

Contact with the Representatives of the Ukrainian SSR at the UN

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DATE 2007

On Thursday, October 14, 1965, ^{A/58} B. was present at the general debate of General Assembly of the UN. The debate was over at 1 PM and the delegates went for lunch. B. went to the delegates ^{lounge} ~~lounge~~ where one can find many delegates during that time. After about 10 minutes, while walking through the lounge, B. noticed one of the representatives of the Ukrainian delegation ~~present~~ who was present at that debate (Serhiy T. SEVCHENKO) and Petro T. TRONKO (not present at the debate). B. approached them and said that it would be a pleasure for him to get acquainted with the Ukrainian delegates. At that he introduced himself and added that he is a corresepondent of the journal SUCHASNIST. Shevchenko explained to B. that he is the Head of Permanent Mission to the UN (without mentioning his ~~name~~ name) and introduced Tronko as the Chairman of the Ukrainian delegation to the UN and the Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Ukrainian SSR. B. answered that he knows who is Tronko because he had a chance to hear his address at the General Assembly last Thursday, October 7, and added that it was pleasure to hear the Ukrainian language at the UN. Tronko asked B. if the Ukrainian language really sounded there so good. B. answered that it ~~did~~ really did and added that it should be used there more frequently.

Shevchenko asked B. if he is a permanent correspondent to the UN and when B. answered that he isn't, Shevchenko wanted to know what is B's main function as a correspondent. B. explained to him that he is a student and his function of a correspondent he fulfills only on a part-time basis. To the question if he is from New York, B. replied that he is from Philadelphia. Shevchenko interrupted asking if there is a large Slavic center, and B. replied that there is.

Tronko asked B. where did his ancestry originate in the Ukraine. When B. replied that in Lviv, Tronko stated that he knows the western Ukraine very well, and added that B. most likely was already born here in the USA. When B. answered that he was born ~~in~~ in the

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Ukraine, Shevchenko asked B. when he left the Ukraine. When B. answered that in March, 1943, Shevchenko asked further how old was B. then, and B. answered that he was 8. Shevchenko asked once more what B's name is, explaining that he did not get it the first time. After answering to that, B. in return asked Shevchenko the same question in order to determine that he is the one B. thinks he is, and the answer was positive.

Tronko asked B. if ever visited the Ukraine since the time he left it and B. answered that he didn't. Shevchenko stated that B. should visit the Ukraine and that it would be interesting to B. both as a correspondent and as a student. B. agreed with him and added that so far his studies and his work prevented it. Shevchenko said that since B. is a student it would be good if B. could go to the Ukraine for a year to study. B. replied that at this time it would be for him financially impossible, and added that so far he was offered a scholarship only to Poland and although he knows Polish ~~quite~~ quite satisfactorily he did not take the advantage of this offer. Shevchenko commented that B. being from HALYCHYNA, like all the people from there, should know the Polish language. B. replied that he was too young ~~to~~ to learn that language there but did it here in the school but mostly from his Polish friends.

Tronko remarked that for some time he did not see SUCHASNIST and asked B. if he has some copies with him. B. replied that he does not but that the next time he will bring ~~some~~ along some. Tronko asked B. what is the last issue of Suchasnist, and B. replied that for the month of September. To B's question how many back issues he would like to have, Tronko answered that the last issue will do.

B. asked Tronko if he could obtain the Ukrainian copy of his address which he delivered in the General Assembly and Tronko replied that B. could except the person in charge of this matters was not available at the time, adding that he will make sure that B. gets one.

At this point the conversation ended because Tronko excused himself explaining that they have to go.

On Thursday, October 21, B. met Shevchenko again. It took place in the delegates lounge after the morning meeting of the Special Political Committee in which Shevchenko participates. Shevchenko was with Yuriy N. KOCHUREY, the First Secretary of the Permanent Ukrainian Mission to the UN, whom he introduced to B. There was no lengthy conversation between them because Shevchenko had to meet some delegate, however, he agreed to meet B. the next day in the same place at noon. Shevchenko also mentioned that during the afternoon meeting of the First Committee Tronko, who participates in this Committee, will make a statement on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

The following day, on Friday, October 22, B. met Shevchenko about 12:15 PM. Shevchenko was a few minutes late and explained that he instead of going to the meeting of Special Committee he had a very important meeting with the representative of Mauretania and for that reason he was late. B. offered him a drink and they sat down for a conversation. The following matters were discussed:

