

*For Russo-Lance
meeting*

SOVIET ACTIVITIES AGAINST THE EMIGRATION

1. Committee for Return to Homeland from 1954 to end 1959 concentrated on getting people to return. Only moderately successful (an estimated 10,000 returned). Addresses of former Soviets abroad obtained by many means including agents and ransacking emigre offices. Sometimes those who wanted to return were first asked to do tasks like propoganda for the committee, getting names and addresses of pro as well as anti-Soviet emigres.

2. January 1960 name and approach of committee changed. Now it is Committee for Return to Homeland and Cultural Ties with Compatriots. Now admits many unable return home and trying convert the emigration into an instrument of Soviet foreign policy. The Return to the Homeland radio broadcasts one hour per day in Russian on three short-wave bands and can be heard all over the world. In addition to the Voice of the Motherland newspaper and the monthly or bi-monthly magazine *Rodina*, books and records, children's books, Russian language textbooks for children, song books and music texts are sent to those who ask for them and some are sent to those who do not ask. Some emigres are sure they have gotten on the mailing list just because they have started corresponding with relatives and friends at home. Emigres are now encouraged to visit the homeland (in general they are those who are either pro-Soviet (and belong to the various Patriot groups) or at least neutral.

3. An idea of the scope and the cost of this effort can be gained by the number of returnees, the tremendous amount of material and the radio broadcasts, and other scraps of information which have come to light. Soviet citizens who correspond with relatives abroad are contacted by the committee and urged to invite their relatives back home, telling them how good conditions are. From women who have returned home for from 3 to 8 weeks for visits (from Holland where the MTS debriefs them) we learn that their relatives at home are briefed before they arrive not to talk too much to them; sometimes they are forced to report to the KGB every few days while the relative is with them on what they say and whom they talk to; sometimes they are followed. In a case where one woman's husband (a Dutch communist) accompanied her, the relatives were told in advance to show him everything in the best possible light and given special funds for this purpose. When they return to their homes abroad the women are given to know by the Soviet Patriots that any loose talk about their real impressions about life in the Soviet Union may result in their not getting visas for another trip. In a specific case a woman was told by her uncle in the Soviet Union, a militia major, that his career and impending retirement was in danger of being hurt because she talked too freely to her Soviet friends and relatives about life in Holland and how much better it was than in the Soviet Union.

4. A concomitant of the committee are the various Soviet Patriot groups set up in many countries with sizeable emigre populations and run by staff officers from the local Soviet embassies. They open clubs with expensive

facilities and have extensive welfare and cultural programs, even importing Soviet artists in such places as Holland, Belgium and France. These activities serve to establish a nucleus of hardened, trained activists in the various countries; they will undoubtedly serve as the future Soviet fifth-column. They are also useful now for Soviet propaganda as it is expressed in the work of the Soviet friendship societies which have been set up in many countries.

5. Some 1960 figures for Belgium provide an idea of the scope and cost of the Patriots' groups everywhere. The Union of Soviet Patriots has 11 branches in Belgium and 710 active members most of whom have Soviet passports. Two staff members of the Soviet embassy in Brussels direct the work of the Union. The activity runs from social (clubs, parties, balls) to cultural (lectures, movies, amateur theaters, distribution of Soviet propaganda literature) to educational (schools for children and summer camps). The Brussels branch with 185 members has its headquarters in a magnificent building in one of the most expensive areas, the rent alone for which amounts to \$300 per month. Its library has more than 3,000 books, its hall holds 150 persons, it has a movie and drama room provided with musical instruments. It has five well-paid employees. The two Soviet embassy staff persons visit the Brussels center 3-4 times per week. Russian vodka and cigarettes are sold at very low prices. The Liege branch with 127 members also has a fine building in the center of town. Its library has over 600 books and its activities are a copy of those in Brussels. Twice a month special movies are shown by this branch at a local movie house, with the Soviet embassy paying the rent. Twice a year big dances are sponsored by the branch and \$110 is paid just to rent the Liege House of Invalids. Members of the Belgian-Soviet Friendship Society are also invited. The same pattern of activities takes place in Mons (180 members), Antwerp (60 members) and Charleroi (80 members). The ten schools run by the Soviet Patriots in Belgium had 130 children attending in May 1960. In the summer of 1960 the Soviet embassy sent 11 pupils from these schools to the pioneer summer camp "Artek" in the Crimea. Of the 16 members of the Liege branch who visited the Soviet Union in 1960, five travelled free of charge as a return for the work they have been doing for the patriots.

