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Subject: Current Situation in Ukraine

Source: University Professor from Winnipeg, Canada.

Date: 10 June 1970

1. Subject was in the USSR with his sister in law as a member of a tourist group from May 16 till June 5, 1970. He went there with the intention of setting up the preliminary contacts for a program of exchange of professors between Lviv and Manitoba Universities.

In Kiev. Source was informed by wolodymyr that Valentin MOROL arrested in Drohobych on 1 June 1970 by the KGB. The news of Moroz's arrest was telephoned to Kiev by Moroz's wife. According to Wolodymyr, Moroz was arrested for writing two anti-regime articles; Opir (Resistence) and Franko an essay on Ukrainian-Jewish relations. These two articles are in Woledymyr!s residence in Kiev, and source read them over. Both essays are typewritten. Source was shown a copy of a new underground publication in Wolfayayr's apartment. It is called Ukrajinskij Visnyk (Ukrainian Herald) up till now there is only one issue of this magazine dated January 1970. It is typewritten, 40 pages long with an editorial. The general theme of this journal is against Russification and information about who is being repressed and for what in Ukraine. In the January 1970 issue there is an article dealing with 32 points on how to stop Russification, and a list of persons repressed by the regime for demanding civil rights and a ceaseation to Russification. Among those repressed are: Kulchyzky, Sheynina, Skoryk, Zaremba, Opanasenko, Stepanenko Prokopenko, Leventsya, Chemerys, Karapys, Solouchin, There is also a mention of a certain Tsukanov, an agent of the KGB who deals very badly towards Ukrainians. The second issue of Ukrajinskij Visnyk is now being prepared for "publication" and should be ready in the near future.

4. In the early part of 1970, source is not sure of the exact date, a strike of trolley bus drivers took place in Kiev. The reason for the strike was that one evening a driver while on his run was attacked by 3 young hoodlums. The driver defended himself and beat up the hoodlums, not knowing that one of them was the son of a public prosecutor. That same night the driver was arrested. Word of the incident got out and the next morning not one trolley driver showed up for work, demanding that their co-worker be freed first. The police organs did not want to release him, and the strike went on all day. Finally after 24

* Into on YKPainockhu Bichnk sent to W. Shreda, CA/BI. † Extracted for 201 hours, the police relented and the driver was freed. The 3 hoodlums were not punished either.

- 5. Ivan Dzyuba is working but under heavy pressure from the officials. He is watched by the KGB and source did not meet him. At the plemum where his matter was taken up and discussed, source was told that there was a very sharp and bitter discussion among writers and party officials. Dzyuba was defended by Pavlychko, Drach and younger members of the writers union, and by Ovcharenko from the party. Leading the anti-Dzyuba forces was Kozachenko and elder members of the writers union. As the situation shaped up, Dzyuba was to have been arrested, but due to the strong opposition a compromise was reached and his statement was published. Most of the dissidents feel that Dzyuba's statement was honorable and in fact it was a slap in the face to his critics. On the other hand, Moroz, in his essay "Resistance" criticizes Dzyuba for writing the statement.
- 6. On 22 May, 1970 the Shevchenko demonstration took place in Kiev. It was held as always by the Shevchenko monument and was attended by hundreds of students from the Kiev State University. Source does not know if there were any arrests this year.
- 7. The "Program of Democrats of Russia, Ukraine and the Baltic nations" is known in Kiev by dissident elements. They feel that they are democrats, and therefore sign their names to this document. But as far as the section dealing with the nationalities program, they feel that for the time being it is usefull, however, due to the inopportune situation, it is not wise to accentuate complete independence for Ukraine. The "Program" is in Ukrainian in Kiev.
- o. In Lviv, source wanted to visit a village and asked permission from the Intourist office. In response 3 men met him in the hotel and began a conversation with him about Ukrainians in the west. These men were KGB agents who questioned source about his affiliations and his views on Ukrainian life in the west. At first they wanted to know source's opinion about the World Congress of Free Ukrainians, who were the individuals concerned, what plans the congress had and if there was any conflict of intrest between them and the Ukrainian Canadian Committee. The KGB agents went by the line that the Congress was a "great achievment for Ukrainins since it united all the various factions". Source replied that this was not so, that the Congress had little practical significance and that the emmigration was divided as always. Source was asked about the ZP UHVR, what influence it had on emigre life, and on youth in particular. When source answered that this is a small group with no influence, the KGB replied "this might be true, but the UHVR has all the intelligent people".

The KGB asked about <u>Darevych</u> and his speech in Toronto during the celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the League of Ukrainian Liberation. They wanted to know how people reacted to his speech. The church issue concerning the formation of a Ukrainian Patriarchate was asked about. Source was asked towards which emigre group his symphatics lie, to which he replied that he was neutral in Ukrainian emigre affairs. All togather the "questioning" lasted 3 hours, but source does not remember everything which was asked.

- Roman Lubkivsky who showed him the layout for one of the Fall issues of the magazine (source cannot remember which month, but it was either September or October) in the layout, source was shown poetry by Karavansky and his photograph. Lubkivsky confirmed this, saying that the poetry will be published. Source also met Ivanychyk, who told him that he is working on another historical novel and that he has had no problems after the attack on Mal'vy in Pravda Ukrajny. Chornovil is without a job, is writing satirical essays about the regime.

