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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OCT 3 - 1951

JL-668

FOR COORDINATION WITH JNS

MEMORANDUM FOR THE COMMISSIONER OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION

ATTENTION: Mr. W. W. Wiggins

SUBJECT: Mykola LEBED, aka: Roman Turan

REFERENCE: Your letter of 7 June 1951, SA-7320118 INV.



1. With respect to possible institution of deportation proceedings against this subject on the basis of information alleging that subject is known as "one of the most important Bandera terrorists....one of the group of the Bandera men that assassinated Bronislaw Pieracki, the Polish Minister of the Interior during 1934", we invite your attention to a secret memorandum from Mr. W. G. Wyman, Assistant Director of CIA, directed to the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, attention Mr. W. W. Wiggins, concerning "Vasyl GOGOSHA and the OUN/Bandera", dated 23 May 1951. This memorandum describes in a general way the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists. The "terrorist" designation of this Organization has been assiduously applied since 1945 by many Soviet Russians, Great Russian emigres, the Polish government and emigration, some Eastern Ukrainian anti-Galician factions, plus several questionable and probably biased sources such as Colonel BOROVS, alias Taras BULBA (in Germany and England) and Peter JABLON, aka YAROVY, JABLON-JARY, JAROWYZ. Subject has denied that he is one of the men who assassinated Bronislaw Pieracki, and in our opinion his participation in the assassination has not been satisfactorily established.

2. Your information further alleges that during the German occupation of Ukraine, "Lebed and his terroristic group....were directed by the Gestapo". This charge is contradicted by a Gestapo order to capture subject "dead or alive" which was issued as early as October 1941, and by the history of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) which subject helped to organize in the Ukraine during the war. The UPA fought with equal zeal against both the Nazis and the Bolsheviks.

3. Subject was the top political leader of the anti-Soviet Ukrainian resistance movement from 1941-1943. From 1944 to date, he has been the authorized Foreign Minister of the Ukrainian Supreme Council of Liberation (UHVR), which operates within the Soviet Union. Because of his status in this Council, he is in an influential position to render unique service to the United

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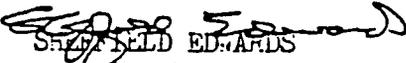
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States and to this Agency in the furtherance of its intelligence mission. It is our opinion that any activities on the part of the United States government with a view to his eventual deportation would be detrimental at this time and that an actual deportation would create serious political repercussions among the anti-Soviet Ukrainian groups all over the world. In addition, this Agency is of the opinion that his deportation would create certain security hazards affecting United States government intelligence activities. We are not in possession of any information indicating that he is engaged in any activities prejudicial to the interests of the United States.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE:

  
S. F. EDWARDS  
Colonel, GSC  
Security Officer

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