1. B. asked Shevchenko what title should he use while addressing Tronko -- Minister, Prime Minister, or perhaps something else. Shevchenko replied that Tronko is not a Minister and the title of Prime Minister is not used in the Ukraine. Tronko is the Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and usually his co-workers address him simply as Petro Tymofeyevych.
2. Shevchenko also mentioned that SHCHERBYTSKY was recently appointed as the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Ukrainian SSR replacing replacing Kazanets who was appointed the Minister of Ferrous Metallurgy of the USSR. Shevchenko explained that Shcherbytsky is not new in this post for he held it before in the years 1957 - 1961. Lately he was Party Secretary in Dnipropetrovsk.
3. Shevchenko further added that since there is placed a great importance on the development of a heavy industry (ferrous metallurgy) in the USSR, the appointment of KAZANETS as the

head of that Ministry is of a high honor and of a great importance. Therefore, in his ~~maximum~~ opinion, said Shevchenko, the position of Kazanets is equal to that of a Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the entire USSR. Kazanets, in his words, is very talented individual, brilliant, intelligent, and most of all Ukrainian.

4. In order that he would not be misunderstood, Shevchenko explained that besides placing a great stress on a heavy industry the light industry will not be neglected either. The stress on the heavy industry is not because it was not working properly in the past but because there is always a room for improvement since it is the backbone of the entire Soviet economy. The light industry, which is doing very well at present, will be oriented towards the mass production of the important consumer's goods.

The conversation was interrupted because Shevchenko and B. were approached by Kochubey and Anatoliy B. HOLOVKO, to whom Shevchenko introduced B. A few minutes later they were also joined by Tronko, Mykhaylo D. POLYANYCHKO, Mykolay K. HOLOVKO, and Leonid H. BOLBO-TENKO, who were introduced to B.

Tronko recognized B. as the correspondent of Suchasnist. He stated that he read the August and September ~~xx~~ issues of Suchasnist and that he found there written a lot of nonsense. B. replied that what is nonsense is a matter of opinion. Tronko did not reply to the B's statement but instead remarked that Suchasnist is the journal which frequently accuses that in the Ukraine no one speaks the Ukrainian language. "Look, we are all Ukrainians, we speak a good Ukrainian, I was even accused yesterday by the delegate of Yugoslavia that in my statement delivered before the First Committee in Russian I ~~xx~~ used many Ukrainianisms, and besides, don't we all look Ukrainian", Tronko continued. B. replied that it could be questionable whether they all look Ukrainian, however, it is certain that they all are ~~xx~~ very Slavic. As to the Ukrainian language, B. continued, he does not have to rely on Suchasnist in order to learn ~~xx~~ about the present situation in the Ukraine. It is enough to talk with the tourists ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ visiting the Ukraine and they all, Ukra-

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inians as well as Americans, will tell that in Kiev and in Lviv one hears everywhere only Russian. Tronko answered that it is not so and that Bolbotenko, who studied in the Lviv University, could verify to that. Bolbotenko made only a meager remark to that stating that while studying there at the university everything was there in the Ukrainian.

Someone announced that the limousines are already waiting and they all parted. Shevchenko said to B. that they all are going to the reception given by ~~the~~ governor Rockefeller. He also asked B. to come Monday at 3 Pm to the meeting of the Special Committee and he will tell then B. when he will have some free time to talk some more with him. When they parted it was about 12:45 PM.

On Monday, October 25, B. went to the General Assembly where the meeting of the Special Committee was scheduled to take place. There at the entrance he met BOLBOTENKO, who when asked about Shevchenko answered that he should be there in a few minutes. In the meantime they had a little conversation:

Re: BOLBOTENKO:

1. B. asked Bolbotenko how does he like his stay in the New York City, and he answered that he does not because it is too dirty and too noisy. When asked what other cities he visited so far, he replied that besides New York and Washington, DC no other. He had a few others wanted to visit this summer Atlantic City but could not get a clearance to go there.
2. B. asked Bolbotenko how he should address Tronko and Shevchenko. Bolbotenko replied that Shevchenko has the rank of ambassador and Tronko is the head of the delegation, and B. can address them accordingly.
3. B. asked Bolbotenko what is his position with the delegation. Bolbotenko explained that he is the First Secretary of the delegation and he is the employee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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of the Ukrainian SSR.

