

Suggestions on the Situation in Ukraine and in the USSR

To our way of understanding, the struggle against communism at a time of the so-called peaceful coexistence and disarmament plans does not mean forcible interference in the domestic affairs of nations. This peaceful coexistence and the Khrushchev-dictated disarmament policy should not, however, negate the fundamental liberties of men and nations; it must not deny the right of nations to decide their own political and social order by means of the expression of their will. There are no nations in the world today which do not desire peace; the Ukrainian people also desire peace, having suffered so much in the last war and during the rule of the Soviet regime in Ukraine. The kind of peace proposed by Khrushchev, however, is predicated on the continued enslavement of the Ukrainian and other peoples; such peace is immoral and for this reason it is the duty of the West and of the USA as its leader, to expose this state of affairs, and not to pass it over in silence. It is not only the moral standpoint which makes it incumbent upon the United States to extend this aid to Ukraine: it is also politically expedient because it will decide in final effect, which side the Ukrainian and other non-Russian people of the USSR will be on.

Unfortunately, the free world and the United States in particular, have as yet to show a proper understanding of the nationality problem in the USSR, which would cause them to support politically or at least morally the resistance movements in the USSR; thus far, there is either silence on these movements, or else their interpretation in the light of Soviet sources.

Unification under a common Soviet denominator and elimination of national aspirations of the non-Russian peoples would have far-reaching effects not only on the enslaved nations, but on the entire free world. The struggle against communism, waged on by the free world headed by the USA should be primarily directed against the center or chief base of communism, i. e., the Soviet Union.

The entire nationality problem of the USSR, including the problem of Ukraine and her people's aspirations to independence should be regarded by the United States as an international problem, and at the same time as a trump card in American-Soviet relations. Within the framework of this proposition, we suggest: (1) To cease using the term Russia as a designation of all nations comprising the USSR and as a name for the USSR as such. The use of the term Russia is, in this sense, insulting to all Soviet-ruled peoples, and it is not even used by the Soviet government which distinguishes Ukrainians, Georgians and others from Russians. (2) To depart from the present policy of ignoring the Ukrainian SSR as a member of the UN, and to start reacting to the frequent appearances of the Ukrainian SSR on the UN forum. This refers in particular to the appearances of delegates of the Ukrainian SSR in the UN in behalf of colonial or only recently enfranchised peoples of Africa and Asia, which make an impression on the Afro-Asian nations that the Ukrainian SSR is sympathetic to their plight and at the same time that the Ukrainian SSR

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is a sovereign nation, enjoying national and social independence. It would be well for the representatives of the free nations in the UN to expose the conditions of colonial enslavement in the USSR. (3) To show initiative in favor of establishing diplomatic relations between the United States and the Ukrainian SSR. (4) In connection with the USA-USSR cultural exchange program, an attempt should be made to establish direct contacts with the Ukrainian people. This refers to: tourists visiting Ukraine, including official delegations; student exchange; literary contacts with translations of American classics into Ukrainian and Ukrainian classics into English; information booklets on Ukraine for American tourists, and on America for Ukrainian visitors; exchange of cultural and artistic ensembles. A visit to Kiev by President Eisenhower as part of his USSR itinerary would contribute a great deal toward the establishment of direct relations between the American and Ukrainian people and toward counteracting the Kremlin's anti-American propaganda in Ukraine. (5) To try to persuade private institutions such as Radio Free Europe and the American Committee for Liberation that in their activities RFE should cease its broadcasts in the Carpatho-Rus' dialect originating in the Czechoslovak desk and beamed at Ukrainians in the Transcarpathian province, and the propaganda which alleges that this province is part of Czechoslovakia; in the case of the American Committee for Liberation to lift its prohibition on Radio Liberation against mentioning independence aspirations of the Ukrainians in its Ukrainian broadcasts. We might also suggest a possible revision of the existing discriminatory division into satellite and Soviet countries. (6) To continue the moral support of the liberation struggle of the Ukrainian people by means of official statements and findings, as for example: the Captive Nations Week Resolution, or unofficial -- press releases, appearances of members of Congress, American men of science, cultural leaders and publicists. (7) To extend help to Ukrainian emigres in their efforts to aid the Ukrainian people, through: (a) aid to Ukrainian scholarly institutions; (b) aid for publications and books which counteract publications appearing in the Ukrainian SSR; (c) establishment of teaching facilities of the Ukrainian language in American universities; (d) making funds of American foundations available to Ukrainian scientific and cultural institutions; (e) facilitating the participation of Ukrainian emigre scholars, journalists and experts in international congresses; (f) facilitating, by means of trips and lectures in the Afro-Asian countries, dissemination of information on the true conditions of enslavement in the USSR.

We believe that all manifestations of a favorable attitude of the USA toward Ukraine and other enslaved nations of the USSR will contribute to the struggle of liberation and weaken the Soviet regime from within; and contrariwise, a neutralist or unfavorable attitude will weaken the resistance movements in the USSR and thus strengthen the Soviet regime.