

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY May 1954
SOURCE METHODSEXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

TO : Chief, SR/3
FROM : SR 3 W2

SUBJECT: Operational Meeting held with AECASSOWARIES 2 and 15 on 20-21 May.

1. Following the announcement in the Soviet Press of the capture of AECASSOWARY 5, AECASSOWARY 2 was summoned to Washington by the undersigned to discuss the matter, to analyze the circumstances surrounding CASS 5's alleged capture and subsequent death sentence, to interpret the reasons for the announcement and to determine what action is to be taken as a result of this development. Coupled with the discussion was an interpretation of the statement authored by Joseph Krutiya and printed in the Soviet Press (see attachment), datelined the same as the announcement of CASS 5's trial and conviction. Other allied topics were also discussed.

2. Interpretations regarding news of CASS 5's capture, trial and death are as follows:

a) AECASSOWARY 5 was not captured alive for if he was, the Soviets would have certainly published all the facts concerning his accomplices, American personnel involved, etc. as they have done in the past after the capture of any agent. Here, it is possible that AECASS 5 was killed in an oblava last November, along with other members of his group, and was identified either by some materials found on his person or by Miron, who, in light of the ZOU-EP controversy, and if controlled, would certainly be capable of doing just this. As for the information concerning AECASSOWARY 5's training, dispatch, mission assignment, etc. as published by the Soviets, this was claimed to have been gotten from AECASSOWARY 5's confession when in fact, even though applicable in this case, was already known by the Soviets as publicized earlier following the capture of another team of agents with a similar background of training, dispatch, etc.

b) AECASSOWARY 5 was captured alive but i) refrained from revealing more information than was made known by the Soviet press, ii) took his own life shortly after capture and thus only revealed that portion already made public or iii) told all but for any number of reasons the Soviets have decided to keep secret detailed information gotten from him, releasing only enough to satisfy the requirements of those making propaganda in combatting Ukrainian Nationalism. In not telling the full confession, which, if he were captured alive can be assumed was extracted from him, the Soviets did not want to reveal the extent to which they have been successful in coping with operations in the Ukraine; that AECASSOWARY 5 had been successful in operating there for over two years; that he was not connected with a defunct Bandera but instead represented the UHVR, a representative form of governing body with a foreign representation abroad seeking aid for the liberation of the Ukraine; that AECASSOWARY 5 was not primarily a paid agent of the Americans but was working for the liberation of the Ukraine; that the resistance movement was wide-spread both in the Ukraine and abroad, being represented or led by real patriots any of whom would be recognized by the Ukrainians inside as something other than criminals, bandits, Hitler-type agents, etc.; that a top leader of the UHVR is located in the Ukraine running an organized resistance or underground movement.

SECRET

3. The reasons why the capture and trial of CASSOWARY 5 were announced in the manner and time that they were are as follows:

a) To show that ASCASSOWARY 5 and others like him were similiar to those accused of aiding Hitler in the destruction of the Ukraine during World War II and who are now ~~were~~ in the pay of the Americans and the British, carrying out acts of spying, sabotage, showing no connection whatsoever with any Ukrainian Liberation Movement.

b) To impress upon other agents, probably assumed by the RIS to be in training, with the futility of entering the Ukraine on a mission for the Western Intelligence Services.

c) To lend to the propaganda in connection with the 300th Anniversary of the unification of the Ukraine with Russia.

d) To off-set the bad publicity, embarrassment, etc., as a result of the recent Soviet defections.

e) To tie in with the overall policy (applicable to the Krutiy case) of spreading anti-American propaganda in the Soviet Union and the Ukraine, forewarning the Ukrainian people that the American designs in the Ukraine are imperialistic to be implemented in a Hitlerite-type tactic wherein so-called Ukrainian leaders will be brought in to exploit the Ukrainian nation, plunder it, etc.

f) To begin to expose a net in the Ukraine more controlled than has heretofore been expected.

g) To try to get the emigre organizations engaged in resistance activity to show their hand by denials, admissions, etc.

h) To disorganize the ranks of the underground in the Ukraine and to confuse the rank and file of the emigre population who have been instrumental in supporting the various emigre organizations.