6. This change in tactics has not meant a change in the strong-arm tactics employed against those emigre groups which are conducting anti-Soviet activities. REBET (ZPUHVR) and BANDERA (OUN) were murdered in 1958 and 1959 respectively according to the testimony of ABEKEMER. The TsOPE printshop was bombed in December 1959 and the NTS printshop bombed in July 1961. Threatening letters are sent all the time and much attention is given to a campaign to turn the German population against the emigre groups. In July 1960 an attempt was made to kidnap a TsOPE worker (KIRSTEIN) in Berlin. Much attention is being paid in propaganda directed at the groups themselves to the fact that the Americans are not interested in the cold war any longer and that the emigres had better jump off the ship before it sinks out from under them. An employee of TsOPE in Berlin was abducted in December 1956 and sentenced to 14 years in prison in East Germany.

4 January 1962

TSOPE

1. TSOPE is a Russian emigre organization which was created by and is controlled by CIA. The group has its headquarters in Munich and chapters of various sizes in Belgium, France, Israel, Sweden, United States, Austria and Australia. One member is stationed with RNE in Madrid. Although the membership totals approximately 200, only some 36 people receive salaries from the organization and of these no more than 25 are paid enough to consider their TSOPE salary their sole means of support.

2. Past Activity. During the past year this Agency experimented with the possibility of getting the group into the field of legal travel operations. So far these experiments have proved completely unsuccessful. As a propaganda production and distribution mechanism, however, the group has shown itself far more capable. A rundown of its activity in the propaganda field during FY 1961 is as follows:

Radio. The TSOPE Munich Radio Section produced approximately 1,000 scripts and 48 15-minute taped programs. The latter were broadcast by the BCC in Taiwan while the former served as a basis for approximately 21 broadcasts a month over Radio Rome and 50 Russian-language broadcasts monthly over Radio Madrid. At Radio Madrid much of the TSOPE material was also translated and used for broadcasts to Satellite countries. In general, TSOPE's contribution to Radio Rome and Radio Taiwan remained at the same level during FY 1961 as during FY 1960; however, an appreciable increase is noted in the amount of TSOPE material used at RNE.

Literature Production. The group produced 27 books, brochures and pamphlets (in FY 1960 they issued 15) as well as three periodicals. The latter are: Svoboda, a monthly magazine circulated primarily to TSOPE members; Die Freie Rundschau, a bi-monthly German-language magazine distributed to German organizations and citizens; and Mosty, a literary journal issued three times yearly and designed for Soviets. The group has received many favorable comments on the latter publication both in personal meetings with Soviets and in correspondence.

Contact Operations. During the past year TSOPE members met almost all Soviets visiting Germany and many traveling in France, Belgium, Italy, (Olympics) and Austria. In a period of three months, CIA received forty reports on such meetings, one of the more significant of which described a two-day meeting with a Soviet visiting Belgium who agreed to correspond with and accept direction from TSOPE upon his return to the Soviet Union. Such reports are rarely of intelligence value, but they show the effect a Russian-speaking emigre can have on a traveling Soviet and provide highly revealing propaganda material and background. During these contacts, literature is passed to every Soviet who will accept it.

Mailing Operations. During FY 1961 TsOPE began to mail its literature to the USSR and to Soviets stationed abroad from Germany, Belgium, France, and the United States. The mailing total at the end of the year reached 10,851 pieces--these ranging in content from large books to leaflets, and from mimeographed to personal letters. Ten regular correspondences have grown up between TsOPE sympathizers in Paris and representatives of the Soviet scientific/literary intelligentsia.

