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SUBJECT		<input type="checkbox"/> RE "A3" - (CHECK "X" ONE) <input type="checkbox"/> MARKED FOR INDEXING <input type="checkbox"/> NO INDEXING REQUIRED <input type="checkbox"/> INDEXING CAN BE JUDGED BY QUALIFIED HQ DESK ONLY	
ACTION REQUIRED			
REFERENCES			
<p>Enclosed for your information is an article concerning the death of a person which was taken from the 23 October 1957 issue of the <u>Chicago Tribune</u>. This magazine is an East German publication designed for the British occupation zone. It is published every two weeks.</p> <p>Attachment, as stated</p> <p>Distribution:</p> <p>2 - HQ w/att</p> <p>1 - PH w/o att</p> <p>1 - G-2 w/cy att</p>			
<p>DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2E NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT DATE 2004 2006</p>			
FORM 10-57 53 (40)	USE PREVIOUS EDITION. REPLACES FORMS 10-57, 10-58 AND 10-59 WHICH ARE OBSOLETE.	CLASSIFICATION	<input type="checkbox"/> CONTINUED PAGE NO.

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DEMOCRATIC GERMAN REPORT

23 Oct 59

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simply by reading quotations from his war diary. Public opinion both in Germany and abroad has the right to know whether these charges are true. The minister of a democratic state cannot simply shrug off such charges by saying they are 'lying Bolshevik propaganda'.

On October 15th a mysterious new angle cropped up in the case. Stefan Bandera, notorious Ukrainian quisling, "fell downstairs" in his house in

Munich, West Germany, and broke his neck. Subsequent police investigations showed that he had been poisoned with potassium cyanide. East German newspapers suggested that Minister Oberlander may have had a hand in Bandera's death, since Bandera had served as an officer in the Ukrainian quisling unit of the Wehrmacht of which Oberlander was second-in-command, and thus had 'undoubted first-hand evidence of Oberlander's role in the mass murders committed in the city of Lvov in July 1941 by this unit.

16 Nov 59
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STEPAN BANDERA, LEADER OF ORGANIZATION OF UKRAINIAN NATIONALISTS (OUN), DIES FROM CYANIDE POISONING IN MUNICH AT THE AGE OF 50. — HIS ASSOCIATES CHARGE HE WAS A VICTIM OF MOSCOW-DIRECTED MURDER PLOT. — UKRAINIANS THE WORLD OVER SHOCKED BY SUDDEN DEATH OF PATRIOT AND FREEDOM FIGHTER

GREAT REPERCUSSION OF HIS DEATH IN AMERICAN AND EUROPEAN PRESS

MUNICH, Germany, Oct. 16 (AP). — Stepan Bandera, Ukrainian Nationalist leader, died under mysterious circumstances yesterday at his secluded home here. The police said today that no evidence of foul play had been found.

Mr. Bandera died after allegedly falling on the stairs. There were no witnesses. The chief of the Munich homicide squad said the police were looking into the circumstances.

VICTIM OF CYANIDE POISONING

MUNICH, Germany, Oct. 16 (AP). — Investigators established today that cyanide poison killed Stepan Bandera, anti-communist guerilla chief from Ukraine. The mystery that surrounded his life continued in death.

His associates charged that he was a victim of a Moscow-directed murder plot.

The body of the 50-year old Bandera was found Thursday on the stairway of his apartment house here. It was one of the many hideouts from which he directed nationalist Ukrainians.

George Lénky, Mr. Bandera's deputy, said:

"We are convinced he was killed by the Bolsheviks. But the question remains: How was he made to take the poison?"

Russian émigré leaders who opposed Mr. Bandera's plans for Ukrainian independence but shared his anti-communist views said they, too, were certain he was assassinated, as was his predecessor, Col. Eugené Konovalets, in 1938.

REPORT BY BANDERA'S CLOSEST COLLABORATOR

In two telephone conversations, one with Stepan Lenkavsky, one of the closest associates of Mr. Bandera, and Dr. Hyvylévyeh, Jr., both of Munich, the editorial office of Svoloda succeeded in finding the following:

On Thursday, October 15, 1959, Bandera left the editorial office of "The Way to Victory," located at 87 Zepelinstrasse, and went, apparently for lunch, to his home located in the vicinity. As a rule, he had always one or two escorts, members of his organization.

This time he left alone and instead of going straight to his home, he went in his car to buy some fruit. Returning home, Bandera came out of his car alone and rang the doorbell of his apartment house. The door was opened automatically, apparently by his wife, who heard thereafter a scream of a German boy in the hall. When she ran out on the corridor, she saw her husband lying on the steps on the first floor, blood running from his mouth, nose and ears. He was taken to a hospital, but died in the ambulance enroute.

STEPAN BANDERA IN UKRAINIAN NATIONALIST MOVEMENT

Stepan Bandera's life was completely devoted to the struggle for Ukrainian freedom and liberation. In 1927 he became a member of the Ukrainian Military Organization (UVO), and in 1929 a member of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN). In 1931 he became a member of the Executive Committee of the OUN in Western Ukraine, and in 1934 its chief and Supreme Commander of the UVO. In 1933 he became a member of the Supreme Leadership of the OUN. In 1934 Bandera was arrested by the Polish police and condemned to death with two other Ukrainians for alleged complicity in the assassination of Minister B. Pieracki in Warsaw. Eventually, Bandera was reprieved and given life imprisonment. After the German invasion of Poland, Mr. Bandera was

restored to freedom. A year later he and his close associates broke away from the OUN, headed by Col. Andriy Melnyk, and established a new OUN. On June 30, 1941 the OUN under his direction proclaimed the restoration of the Ukrainian state. The Nazi government reacted swiftly and ordered Bandera to disband the government, and when he refused to comply, he was arrested and sent to a concentration camp in Sachsenhausen where he remained until the fall of 1941. Since 1945 he had lived in Western Germany, being head of the Foreign Units of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists. He was planning a return to the United States, and evidently already had been previously invited by the U. S. Government.



