

SECRET

19 January 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Security

ATTENTION: []

SUBJECT: Stefan Bandera

1. Munich has cabled that Stefan Bandera, using the alias of Stefan Kopel, has applied to the Munich Consul General for a non-immigrant visa to the United States for two months, allegedly "to visit family". The U.S. specific destination was given as the home of Joseph Bandera, Glastonbury, Connecticut.
2. Stefan Bandera's agents, as is well known, attempted to terrorize Ukraine DP's in the camps of post-war Germany, committing violence on the inmates and not stopping at murder. It is known that his adherents have attempted to exert pressure on Ukrainian DP's who have emigrated to the United States on behalf of his organization. Bandera publishes a newspaper in Western Germany and his extremist political organization promotes an avowedly totalitarian ideology. The paper also regularly attempts to stir up national animosities and indulges in unrelenting attacks on the United States—urging its readers not to cooperate with United States authorities. The organization still practices terrorism in the emigre communities.
3. Bandera and his organization are widely disliked by emigres of many political persuasions and nationalities. It is believed that Bandera wishes to come to this country to conduct political agitation against legitimate Ukrainian organizations with ties with Ukrainian groups abroad, which the Agency supports or upon which it looks with favor.
4. The granting of a visa would prejudice the interests of the United States. It would alienate an important segment of emigre opinion, and raise the prestige of an emigre figure whose objectives are opposed to those of the United States. It would create an exaggerated impression of Bandera's power and importance, and demonstrate that vicious attacks on the United States and United States interests by emigres need be no bar to securing an American visa. Granting a visa would also impair relationships with the British, who severed relations with Bandera as the result of CIA representations.

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5. It is requested that the Office of Security inform the Department of State of the true identity of "Stefan Popel" and of our views on the matter, so that the Department may take appropriate action.

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