

No 201 as of 12 Oct 65
Subject: OVCHAREN, Fedir Danylovich, of Kiev, Ukrainian SSR
Source: ~~OVCHAREN~~ *K9* NECESSARY/44
Date: 4 Oct. 1965

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

1. First meeting with Subject was arranged on Sept. 14, 1965 at the Inter-Parliamentary Conference in Ottawa. Source proposed an interview on "Radio Canada" to Subject, to which he agreed. After interview a meeting was held in Subject's room at Hotel Elgin.
2. Subject is Ukrainian, born 1913 in Symyska obl. Married, has a 15 year old daughter. Is chemist by profession and specializes in colloidal chemistry. Member of the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences since 1964. Member of CPSU since 1939. Further data and photograph available in Soviet Ukrainian Encyclopedia vol. 10, pg. 253.
3. On the way to the hotel room Subject 'confided' that he had recently made some discovery dealing with chemical fertilizers that would save the Soviet government millions of rubles. He did not however elaborate what they were.

When asked about possibilities of diplomatic relations between Canada and Ukrainian SSR, subject gave the standard reply that Canada is against such relations. He added that when the group of Ukrainian writers and artists headed by KOLOSOVA was in Canada, they encountered many difficulties, and were criticized for meeting local Ukrainians. He personally felt that such meetings were very important and led to mutual understanding, and was glad matters recently developed along this line.

4. In hotel room Subject treated Source to some "Ukrainian whiskey" from Kiev, and sausage. They discussed the status of the Ukrainian SSR, present situation in the Ukraine and relationships between the Ukraine and the emigration. The relations between Ukrainians and Russians in the Soviet Union were also discussed. Source explained about emigre articles which relate to those problems and showed Subject his article in the "Military Review" (Photo-copy of the original.) Subject asked if he could keep this article, since he wanted to bring it to Kiev to the Academy of Arts and Sciences. Source signed article in an illegitimate manner upon request. He also asked for articles from emigre newspapers which Source promised to obtain. Subject seemed to voice dissatisfaction with the work of Palamarchuk saying: "Well, as you know he has a different job now." Generally Subject preferred to listen, rather than comment. Though he stuck to the official line in his comments, at the same time he admitted shortages and other negative aspects of the situation in Ukraine. In some points was inclined to agree with Source's arguments. However his ^{own} ~~own~~ line of arguing was that position of Ukraine was not as bad as Source claimed, and that those matters

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were improving. Still he did not go beyond generalities.

5. On the way back to Parliament, Subject proposed that since the 17th volume of the Soviet Ukrainian Encyclopedia has already been completed, and since it deals exclusively about Ukraine, it would be a good idea if it was published in Canada also. Source replied that all publishing in Canada is either private or University owned, and all arrangements should be made through them. Source suggested that a book about Canada be published in Ukraine, and maybe Canadians would publish something in return. Subject did not pursue this topic, instead mentioned that a friend of his by the name BABIY "had written a new book about the Ukrainian Soviet Republic which will answer all your difficult questions."

Subject mentioned also STELMACH M. as his friend.

6. According to Subject there is a revival among Ukrainians now, and seems to be quite strong. Consequently, his image of the situation in Ukraine is brighter than that of Source. He gave an example of his 15 year old daughter, who without any encouragement had some of her poetry printed in the journal "RANOK" #8/65. At his home Ukrainian is spoken too. His daughter's case could serve as an indication of the strong Ukrainian sentiments which were growing among the young generation. Subject then added, "Today we are a nation, not a dark people."

7. Subject expressed a wish to meet M. STARR, saying that he has a gift for him. Source informed him that STARR lives in Oshawa, near Toronto. Subject said that he might meet him in Toronto.

8. In front of the Parliament buildings an advisor from the Soviet embassy was waiting for them, upon spotting Subject he said in an irate tone, "they are waiting for you", Subject replied calmly "let them wait". They parted, with Subject asking Source to leave the newspaper articles in the hotel registrar for him, since he will be gone for 2 days on a visit to Toronto and other places.