STEPAN BANDERA

AMERICAN PRESS ABOUT BANDERA AND HIS STRUGGLE FOR UKRAINE'S FREEDOM

The American press gave an extensive coverage to the sudden death of Stepan Bandera. Almost every N. Y. daily newspaper printed dispatches of the Associated Press from Munich, Germany, about his death. The New York Times of October 17, 1959, for instance wrote:

"Mr. Bandera, whose guerilla force once battled both the Soviet and Polish armies, fought at the head of 200,000 Banderites for an independent Ukraine during and after World War II. His activity in recent times was largely restricted to editing his organization's newspaper. Nevertheless, friends said his life was in constant danger.

Indirect Tribute Paid

"The Soviet press frequently refers to Ukrainian nationalists as 'Banderovtsy.' It is an indirect tribute to Stepan Bandera's influence in the Ukrainian nationalist movement. In 1936 Mr. Bandera and two other Ukrainian nationalists were sentenced to death for complicity in the 1934 assassination of Bronislaw Pieracki, Polish Minister of the Interior. The sentences were commuted to life imprisonment.

The German invasion of Poland in 1939 restored Mr. Bandera to freedom. The following year he broke away from the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists, or O.U.N., headed by Andriy Melnyk. Taking many members of the original OUN with him, he established a new organization with the same name.

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When the Germans attacked the Soviet Union in June, 1941, Mr. Bandera turned his O.U.N. into a semi-military organization.

On June 30, 1941, Yaroslav Stetsko, Mr. Bandera's principal lieutenant, proclaimed the independence of Ukraine and set up a Ukrainian government at Lvov.

Apparently sympathetic at first, the Germans quickly turned against the Lvov regime and threw most of its leaders into prison. However, they offered Mr. Bandera and Mr. Stetsko the possibility of collaboration. This was refused and the two Ukrainians found themselves in the Sachsenhausen concentration camp.

Insurgent Army Formed

Meanwhile, in Ukraine, their organization continued its activities. The Ukrainian Insurgent Army came into existence in the Carpathian Mountains in 1942.

Released from the concentration camp in September, 1944, Mr. Bandera returned to Ukraine to continue the struggle for Ukrainian independence. He fled to Germany with several of his followers after the war and there organized the Foreign Units of the O.U.N.

The Ukrainian Insurgent Army is believed to have asserted its control over fairly wide areas at one time, but the Soviet government took steps to wipe it out. In 1950 Soviet troops surrounded the headquarters of Taras Chuprynka, commander of the army. To avoid capture, he ordered his own bunker blown up and perished in the explosion.

The Western German press gave also a big coverage of the sudden and untimely death of Stepan Bandera.

The Ukrainian the world over, regardless of their political feelings and affiliations, were shocked by the sudden death of Stepan Bandera who for many symbolized the active struggle for Ukraine's freedom and independence.

Bandera's Death as Reported By a U.P.I. Dispatch

MUNICH, Germany, Oct. 20 (UPI) — Funeral services were being held today for Stepan Bandera, a mystery man who died here of cyanide poison while working with an anti-Soviet underground in his native Ukraine.

Bandera, 50, a refugee from Ukraine which became part of the Soviet Union in 1920, had

long helped direct a fight for his homeland's freedom. He was so hated by the Communists that other Ukrainians posted a 24-hour guard around him.

Bandera was found unconscious at the foot of the stairs to his home last Thursday night. Two minutes after two police guards left him at the front door, he was suffering from severe head injuries and did not regain consciousness before he died.

An autopsy disclosed cyanide poisoning but did not rule out whether the murder or suicide. Bandera said he would never have committed suicide — that he was murdered by Soviet agents who somehow penetrated his recently reinforced quarters.

The mystery surrounding the death of the 50-year-old anti-Communist was as cloudy as Bandera's own past.

He was known to be leader of an extreme right-wing Ukrainian anti-Communist group in exile here. But he was also believed to be a director of underground activities within the Soviet-controlled Ukraine itself.

Exile spokesmen denied Bandera directed the underground but admitted he was co-founder of the Ukrainian group through which partisan fighting was carried on in his homeland.

Representatives of the Ukrainian exile group said the moderate opposition to use for the anti-Soviet activities was a standing general.

Representatives also expected from abroad that are 1,200,000 Ukrainians, refugees, about 500,000 of them in the United States and Canada. Many Ukrainians called his death an act of murder and blamed the Communists.

The wording of a death notice in his exile group's newspaper Saturday was changed at the last minute from "Died Suddenly" to "Killed by an Assassin."

The exile leader had been living here since 1945. Until then he had lived a cloak-and-dagger life of undercover adventure in Ukraine, Poland,

Czechoslovakia and Germany. He was under sentence of death in Poland for complicity in an assassination attempt but in 1941 the Nazis released him. (Actually, he was released in 1939.) A year later Gestapo arrested him because he fought with Ukrainian guerrilla bands. He remained in prison until 1944.

The guerrillas waged a vigorous front against both Germans and the Russians. It was a end controlled by Poland, Czechoslovakia and Ukraine.