4. Other interpretations in this matter, mere speculations of course, are as follows: a) In the oblava that resulted either in the death or capture of ASCASSOWARY 5, ABCARTFACE 5, if he were with ASCASSOWARY 5 at the time, might also have been killed or captured. His prolonged W/I silence tends to confirm this. On the other hand, he may be safe but having to flee from the scene of the oblava has been unable to return for his commo equipment. If he were captured alive, it is doubtful that the Soviets would attempt to double him once they have announced the capture of ASCASSOWARY 5.

5. Proposed action to be taken as a result of this development is as follows:

a) Hiron should be questioned via the Javelin link as to how, where and when he learned of ASCASSOWARY 5's capture. b) It was decided and concurred in by ASCASS 2 that a letter should be sent to ABCARTFACE 12 instructing him to attempt to exfiltrate as soon as possible, along with several of his colleagues. Since he lacks a rapid means of communicating with us, has no facility of obtaining a w/i set as originally expected (from ABCARTFACE 5) and could serve us best by presenting a personal account of the situation there, it is felt that it is best he risk an attempt to exfiltrate rather than remain there under present conditions and circumstances.

SECRET

SECRET

c) AECASS 2 stated that since the news of AECASSOWARY 5's fate had been publicized he has received a number of requests from newspaper correspondents in New York for comments. He said he has made none nor does he think he ought to. In anticipation of AECASSOWARY 3 making a statement to the press in Germany, AECASS 2 thought it best that he furnish a communique for him in which American participation in the affair would be excluded. (Since speaking with AECASS 2 on 21 May, he has sent via airmail a communique to AECASS 3, not knowing at the time that AECASS 3 thought complete silence was necessary. A cable was sent to Munich by the undersigned advising that AECASS 2 agreed to silence also but that in event a communique was required then his was to be used. Instructions were also sent to delete from the communique a portion referring to a denial of AECASS 5 participation in American training and dispatch.)

d) AECASS 2 reported that two days prior to the newspaper report of the capture of AECASS 5, that is, on 17 May, he received a letter from AECASS 5's brother, who lives in New Orleans, in which he stated that he has received correspondence from people, in the United States and in Europe, to the effect that his brother was accused of being an MVD agent, was instrumental in the ZCh-ZP controversy, that he was in the Ukraine causing a breach in the OUN-UHVR leadership there. AECASS 5's brother wanted to know the true story from AECASS 2 with whom he has not been in communication for about a year and at which time AECASS 2 informed him that AECASS 5 was well, etc. Upon receipt of this letter and upon reading the papers about AECASS 5, AECASS 2 had AECASS 4 telephone AECASS 5's brother to explain or relate the news story to him, with the promise of a follow-up letter giving a fuller explanation of the charges being made by some people in the emigration. AECASS 2 said that he would try to determine who has been writing to AECASS 5's brother and will request the names and addresses of these people. In the above mentioned phone call, AECASS 4 requested that AECASS 5's brother make no comments regarding the fate of his brother.

6. With the announcement of the capture and trial of AECASS 5 there was also announced by the Soviet and Ukrainian Press the statement made by Joseph Krutiy titled, "About the Causes of My Breaking away From The Ukrainian Nationalists." AECASSOWARY 2's interpretation of this is as follows:

a) Krutiy undoubtedly has been an SIS agent for quite some time now and has been recalled by his masters for the purpose of lending his name to the above mentioned article, written, probably, by the Soviets rather than by Krutiy himself.

b) The article was written and publicized in conjunction with the climax of the 300th Anniversary of the unification of Ukraine with Russia. Ostensibly, this appears to be one of the primary reasons for its being written but in fact, only its release on this occasion has anything in common with the 300th anniversary celebration. In content, the document calls for a broader and more important interpretation, for in it is contained a new policy of the Kremlin regarding the Ukraine, Ukrainian Nationalists, Ukrainian Nationalism, and American "imperialism."