9. This advisor from the embassy was ^{probably} SMYRNOV in opinion of Source.

At receptions held 15 and 16 Sept. (one by Minister of Foreign Affairs, the other by Prime Minister) Subject was not present. When Source asked IVANKOV, one of the members of the Soviet delegation for whereabouts of Subject, he said: "he must have gone somewhere". IVANKOV commented that his name was not in the leaflet Russian, but when asked if he spoke Ukrainian, the answer was negative.

10. On 16 Sept. 1965, Source left the following materials for Subject with the hotel clerk: Reprints from SUCHASNIST written by Source, a clipping from "Our Aim" about the removal of Palamarchuk from his post, 2 clippings from the "New Pathway" and copies of the "New Pathway" and "Ukrainian Voice".

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11. The next meeting took place on 17 Sept. 1965 in the morning shortly before the daily session. Source was approached by Subject in Parliament building, who thanked him for the newspapers, and the clippings. He said that he was in Toronto and they agreed to meet for lunch at 12:00 noon. The lunchtime meeting lasted app. 1 1/2 hours, and was held in the "Embassy" restaurant.

12. Subject told Source that he had been to Toronto, where he met with P. KRAWCHUK, who he praised as being very energetic. He had read the journal "NOVI DNI" (New Days) and praised the editor WOLYNIAK as a man who "writes the material himself, prints them himself, and mails it out himself and has done a good job up to now." Subject also visited the Shevchenko monument in Palermo, was in St. Catherines and Niagara Falls.

13. Source gave Subject a few suggestions which later wrote down and promised to bring up when he returns to Kiev. Those were on: A. Diplomatic relations of Ukrainian SSR and her international status. B. Cultural exchange between Ukraine and Canada. C. Rehabilitation of Hryshkevsky and other Ukrainian scholars. D. Publication of the works of Skrypnyk, Khvyloviy and others. On the question of diplomatic relations, Subject tried to defend his position using party line untill Source gave concrete examples of Moscows policy in this field which are degrading to Ukraine. On the question of exchanges between Canada and Ukraine in the field of students, mayors and other leaders, Subject mentioned that he had read an article by R.R. (the Source) in "The New Pathway", (Not knowing that Source was RR-the author of the article) and found it interesting. On the whole he made few comments, and tried to defend Kiev's policy by denying that everything in the Ukraine has been done on orders from Moscow. He reproached Ukrainians themselves for inadequate situation, and lack of initiative, in addition saying: "We have many who censor our own people and themselves as well."

Agreed that rehabilitation of Hryshkevsky is necessary and will most likely take place. Did not comment on rehabilitation of SKRYPNYK or KHVYLOVIY instead said that all rehabilitation should be sincere and with a good base. Was glad that ARCHIPENKO and KOSHYTS are finally acknowledged in the Ukraine.

14. Asked about the possible sucessor to the post of Palamarchuk, Subject mentioned PEDANIUK as a possibility. KYSIL the present Vice-Minister will remain as such according to Subject, while KOLOSOVA was ~~completely~~ ^{out of the question.} rejected. Described PASHKO, the editor of KOMUNIST UKRAINY as a "good Ukrainian".

15. Subject said that he knows DRACH since the latter was a little boy.

16. Source proposed that since there is a Russian section in "Radio Canada" it would be very beneficial if there existed a Ukrainian section which would

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have contacts with Kiev. A practical use of such a contact would be the playing of Ukrainian music on "Radio Canada". Subject suggested that Source write to SKACHKO, the head of the radio committee in Kiev. When Source replied that this had already been done a few months ago, and no answer has been received as of now, Subject started to complain about buracracy, and lack of initiative on the part of Ukrainians.

17. Ukrainian participation in the Montreal International Exposition in 1967 subject considers a very important matter. Said that he had read an article by BR on this topic . (Source suspects that Subject read same in Kiev, since he did not give him such an article.) Subject said that he will attend exposition in Montreal.

18. Suggested that if Source were to visit Ukraine, he should visit inder the auspices of Canadian Radio, and not the Ministry of Foriegn Affairs. Added that in Ukraine, Source would be given forum where he could explain his views, regardless of his past activities.

19. Source bought Subject the following gifts: For Subject's daughter one bottle of Chanel #5 perfume, and for his wife 4 pairs of nylons.

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