

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

**S E C R E T**

602  
 ORIG: [ ] hj  
 UNIT: 255/6/CA  
 EXT: 4976  
 DATE: 16 May 1960

ROUTING			
1	3	4	5
2			
3			

TO: BOHN FRANKFURT HEADQUARTERS [ ]  
 BERLIN MUNICH  
 FROM: DIRECTOR  
 CONF: C/EE 3  
 INFO: COP, ADDP/A, C/CA, C/CI, C/CI 2, C/SR 3, C/WE 2, S/C 2

**DECLASSIFIED**

P R E C E D E N C E	DEFERRED	INITIALS
	ROUTINE	INITIALS
	PRIORITY	INITIALS
	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	INITIALS

76079  
079

TO: BOHN FRAN [ ] INFO: BERLN MUNI CITE DIR: 29933

REF: DIR 29728 (OUT 75428)  
 BOHN 9762 (IN 39157) \*

C/S COMMENT: \*AMB REQUESTED KUBARK GUIDANCE RE SWISS GOVT REQUEST SOV EMB REMOVE LEVINOV FROM FEDREP.

CART CADORY [ ]

1. THE FOLLOWING IS BANDERA ARTICLE PROMISED REF. SINCE ARTICLE CONTAINS ASPECTS NOT PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED GERMAN LIATSON SUGGEST UNATTRIBUTABLE RELEASE TO FRENCH PRESS FOR LATER PICKUP GERMANY. [ ] HOLD PENDING PNG PUBLICITY AND FRAN CONCURRENCE.

2. THE RECENT OUSTING OF A SOVIET DIPLOMAT FROM BOHN BECAUSE THE DIPLOMAT WAS REALLY A SPY BRINGS TO MIND THE DEATH OF STEPAN BANDERA. THE TWO INCIDENTS MAY IN FACT BE RELATED, BECAUSE LEVINOV, THE SOVIET DIPLOMAT, WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN WORKING AGAINST THE UKRAINIAN EMIGRATION. ON OCTOBER 15, 1959, STEPAN BANDERA, ANTI-COMMUNIST UKRAINIAN NATIONALIST LEADER WHOSE ENTIRE LIFE WAS DEVOTED TO THE STRUGGLE FOR UKRAINIAN FREEDOM AND LIBERATION FROM MOSCOW, WAS FOUND DEAD ON THE STAIRS OF HIS MUNICH RESIDENCE, A VICTIM OF FOUL PLAY. AN AUTOPSY BY THE GERMAN POLICE INDICATED DEATH BY POISONING.

3. THE SOVIET INTELLIGENCE AGENCY KGB HAD ATTEMPTED ON SEVERAL PREVIOUS OCCASIONS TO MURDER BANDERA. IN JUNE 1957, FOR INSTANCE, THE KGB ATTEMPTED TO

COORDINATING OFFICERS  
 RELEASING OFFICER [ ] AUTHENTICATING OFFICER [ ]

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DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
 SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
 NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
 DATE 2008

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

S E C R E T

ORIG: [ ]  
 UNIT: [ ]  
 EXT: [ ]  
 DATE: [ ]

ROUTING	
1	4
2	5
3	6

TO :  
 FROM: DIRECTOR  
 CONF:  
 INFO :

P R E C E D E N C E	DEFERRED	INITIALS
	ROUTINE	
	XX PRIORITY	INITIALS
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USE THE NOTORIOUS FORMER GERMAN SS GENERAL GOTTLIB BERGER IN AN OPERATION AGAINST BANDERA BUT THIS ATTEMPT FAILED. THE KGB BOTH IN MOSCOW AND KIEV WORKED HARD ON THE BANDERA CASE, BUT DETAILS WERE ACTUALLY CARRIED OUT BY KGB BERLIN-KARLSHORST. THE SOVIET OFFICER IN CHARGE CALLED HIMSELF COLONEL PAUL. THE TECHNIQUE USED WAS VERY SIMPLE FOR THE EXPERIENCED ASSASSINS OF THE KGB, BUT THE ACT REQUIRED PLANNING. WHILE NOT EXACTLY PATIENT, THE KGB IS PERSISTENT IN ITS WORLDWIDE TASK OF MURDERING OPPONENTS OF THE SOVIET REGIME. IN THE CASE OF BANDERA, THE KGB MANAGED OVER A PERIOD OF TIME TO PLACE ONE OF THEIR AGENTS AS A TRUSTED SUBORDINATE OF BANDERA. AT THE RIGHT TIME THIS AGENT TOLD BANDERA ABOUT AN "INTERESTING SOVIET DEFECTOR", AND AGREED TO ARRANGE A MEETING BETWEEN THE ALLEGED DEFECTOR AND BANDERA. OF COURSE, THE DEFECTOR TURNED OUT TO BE A KGB OFFICER ASSIGNED TO CARRY OUT THE ASSASSINATION PERSONALLY. WHENEVER POSSIBLE THE KGB PREFERENCES TO HAVE THEIR MURDERS HANDLED BY STAFF MEMBERS. DURING THE MEETING WITH BANDERA, THIS OFFICER DEFTLY PUT A DROP OF SPECIALLY PREPARED "DELAYED ACTION" POISON IN BANDERA'S COFFEE. HE MAY ALSO HAVE TOUCHED BANDERA WITH A HARD-TO-DETECT SKIN-CONTACT POISON OFTEN USED BY THE KGB. NEXT DAY BANDERA DIED.

COORDINATING OFFICERS

RELEASING OFFICER

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4. NOT SATISFIED WITH HAVING ELIMINATED BANDERA, THE KGB NEXT TOOK OPERATIONAL STEPS TO LEAD THE GERMAN POLICE INVESTIGATORS ASTRAY. ALTHOUGH IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO PREVENT DISCOVERY OF POISON IN THE CORPSE, VARIOUS MISLEADING EVIDENCE WAS PLANTED TO INDICATE THAT BANDERA COMMITTED SUICIDE RATHER THAN HAVING BEEN ASSASSINATED. THE NEXT KGB OBJECTIVE IS TO INSURE THAT THE KGB AGENT ON BANDERA'S STAFF IS CHOSEN TO SUCCEED BANDERA. IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE WHETHER THIS AGENT LOSES HIS NERVE AND FLEES TO THE EAST WHEN HE READS THIS ARTICLE. IF HE DOES NOT, HE WILL SHORTLY BE ARRESTED.

5. THE ASSASSINATION OF BANDERA WAS VERY IMPORTANT TO THE SOVIETS, ALTHOUGH IT WAS A ROUTINE TASK FOR THE KGB, WHICH SPECIALIZES IN POLITICAL MURDER. BANDERA WAS THE MOST FAMOUS LIVING UKRAINIAN ANTI-COMMUNIST NATIONALIST WHOSE DEATH WOULD SHOCK AND DEMORALIZE ANTI-COMMUNIST UKRAINIANS BOTH IN THE UKRAINIAN SSR AND ABROAD. BANDERA SYMBOLIZED UKRAINIAN DEEP-SEATED OPPOSITION BOTH TO THE SOVIET REGIME AND TO DOMINATION OF THEIR HOMELAND BY THE GREAT RUSSIANS. THE MOVEMENT BANDERA REPRESENTED HAS BEEN CONDUCTING PARTISAN AND PROPAGANDA WARFARE AGAINST THE SOVIET REGIME SINCE 1934, EVEN WITHIN THE SOVIET UNION.

END OF MESSAGE

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