine, he felt it necessary to make a full declaration in order to let him know "who I am and where I stand." He stated, "I don't intend to return and will never return, not because I am afraid of punishment, but because I could not live for one day in that world of lies and totalitarian political pressure and national discrimination. I am used to living in a free world, open about my feelings. I am sincere, not hypocritical, which it is necessary to be in your regime. So long as the USSR exists there is no force in the world which could bring me back." SHEVCHENKO laughed at this declaration and asked KOSHELIVETS whether he thought he was so naive as to think he could talk KOSHELIVETS into returning, that after a careful study of KOSHELIVETS' newspaper he came to the conclusion that it would be easier to convince a Banderivitch to return home rather than

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KOSHELIVETS. They both laughed heartily after this and changed their topic of discussion to that of living conditions in the West. It was KOSHELIVETS' impression that the Soviets are making a broad and careful study of the Ukrainian emigration in order to determine a new course of action against them.

Subject stated that his only fear at present about KOSHELIVETS is that if he made any false statements in his application for immigration to the United States (for instance, that he was an officer in the Red Army), that this fact might be known to the Soviets and they could make use of it against him.

5. Subject brought up the name of [redacted], implying that he felt we (the Agency) had lost a good potential contact. He stated, for instance, that when Stephan OLYNYK was at the Opera in Kiev recently, he could have been able to establish contact with [redacted]. He reminded the undersigned that [redacted] had asked when in Brussels to have emigre literature mailed to him by having it addressed directly to the Opera House, but that they (the AECASSOWARIES) were asked to turn the entire matter over to us and to cut off all efforts to recontact [redacted]. Subject said he wondered whether or not anyone will ask Khrushchev during his visit in the United States why [redacted] didn't accompany his wife on the visit. The undersigned made no effort to defend the position taken by the Agency in this case, and merely stated that perhaps President Eisenhower will be curious enough to inquire about why [redacted] was left behind.

[redacted]
SR/3-PP

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