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30 August 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Soviet Internal Affairs Branch, OCI
SUBJECT: Excerpts of Material from SB/S/CA Operations

1. Attached are excerpts of material acquired as a result of certain SB/S/CA operations. Your comments on the usefulness of this material or any suggestions concerning further requirements will be appreciated.

2. This material is for your background use only. Any further dissemination should be cleared beforehand with SB/RR.

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Acting Chief, SB/S/CA

Attachment: as stated, herewith

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

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POLITICAL

1. Source: A Western traveller to the USSR

Date: July 1966

When the Soviet Ukrainian literary critic Ivan SVITLYCHNIY was arrested he was accused of writing contrary to Party literary policy. During the arrest his home was searched. Books published abroad and books published in the Western Ukraine prior to 1939, and prior to 1930 in Eastern Ukraine, were found and confiscated. He was accused of having smuggled manuscripts of Vasyl' SYMONENKO's poetry and diary to the West. (A Ukrainian living in a satellite country ^{with whom the source talked on his way back to the West, said that R} had just received a letter (July 1966) from the Ukraine in which it was stated that SVITLYCHNIY was exhausted and in poor health. He was unemployed and although his wife was working her earnings were very low. SVITLYCHNIY's colleagues were collecting money among themselves to help him and his family.) Ivan DZYUBA was arrested and interrogated, but he was released because of his very poor health. He also was accused of disseminating literature published in the West. DZYUBA's wife is employed but he is not, and they are miserably poor. His health is very poor. The need for help is very urgent. DZYUBA's literary colleagues have collected money among themselves in order to send him to a sanatorium.

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Vladimir SHCHERBITSKY defended the group of Ukrainian writers who were arrested and interrogated in Kiev, Lvov, Lutsk and Ivano-Frankovsk. He was, as a result, suspended from his post of Ukrainian premier without explanation but was reinstated in October 1965 as Chairman of the Ukrainian Council of Ministers.

In November 1965 there was a meeting in the Ukraine Theater in Kiev of the cultural elite of that capital city, which soon turned into an anti-regime demonstration. S. PARADZHANOV, producer of the film Tini Zabutykh Predkiv (Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors) told the group that he had just completed another film, Kievski Fresky (Kiev Frescoes) but that the authorities would not release it. He said he had similar problems with Tini Zabutykh Predkiv, which film had been withdrawn from movie theaters after only a short period of showing, because he had refused to make any of the changes suggested by the authorities. DZYUBA took the floor following PARADZHANOV. DZYUBA complained that the 1930's were being relived in the Ukraine, people were being arrested for purely cultural activities, that Ivan SVITLYCHNIY was arrested for merely participating in cultural activities. A commotion started in the theater hall where the meeting was being held. The theater director protested and DZYUBA was forced to leave the speakers platform. Vasyl' STUS took the floor next and continued in the same vein as DZYUBA.

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STUS insisted that an explanation should be demanded from authorities as to what was going on in the Ukraine. He said such arrests and interrogations should not be permitted in "our times". Those in favor of demanding an explanation from the authorities were asked to stand. Many of those present got up, among them Ivan DRACH. Several others began to shout about the heinous plots of the nationalists. STUS was removed from the speakers platform and the meeting ended. The individuals who had stood up in response to STUS's request were interrogated by the KGB following the meeting. Other intellectuals who were not present at the meeting also were interrogated by the KGB.

In the summer of 1965, a monument built in memory of the Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko was to be unveiled in Ivano-Frankovsk. FNU ZALYVAKHA was placed in charge of all preparations for the unveiling ceremony. At the very last moment, after invitations had been sent, word was received that the unveiling ceremony was forbidden. When those invited arrived, they were dispersed by the militia. Skirmishes followed and ZALYVAKHA was arrested shortly following the incident.

Soviet authorities are reluctant to allow young Ukrainian writers to travel to the West or even to satellite countries. Ivan DRACH, for example, was refused permission to go to Prague when he was invited by the Czechoslovakian translator of his poetry. When the Czech Union of Writers

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invited ten Ukrainian writers to visit Prague, none was permitted to go. Instead, ten individuals little known in the literary world were sent by Kiev. Nevertheless, interest in Ukrainian literary affairs is on the increase in Czechoslovakian intellectual circles, and the Czechs do not conceal their sympathetic attitude toward the Ukrainian people. Presov has become a center for Ukrainian intellectual activity in Czechoslovakia. The Ukrainian-language journal, Duklya is published in Presov and is mailed to private addresses in the Ukraine. All efforts to establish an official representative for Duklya in the Ukraine have been rejected by Moscow.

Pressure was being put on Ivan DRACH to write for the Soviet press an article against Ukrainian nationalists. He resisted for a long time. (c/o note: an article entitled O, Be Damned You Once Again, by Ivan Drach, appeared in the 22 July 1966 issue of Literaturna Ukraina which Ukrainian emigre nationalists are attacked, particularly Bohdan KRAVTSIW who authored an article, Protuberances of the Heart and the Creed of Ivan DRACH in the Munich Ukrainian-language journal, SUCHASNIST).

The source was told by a Ukrainian living in a satellite country that he was very optimistic about the future of Ukrainians

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in the Soviet Union and the situation in the Ukraine in general. He said Ukrainian youth was raising its head and the regime had to reckon with it. There are pressures on the regime and it is being forced to make concessions. The release of Ivan SVITLYCHNIY from the forced labor camp in Mordva to which he had been sent was brought about by two factors, internal pressures and the reaction in the international press.

2. Source: Western traveller to the USSR from ^a relative who repatriated from the West in the late 1950's

Date: June 1966

There is neither socialism nor communism in the Soviet Union. The regime exploits the people mercilessly. There is a very active program of Russification in the Ukraine.

3. Source: Western traveller to the USSR from a Soviet Ukrainian writer

Date: June 1966

The young Ukrainian writers arrested for anti-regime and nationalist activity in the summer of 1965 were hailed by a group of students and writers who had gathered at the trial. The accused also were presented with flowers by the spectators. Critic and writer Ivan DZYUBA was summoned to testify against the defendants but he refused. At the grave of the Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko in Kanev, the source watched a young man loudly proclaim his disapproval of the fact that the

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inscription on the monument on the grave (a quote from Shevchenko's diary) was in Russian.

4. Source: Letter received from the Ukraine

Date: June 1966

There were numerous arrests in various cities of the Ukraine in 1965. In Lvov alone, 28 individuals were arrested and ten months of investigations followed. A trial closed to the public was held in May 1966 in Lvov. The parents and wives of the accused were permitted to see them only after the sentences were passed. The trial of "those heroes" shook up all of the Ukraine. Some of the families of the accused who were sent to the "Far North" are in dire need of material aid.

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