 Bratun's father was once an informer in the ranks of the OUN, and it is on his merits that Bratun is where he is today.
- 10. In Kiev, source was with (Myroslava) of for a little while. Myroslava told him that the KGB is trying to infiltrate the emmigration at all costs, and we should be very careful. Myroslava classified Korotych as a dangerous type who should be avoided She also told source that Ukrainian books from the West are in great demand, but it would be much easier if everything was printed in either New York or Paris, but not in Munich. Munich has a very bad connotation for the officials. The changes in the Association for Cultural Contacts with Ukrainians Abroad are for the worse according to Myroslava Tsurkan is an KGB agent known to everybody.

ll. Source met with <u>Drach</u> in Kiev. Drach was very nervous, said that the situation is very tense and that he cannot sleep. Source left him some sleeping pills. Drach wanted a copy of a letter written by Prof. Omelan Pritsak recommending Pavlo Tychyna, Ivan Drach and Lina Kostenko for the Nobel Prize in literature. Source gave Drach both volumes of <u>Coordinates</u> for which he was very thankful, and promised to let all his friends readi it. Drach praised the book highly, saying: "If only we could publish something of this nature, both the contents and the quality is very fine".

12. During the trial of <u>Bedrylo</u> in Lviv, Bedrylo's wife testified very strongly against the regime. She attackedRussification and the fact that her husband was arrected. In defense of Bedrylo, a defense attorney from Moscow was hired,

a certain <u>Vasyl Romm</u>. This Romm, put up a very strong defense for Bedrylo, but to no avail.

tense. The arrests in 1965 were a mistake on the part of the KGB, because now the situation is getting out of hand. At the Kiev University, fistfights are breaking out about the language issue, and the dissidents are not only intellectuals. In early 1970, Drach and Korotych arrived in Donbas to hold a poetry reading. They were told to limit themselves to 10 minutes because nobody would be interested. But, when they arrived in the hall, it was overcrowded with workers. Once they began reading their poetry, the workers would not leave, and the evening went on till well after midnight. Both poets read their poems in Ukrainian. Brezhnev is regarded by the dissident elements as a fool, but there were no speculations as to who would take his place. The same applies towards the Ukrainian Party.

Presently, many manifestations against the regime take place during sporting events, and soccer matches in particular. This year when "Karpaty" from Lviv played "Moskva" in Moscow, trainloads of people from Lviv went to Moscow for the game. During the game, the Ukrainian fans were constantly screaming "Beat Moscow" while the Russian fans yelled "Beat the nationalists". "Karpaty" won the game and it was considered a national achievment.

Short Notes

Yuriy Kossach's article in <u>Literatyrna Ukraina</u> of 29 May caused a bit of a sensation in Kiev. Source was asked if <u>Kuznetsov</u> was really anti-Ukrainian in his behavior. Source replied that this is not so.

Source was told to relay to the West that the Ukrainian language should be improved on radio programs beamed to Ukraine. The programs themselves are not bad, but the language is not up to par.

Prints by <u>Hnizdovsky</u> are very popular and in great demand, as are all examples of **EX** Ukrainian emigre art.

In the hotel "Ukraina" in Kiev, Source's sister in law went to the restaurant to buy some food and asked for it in Ukrainian. The women working behind the counter began laughing at her and insulting her, refusing to serve her. At this time, Yuriy Moskal', a worker of the newspaper "News From Ukraine" was in the hotel with source. Source's sister in law went up to them, explained the situation and Moskal' said that he would talk with the women. Moskal' returned and apologized to source and his sister in law, saying the women behing the counter had "only lived in Ukraine for seven years".

Admission into higher educational establishments in Ukraine is becoming increasingly more difficult for Ukrainians. To be admitted, one has to pay a huge bribe, and even then it is difficult.

Stenchuk's book against Dzyuba was written collectivly, butis regarded in Kiev as a mistake on the part of the officials.

Holoborod'ko and Sverstiuk are both well and haven't been repressed for the publication of their books overseas. Holoborod'ko is presently in the army and should be discharged soon.

Zina Franko feels that certain prisoners will be released soon, but has no details concerning this. Source felt the Franko was too open and overt in her anti-regime feelings. She constantly went everywhere with Source in Kiev, even though source asked her a few times to be more discreet.

Source gave Bratum in Lviv a copy of Coordinates and other literature. (list enclosed of all literature taken in by source)

Upon entering the Ukraine, source was asked if he had any literature with him, he replied yes, and showed border guard a copy of Hnizdovsky's book. They got to talking and guard did not bother to check any further, gave source back the book and let him in.

Upon leaving source and sister in law were not checked very thoroughly, while other members of the group had to open everything they had.

Additional information concerning report:

DAREVYCH, Yuriy is a young professor in Toronto. In November 1969 he gave a speech during the celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the League of Ukrainian Liberation in Toronto, where he told the meeting to stop living in the past and look to the future.

MOSKAL' Yuriy emigrated with his parents to Ukraine from Canada in the 1950's. Presently he is employed on the staff of "News From Ukraine" in Kiev.

List of literature taken into Ukraine:

- 1. Katharine Horbach "Zvidomlenya" 1 copy
- 2. Coordinates -2 copies of volume I and II
- 3. Hnizdovsky 2 copies
- 4. Claudel "L'annonce Faite A Marie 1 copy
- 5. Juan Ramon Jimenez "Platero y Yo" 2 copies
- 6. New Poems # 10 2 copies
- 7. New Poems # 8 2 copies
- 8. Emma Andievska "Bazar" 1 copy
- 9. " " Kuty Opostin" 1 copy
- lo. Gerulak 1 copy
- 16 cards of Hnizdovsky's reproductions