4. Further B. asked him when there will be appointed a new Minister of Foreign Affairs. Bolbotenko answered that he does not know ~~when~~ the answer to this question, but in his opinion it is not going to be soon. When asked why, He replied that at present there is the General Assembly in the session, and of course, the Minister's place should be at the UN. However, the head of this ~~XXXXXX~~ delegation to the UN is Tronko, and therefore it is sort of inconvenient to appoint the Minister at present and sent him here to the UN while ~~the~~ Tronko is in charge. However, the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR is in session in Kiev right now and almost anything can happen. They are discussing many different things and they may even appoint the new ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Minister now. When asked who most likely could be appointed to this post, Bplbotenko replied that his guesses are as good as B's, and that no one can answer this question at this time. B. insisted on some answer and told him that there must be someone or a few people who are under the ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ consideration for this post and his or their names must be frequently mentioned. Bolbotenko replied that the most frequently mentioned name is that of Ivan M. PEDANYUK, the Chairman of the State Committee on Press of the Ukrainian SSR and the member of this delegation to the UN, and that he most likely will be appointed as the Minister of Foreign Affairs.
5. When asked about the reasons of transferring PALAMARCHUK from the post of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Ukrainian SSR to the post of the Ambassador of the USSR to Morocco, Bolbotenko replied that the post of the Minister is not very easy but very demanding. Palamarchuk is not a young man, and besides his health is not very good either. He also mentioned already a while ago that he wants to leave his post anyway. When asked, Bolbotenko answered that Palamarchuk must be about 59 years of age and, he is not sure, but thinks that it is his heart that troubles him.

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At this moment approached Shevchenko. Bolbotenko excused himself stating that he is going into the meeting room because he does not want to miss the beginning of the meeting. Shevchenko said that he will be right there because he also wants to be there at the very beginning. He explained to B. ~~tx~~ that this meeting is very ~~x~~ important to him because the representative of Ireland will make a proposal there. He stated further that otherwise he would skip that meeting and spend that time with B. Shevchenko said that the meeting should be over about 5 PM, and if B. does not mind ~~xx~~ waiting for him, he can spend some time with him then. B. agreed.

The meeting was over at 5 PM and B. met Shevchenko. They went into the delegates lounge, B. ordered some drinks and they sat down to discuss the following matters:

1. They started the conversation where they have left off on Friday, about the industry. B. asked him about the significance of the new ministries created by the recent Plenum of the Supreme Soviet in Moscow, and what does the new centralization of the economy of the USSR mean. Shevchenko replied that the new ministries should not be confused with the ministries of 1930's and 1940's. The present ones are of a different kind and on a higher level. They combine in themselves the experience and good points of the former ministries and that of RAD-NARHOSPS. The present economy in the USSR is very dynamic and so will be the new ministries. They were created not because the previous system did not function properly but because, as the economy progresses in its development, it also needs a new form of management adapted to the new demands. As to the centralization of the economy, it really should not be called so, and more so, it is not going to be the type of centralization which was during the Stalin's time. The present centralization means only that the new ministries will direct the planning and the quantity of production on the scale of the whole country, as well as standardize the parts and products, and conduct research. But the methods of production and its supervision of different enterprises will belong to the corresponding repu-

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blican ministries. So the republics will have a complete freedom of its economic life and its further development.

2. B. asked Shevchenko about the rumours that there is a strong "Ukrainian clique" in the Kremlin whose members are taking the government into their hands. How is it in the reality and who are they besides PODHORNYY. Shevchenko smiled and said that these rumours are false because there is no such "clique" at all, and he is surprized that B. believes and talks about such nonsense. He explained that the Ukrainians are very talented and smart people, and it is natural that from among 45 mil. people some will come up to the top. Naturally, since the USSR consists of various republics, all of them share in the government of the Union. And since the Ukraine has many talented people, one can find many of them at the top, but speaking of some "clique" is the most ridiculous. B. asked him then who are the other Ukrainians besides Podhornyy that hold important positions in the Union. Shevchenko replied that there is KUCHERENKO, the Deputy Minister for Construction of the USSR Council of Ministers, NEPOROZHNYI, the Deputy Minister for the Construction of Electronical Power Plants of the USSR Council of Ministers, KORNIYETS, the First Deputy Chairman for State Committee for Procurment USSR Council of Ministers, and of course BREZHNEV. There are also some others, but he just could not remember all of ~~yt~~ them. B. stated that Brezhnev was born in the Ukraine but he is not Ukrainian. Shevchenko replied that Brezhnev was born in the Ukraine, his parents were Ukrainian, and if B. would ask Brezhnev about it, then he would find out from him who he is.
3. B. asked Shevchenko who at present is acting as the minister of Foreign Affairs of the Ukrainian SSR. Shevchenko replied that KYSIL is the Deputy Minister and he is in charge of the Ministry. Lately Kisil was the representative of the Ukrainian SSR to the UNESCO in Paris, and since his return to Kiev he is on a month and a half leave at a resort because he was lately overworked and did not have a leave for quite some time. Besides the Ministry is in the good hands anyway, having a few of very capable

