

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

SUBJECT: Talks with AECASSOWARY/2 on 11 and 12 February 1960

1. The undersigned spoke with AECASSOWARY/2 from 1900 until 2400 hours on 11 February and from 1100 until 1430 on 12 February. The meeting on 11 February was primarily social and was attended by AECASSOWARY/27 and A/4. On 12 February most of the business conversation took place.

2. During the social meeting all three AECASSOWARIES seemed slightly discouraged to say the least about what they assumed to be U.S. policy. They all felt since John Foster Dulles' death no one in the U.S. is formulating any Grand Strategy against the Soviet Union. All three felt that the Soviets were taking full advantage of present U.S. bashfulness about pursuing cold war. Anti-emigre activities in Germany, difficulties in Cuba, etc., were cited as examples. They also felt that leading American newspapers were consciously or unconsciously printing a far too rosy picture of life in the Soviet Union with the result that educated Americans now think that anti-Soviet emigres have been crying wolf and are a bunch of crackpots.

3. During this rather somber conversation the following tidbits of information cropped up:

a. There have been rumors around New York City for the past several weeks that the NTS' American subsidy was being cut whereas that of TsOPE would remain tact. The source of this rumor is apparently a very young Russian group in England which puts out a cantankerous scandal sheet concerning free Russians (see attachment).

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DATE 2007

b. One report received by the AECASSOWARIES from Munich states that poison was found not in Bandera's stomach but in his duodena colon which would mean that he must have ingested the poison four to six hours before he died (we will check the veracity of this).

c. A/2 and A/27 agreed that the results of A/29's Wechsler Bellevue test were accurate. They felt that at the Brussels Fair he did not pursue contact opportunities aggressively enough. In Marseilles he did better and should be even more skillful on the next go-around.

4. On 12 February the <sup>discussion</sup> first talks was the closing down of the AERODYNAMIC radio broadcast. The undersigned explained they had been cut off some time before Christmas partly for budget and partly for other reasons which the undersigned was not at liberty to explain. The station from which they were transmitted has been shut down. The <sup>N.S.U.</sup>Ukraine was not the only broadcast which thereby was forced off the air. A/2 calmly and reasonably objected to the method used to turn the station off without giving him advance warning. In his group only A/17 and /27 are aware that the radio is already off and that this was done unilaterally by the U.S. Government. A/2 called a meeting of his N.Y. staff on 9 or 10 February and explained to all that since the broadcasts were not able to get through Soviet jamming he had decided that radio station was not worth the trouble and the subjects which would normally be dealt with over the radio should be prepared as written articles to be mailed to the Ukraine and handed out to tourists. While A/2 made this explanation to his staff two people namely A/17 and /27 realized that he was given a devious and only partly correct explanation but they did not raise any objection since he had sworn them to secrecy. A/2 inquired if it would be possible in the future to send random broadcasts to the Ukraine if and when a critical situation arises. The undersigned said he <sup>didn't</sup> ~~wouldn't~~ know but that he would look into the matter.

5. A/2 said that he would like very much to talk to the chief of the undersigned's division or to some one higher in CIA if appropriate ~~at~~ the next time he is in Washington. He has a lot of questions concerning policy on his mind which he would like to ask personally. (Case Officer's comment: We will try to find out what these questions are once A/2 has thought them out. Whatever they are, I will favor a meeting between A/2, Chief SR/3 and Chief, SR some time during the next month or so. I feel such a meeting would be very important to the morale and efficiency of the American group. This group has collaborated with us pretty smoothly over the past 12 years. It is very important for A/2's control in our personnel in N.Y. that he will be able to say to them that he has confirmed with higher-ups in Washington and is satisfied that his group should continue close cooperation with the American Government. This means in no danger of compromising itself thereby. On this sense, that his subordinates are a pretty discouraged bunch at the moment. A/2 has never abused his privilege of asking for higher level discussions with CIA. I therefore recommend that his request be approved. I can compose suitable briefing papers prior to such a meeting.)

6. Ivan Maistrenko received a second letter from Shevchenko, who posed as a member of the Ukrainian Government during the Vienna<sup>a</sup> Youth Festival. The letter was mailed in Kiev. It contained New York's greetings. It was mentioned that Shevchenko had visited Yakiv Maistrenko, Ivan's brother, who is a well known playwright in the Ukraine. His plays allegedly are on boards on many Ukrainian theaters. The letter said that he (Shevchenko) will get information from Yakiv about Ivan's other relative in the Ukraine. AECASSOWARY/\_\_\_ has said that the German Government in Bonn has information to the effect that Shevchenko is boss of the KGB in the Ukrainian Ministry of Internal Affairs in Kiev. He has appeared to be an intelligence officer to many of the Ukrainians who spoke with him at Vienna.

7. According to the 26 January edition of Radyanska Ukraina there are several hundred citizens of the Ukraine building the steel factory in Bhilai, India. Among this number 345 foremen, some of whose names are mentioned in the article. All of these Soviet citizens are from the city of Krivoy Rog, Ukrainian SSR. A steel factory in that city is furnishing the specialists who are building the famous steel factory given to India. The article reports that many specialists from India are learning the operation of steel mills at the parent plant in Krivoy Rog. The article adds that Ukrainians are also studying at a technical institute in Bombay. There are also Ukrainian workmen building a hydroelectric station at Neiveli (transliterated), India. A/2 would like to study the possibility of contact operations in India since he believes at least 200 of the Soviets there must be Ukrainians chosen not so much for their political reliability as for their profession. (Case officer's comment: On 18 February, A/2 said by phone that an American steel specialist has just returned from India where he visited this construction site and spoke with the workmen. This American by coincidence turns out to be a close friend of A/2's cousin, Mr. Holovaty. Per present plan, Holovaty will talk to this American in an effort to find out how approachable these Soviet citizens are. Based on that report a dispatch will be written to the Indian station with questions. After the answers to these questions are in, an operational plan will be worked out whereby <sup>some</sup> ~~from~~ advantage can be derived to take advantage of the presence of these Ukrainians in India. Whether this should be via sending an AECASSOWARY agent into India, or by mail or by assets of the Indian station, it is too early to say.

8. The undersigned discussed the Munich publications with A/2. The upshot of ~~the~~ A/2's statements were that he was in the dark about what was going on in Munich and would have to make a trip there to find out what's going on, ~~and~~ re-establish his control and see how the funds are being used.