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SECURITY INFORMATION

The following action is authorized:

CIA A/SIS LONDON TALKS, May 1952

Downgrade to Secret

Signed: 

Operations in the Ukraine

R.O. #152 - Unit SB/CAS

Note: In this action, cite reasons and coordinate if appropriate.

May 29, 1952

1. CIA explained that since they were now in contact with only one agent in the Western Ukraine, with limited possibilities, they were proposing to do no more than send in one further party to get in touch with him. They felt that if by the end of the year it had not been possible to contact the resistance headquarters (if it still existed), the desirability of reconsidering these operations in the Western Ukraine should be reconsidered.
2. The situation with regard to SIS operations was similar; they were sending a group in overland to contact the 1951 party and would decide whether to continue operating in the Western Ukraine on the results achieved.
3. CIA stated that if they decided to discontinue operations in the Western Ukraine they would probably look further East, sending in self-sufficient teams. They felt that in any case this approach, devoid of emigre political complications, might yield better results.
4. SIS wondered whether in view of the present stalemate in the negotiations between ZP/UHVR and OUN/BANDERA an approach by LEBED - the only person with a real mandate from the Homeland - might not be encouraged by CIA/SIS. CIA felt that it would be advisable to wait until later in the year when both the internal situation in OUN/BANDERA would have resolved itself and it had become evident whether there was still a resistance force inside the Ukraine.

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CIA asked for SIS' views on the question of the penetration of emigre groups by the RIS and on the steps which might be taken to counter this. It was agreed that all the available information on the biographies of the key personalities in the emigration should be reviewed. Both services to consider further what work is involved in this and to raise the matter at our next meeting.

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