Debriefings. During the past year the group has also made some attempt to contact and brief persons of Russian extraction traveling to the Soviet Union and to debrief others who had made such trips. There has been no intelligence production from these contacts but, again, background information on the Soviet Union has been acquired.

Local Activities. In addition to its primary interest in working against the Soviet target, TsOPE also contributed to the general anti-communist cause on the local scene. In Germany, TsOPE members held seminars and lectured to both official and nonofficial groups on the threat of communism. In Israel, TsOPE literature was translated and used in the local universities. In Spain, the Spanish Labor Union, the Sindicatos, published translated TsOPE material in their journals. In France, TsOPE prepared a special French-language booklet for distribution at the Soviet Paris exhibition, disproving Soviet claims of great advancement on all fronts.

Target Reaction. In the past year, TsOPE contact operators have established enough rapport with at least ten visiting Soviets to exchange addresses and promise future correspondence. Some Soviets visiting the West have remarked that they had read the TsOPE publication Mssty in the Soviet Union and been impressed. A professor at Moscow University even asked one of his students, a French citizen, to go to TsOPE upon her return to Paris and request the group to send their literature to him. On the other side of the coin, Soviet harassment tactics attested to the seriousness with which Soviet authorities regard the TsOPE operations. The Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs protested the mailing from Belgium, of TsOPE literature to Soviet citizens, using as evidence letters showing postmarks from all over the Soviet Union. Bookstores in Germany, Sweden, Paris and Finland have received large orders for books to be delivered to the fictional address TsOPE uses in its mailing from Germany. TsOPE members often receive anonymous letters requesting them to stop their anti-Soviet political activities, or else. During the past year, ARNOLD was the TsOPE member most plagued with such letters and telephone calls.

3. Future Plans. While we recognize that there are severe inherent limitations on the long-range viability of TsOPE as a political organization, dependent as it is on the organizational and propaganda-writing abilities of a very few people who cannot be replaced should they die or become sick, the propaganda assets of the organization are the only ones of their kind over

which we exert full control and which can be used any way we desire in pursuit of CIA aims. To terminate the project now would deprive us of this asset before we ever tried to get the most out of it realistically and in the face of a foreseeable need for as many assets as possible to reach the people in the Soviet Union (Berlin contingency plan).

Our plans for the project, therefore, envisage a reorganization of TsOPE into more of a propaganda producing mechanism. The good people will be concentrated in Munich rather than sent on fruitless organizational missions and their energies will be directed toward raising the standards of the propaganda product (written material) and the techniques of its dissemination to Soviet citizens (radio, mailing operations and contact operations). At the same time, Headquarters will set in motion a plan to inform all field stations which can conduct contact or mailing operations against Soviets of the availability of TsOPE Russian language material in Munich and the ability which exists to print special orders of non-attributable Russian-language material for local use anywhere. Also the field stations will be encouraged to use TsOPE as cover for local agents or groups which may desire this type of cover for unilateral propaganda actions against Soviets or for purposes of interesting indigenous groups in various countries in conducting such activities as mailing or contact operations. In short, we will make every effort to use TsOPE or its propaganda product in areas other than Germany in support of operations which will be completely controlled by local field stations.

This reorganization can, in our opinion, be accomplished even if the TsOPE budget is reduced as much as \$50,000 for FY 1963. Organizational expenses can be cut back drastically. The propaganda production expenses can also be reduced somewhat by producing Mosby once rather than three times a year. Another possible reduction could be made by either eliminating Die Freie Rundschau altogether or interesting the Germans in subsidizing the publication. A budget breakdown based on the possibility of a \$50,000 cut is as follows:

Personnel Salaries	
Supplies, Material, Equipment	4,000.00
Other Operational Expenses:	
Radio	10,000.00
Publications	36,000.00
Local Chapters	7,000.00
Travel	5,000.00
Other Payments:	
Compulsory Employees' Taxes	4,000.00
Bank Charges & Miscellaneous Fees	2,000.00
Rents, utilities, office supplies security, maintenance	25,000.00
Headquarters and Field Expenses	1,000.00
TOTAL	