

S E C R E T

14 January 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: SB/RR

SUBJECT : Dissident Activities in the Ukrainian SSR

SOURCE OF INFORMATION: Australian citizen of Ukrainian birth, about 50 years of age, high school graduate, of average intelligence.

DATE INFORMATION OBTAINED: Late October 1969, during which time Source was in the Soviet Union visiting Kiev, Lvov and Tarnopol.

1. Criticism of the Soviet regime was widespread in Kiev. Women and the youth were particularly outspoken.

2. While in Kiev, the source was told that the following individuals were arrested in the Ukraine during 1969 for dissident activities:

BAKHTIYAROV, Oleg, a Kiev student.

BEDRYLO, Stepan, economist of Lvov.

BRESLAVSKY, Mykola, Kiev, sentenced to 2 1/2 years for an attempt at self-immolation.

KULCHYTSKY, Mykola, poet from Dnepropetrovsk.

RYVAK, Vasyl', linguist and journalist from Lvov. RYVAK redefected to the USSR from the West in the late 1950's. He was used by the Mykhaylov Committee for writing and broadcasting pro-Soviet propaganda. RYVAK's sister, who lives in the West, travelled to the Ukraine in the late summer of 1969 to visit him, but she learned he was arrested in July "for writing anonymous letters to the CC CPU protesting Russification measures in the Ukraine", and she was unable to see him. RYVAK traveled to

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Prague from the Ukraine in 1968, and while there mailed a letter to his sister telling her not to believe the things he writes in his letters from the Ukraine.

SOKULSKY, Ivan, poet, sentenced to 2 1/2 years allegedly for writing and collecting signatures to/letter of protest from the youth of Dnepropetrovsk to Soviet authorities.

[SB/PO/M]

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