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employees like Anatoliy A. BOYKO and Mychjlo D. POLYANYCHIKO, who happen to be here at this session of the UN. The first one is the head of the department of International Economic Organizations of the Ministry, and the second one is the head ~~of the department of International Organizations~~ of the department of all other International Organizations. When asked what other departments there are in the Ministry and who are their heads, Shevchenko answered that there is also the department of the Press headed by Yuriy E. YEGOROV, who also is here with the delegation, and the COUNSULAR department headed by V. M. TSYBA, who could not come here because of his bad health. The above mentioned departments of the Ministry are the main ones. There are also subdepartments which Shevchenko did not describe in detail.

4. When asked about the new minister of the Foreign Affairs, when and who may be appointed, Shevchenko replied that he does not know the answer to this question and can not even guess who the new minister of the Ukrainian SSR may be.
5. When asked about the reasons of transferring PALAMARCHUK from the post of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Ukrainian SSR to the post of the Ambassador of the USSR to Morocco, Shevchenko replied that Palamarchuk himself has asked for his dismissal from the post of minister because of his health. He thinks that it is his stomach that ails him. Palamarchuk is a very useful person and the Ukrainian people highly value his contribution to the Ukraine. He is a great leader and of a great Party significance. His new appointment is of a great significance and by all means should not be regarded as a demotion in his career, as many Ukrainian nationalistic emigre newspapers consider it. Palamarchuk, being appointed as the Ambassador to Morocco, went from the department of foreign affairs of the Ukrainian SSR to the department of foreign affairs of the USSR, and this should be considered as an advancement. For this there probably was a whole series of circumstances, and who knows, he may even go quite high in a few years and assume an important post in the Ministry of foreign affairs of the USSR.

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Here Shevchenko used as an example MANUYILSKYY, who was a great man, at one time a leader of the international communist movement and later the minister of foreign affairs of the Ukrainian SSR. Shevchenko also mentioned that in 1966 in Kiev will be erected Manuyilskyy's monument, however, it does not mean that in the future there will be also erected a monument to Palamarchuk, although he also is a great man.

6. To the question what are the chances of the Ukrainian SSR opening its diplomatic missions in the satellite countries or in the west since Palamarchuk, who had opposed this, is gone, Shevchenko replied that he personally is quite satisfied with the present situation. He explained that when the Ukraine joined the Union, she agreed that all the foreign relations will be conducted by the Union and since that time it worked beautifully. He does not see it necessary to change that state of affairs at present, but it remains to be seen whether it will be different in the future.
7. When asked what other changes are expected to take place in the government of the Ukrainian SSR, Shevchenko answered that right now there is the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR in the session in Kiev and there is going on the selection of the ministers for the newly created Union Republican Ministries, but who is going to be selected and what other changes in the Government may take place he does not know yet. Shevchenko also stated that at present in the Ukrainian SSR almost all ministers are Ukrainians, and not as it was in the past. The Ukrainian SSR is governed by the Ukrainians entirely and they all have higher education and much experience. Also all of them have climbed up from the ranks of the proletariat.
8. Shevchenko somewhat changed the conversation and stated that at present in the Ukraine there are going on preparations to immortalize the memory of the ZAPOROZHNSKA SICH and its famous leaders like KHMELNYTSKYY, BOHUN, KRYVONIS, and others. Many monumental works are being prepared for the publication as well as many documents of that time.