c) This document, replete with typical Soviet half truths, distortions, false accusations, slanderous charges, is one step in the direction of combatting Ukrainian Nationalism in the open and it is one of the first of such public statements made since shortly after the end of World War II. The same can be said in regard to the publication of the news of AECASSOWARY 5. In the document, all prominent Ukrainian political leaders are lumped together as

SECRET

though they were united in a common effort, although AECASS 2 states that some of those mentioned would certainly object to being hanged together for their particular activities. All are accused of being in the pay of the Americans, of planning to take over the Ukraine along with the Americans in the manner of Hitler thus transforming the Ukraine into a colony for the Americans and other capitalists.

7. The aims of the document are: a) To denounce to the Ukrainian people, at home and abroad, the leaders of all emigre groups engaged in activity considered detrimental to the Soviet regime. ~~ii~~) To convince the Ukrainian people that no Ukrainian underground exists today. ~~iii~~) To picture all Ukrainian leaders to be swindlers, paid agents, etc., for the purpose of minimizing the support being given them by the rank and file emigre and to discourage any hope the Ukrainians in the Ukraine might have regarding a liberation move, and to force them into inactivity as well. ~~iv~~) To show that America has imperialistic designs on the Ukraine and is using Hitlerite tactics to achieve its goal. ~~v~~) To try to induce emigre Ukrainians to return to the Ukraine which would further serve the Kremlin propoganda and fight against Ukrainian Nationalism. ~~vi~~) To alert the Ukrainian people to the threat to them by American intelligence services and to condition all Ukrainians to be on the alert for American spies and to refrain from supporting them when they arrive in the Ukraine. ~~vii~~) To create mistrust within the emigre groups, causing all to suspect each other of being a spy who might defect any time. ~~viii~~) To forewarn the Ukrainian people that in the event of war and if the Americans succeed in penetrating the Ukraine, they can be expected to behave as Hitler and his troops did and should not, therefore, be considered as liberators but instead as a vile enemy. Since any and all the Ukrainians and groups mentioned in the document are considered potential "puppets" of the victorious Americans, all are brought to the attention of the Ukrainian public as to be avoided and fought as enemies of the people.

8. The reasons why the document was issued are: a) The Soviet authorities may have the Ukrainian problem so well taken care of that they no longer fear publicizing the facts concerning the activity of Ukrainian emigres and the resistance movement. b) The Kremlin might realize that the activity of the emigre organizations, various liberation committees, radio broadcasts, etc. have become so effective as to be considered a real threat to the stability of the Ukraine and therefore could no longer be combatted in secrecy, by police methods or by censorship; that an appeal must be made to the people with the risk of spreading the facts of the extent of the resistance activity both internally and abroad. c) The Soviets might be anticipating war and an invasion of the Ukraine with the Americans employing the same tactics as did Germany in winning over to its side the Ukrainian people. Therefore, this might be an attempt to forewarn the people that instead of liberation they can expect exploitation from both the Americans and their paid Ukrainian emigres now being prepared to take over the country. d) This also might be only one of many moves on the part of the Soviet authorities, in line with creating stability in the Ukraine, to show the Ukrainian people that the "Big Brother" is offering proof of some of the steps taken in protecting the Ukraine from the capitalist imperialists and their hirelings.

9. Another item of interest discussed with AECASS 2 is as follows.

a) CASS 2 stated that he had received a letter from someone connected with the Suchasna Ukraina in which this person states that he has received word from an

SECRET

Ukrainian living in Denmark who has been approached by Soviet seamen making a port of call there and who have asked him for Ukrainian newspapers and other emigre publications. This person in Denmark has requested that the Suchasna office send him what it can spare in line of reading material which he can disseminate to those making the request. AECASS 2 said he would furnish the undersigned the name and address of this person in Denmark as soon as he receives them from Munich. This might be a BELSKIN lead.

- []