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9. B. stated that quite ridiculous things are going on in the Ukraine in present. On one hand there are made preparations to immortalize the famous events of our national history, while on the other some of our most cherished historical and cultural monuments are being destroyed by the colonial policies, as was in the case of the fire in the university library in Kiev. Shevchenko seemed to be a little annoyed by that statement and replied, that first of all B. speaks now as if he were misled by the nationalistic emigre falsehoods because there is no such thing as colonial policy and the fire was a deed of a sick person. Secondly, the library is being rebuilt and the books destroyed are being replaced. B. asked Shevchenko how can one replace those many unique works that were destroyed, and besides, why the fire was planned only in the section containing the Ukrainian books and not some other. Shevchenko answered that the fire was not planned but was done by the maniac who was mad at ~~ix~~ the director of the library for his dismissal and the books that were destroyed were basically the periodicals and very few unique works. Some unique works were harmed by the water that was poured for two days but they are being now restored by ~~xt~~ the newest and most advanced methods, which are highly developed there. All the accusations which he had read in the emigre newspapers are not true, and the books supposedly destroyed have not even been touched and all are there. B. stated that Shevchenko will have a difficulty in convincing him in the contrary because there is all the evidence that the fire was staged purposely and aimed at the destruction of the Ukrainian heritage. Here B. enumerated such things as the fire prevention in the libraries, defective water hydrants during the fire, the phoney trial of POHRUZHASKYY, ~~xtex~~ his revenge on the library director, etc. Shevchenko was a little cornered but replied that defective water hydrants were just a pure coincidence, explained that Pohruzhal'sky was a sick maniac, and added that here in the States there are also many maniacs who also do the most ridiculous things. He further stated that if the fire were a deed

of some colonial policy it most certainly would not be done in such a stupid way but ~~it could be destroyed~~ it all could be destroyed in a quiet way and without all the commotion. He added that the document pertaining to the fire which the emigres supposedly received from Kiev must have been counterfeit. At the time of the fire Shevchenko was in Kiev and having an assignment to the university he happened to witness the fire and ~~ix~~ the results of it. But the best way to convince B., Shevchenko stated, would be if B. would visit the Ukraine, as Shevchenko has suggested previously, and see the library for himself. B. agreed with him that it may be a good idea and added that the library would be the ~~fx~~ first thing he would like to see.

10. Here again the conversation turned away from the topic, and Shevchenko was explaining how much B. could see during his visit to the Ukraine and study at first hand in many different institutes there, like the famous Institute of the Ukrainian Folklore, formerly headed by RYLSKY. Shevchenko went on stating that he would be very happy to arrange the tour for B., including all the interesting things he would like to see there. However, B. would have to pay his own way, Shevchenko stated, because he does not have money for such a purpose and besides it could be inconvenient for B. because later on he may be accused for traveling on their money.
11. Since Shevchenko mentioned the name of RYLSKY, B. asked him who replaced Rylsky as "the father of the Ukrainian writers". Shevchenko smiled and explained that ~~xxx~~ this position is not like that of the minister of foreign affairs when one day there could be one minister and on the other someone else. Rylsky possessed great qualities as a writer and civic leader as well, and it is not very easy to find someone who could match those qualities and fulfill this permanent post with all due respect. For that very reason we still do not have a replacement, Shevchenko concluded.

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The conversation was interrupted when Viktor P. CHERNYAVSKYY, the Second Secretary of Permanent Mission, approached them. Shevchenko introduced him to B. and invited him to join them. When Chernyavsky learned that B. is a correspondent of Suchasnist, he stated that Suchasnist is one of the most reserved journals of all the emigre ~~publications~~ publications. He also said that for some reasons their mission is not getting a copy of it and that it may be a good idea to subscribe to that journal. Shevchenko agreed with him and added that in the journal there is an address and the rates for subscription so there would be no problems to do it.

Chernyavsky was asking B. some questions about his work, studies, and interests, and mentioned that since the next day, on Tuesday, October 26, there is going to be a ~~reception~~ reception in their ~~mission~~ mission, it is a good idea to invite B. there for it will give him a chance to meet all of the members of their mission and talk with them. Shevchenko stated that he had this in mind to do so towards the end of his conversation with B. Shevchenko mentioned the time of the reception and the address of the mission and added that if B. will come the next day to the UN he will have for B. an official invitation. B. thanked him for the invitation and stated that he can not promise that he will be able to attend this reception on such a short notice, but that the next day he will know for sure whether he will be free to come.

The time was late and Shevchenko had to attend a reception at 6:30PM given by the mission of Zambia. They parted at 6:45PM.

P.S. Next day B. was given the invitation by ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ SHEVCHENKO but excused himself by saying that he will have to go to Philadelphia because of an urgent family business. He promised, however, to visit Shevchenko and others at the UN in the future.

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