

SECRET

1 April 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: SR/3

ATTENTION : []

SUBJECT : Death of Stepan Bandera

REFERENCES : A. BGMA-45907, dtd 12 November 1959
B. BGMA-47313, dtd 10 February 1960
C. DIR 00682 (OUT 73052), dtd 31 January 1957
D. DIR 02965 (OUT 77418), dtd 14 February 1957

1. In the absence of an autopsy and a complete toxicological report on intestinal contents and all body tissues and fluids, it is theoretical at best for one to consider whether a "combination poisoning" occurred. It is unlikely that two substances of lethal capacity would be administered to one target and, without the complete data described above, it is impossible to say even as a guess.

2. It appears to me the information contained in Reference A is more than adequate to explain the circumstances of death in this case.

3. Certain factors may be considered such as:

a. Cyanides:

- (1) The average fatal dose of sodium and potassium cyanide is about 0.25 gram (4 grains). However, one-fourth of this amount has caused death. As a rule, only a small part of ingested cyanide is absorbed before death. Therefore, evidence can be found frequently in the remaining intestinal contents.
- (2) They are oxidized in the body to cyanate and sulfocyanate, and excreted into the urine. Therefore, evidence may be found in retained urine.
- (3) The concentrations of HCN found in tissues at death range usually around 0.3-2 milligrams per 100 ml. Therefore, tissue analysis will reveal this.

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DATE 2006

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- (4) If cyanide evidence was not found in these circumstances, it is fair to assume the man did not die from cyanide poisoning. However, if it was found, one may feel certain the man died from that cause or would have even if some other mechanism was used.
- b. Warfarin, 3-(α -acetylbenzyl)-4-hydroxycoumarin or 3- α -phenyl-Bacetonylethyl-4-hydroxycoumarin. Single doses do not produce poisoning, but successive small daily doses as low as 1.0 mg./kg./day for 5 days are fatal.
- c. Fumarin, 3-(α -acetyl-furfuryl)-4-hydroxycoumarin, is used as a rodenticide. Toxicity symptoms similar to those of Warfarin.
- d. Pival, 2-pivalyl-1, 3-indandione, used as pesticide and rodenticide. Symptoms resemble those produced by Warfarin.
4. We would agree, in the absence of the type of information described in paragraph 1 above, that paragraph 1C of Reference B is a correct statement.
5. Since References C and D only indicated the possibility of something else for the field's consideration, we cannot regard UP SWING'S findings as being contrary to ours.
6. Should the information referred to in paragraph 1 above be made available for study, this office would attempt to provide such other opinion as might then be appropriate.

[]
Chief, Operations Division,
Medical Staff

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DISPATCH		CLASSIFICATION SECRET	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NO BMW-9010
TO Chief of Base, Munich	[REDACTED]		HEADQUARTERS FILE NO. C J
INFO Chief of Station, Germany	[REDACTED]		DATE 22 APR 1966
FROM Chief, SR	[REDACTED]		RE "413" - (CHECK "X" ONE) MARKED FOR INDEXING NO INDEXING REQUIRED
SUBJECT REDWOOD LCIMPROVE (PHILL OPERATIONS) Stefan Bandera's Death	[REDACTED]		ACTION REQUIRED None
REFERENCE(S) A. BWMA-45907 B. BWMA-47313 C. DIR 00682 D. DIR 02965			
<p>1. The following comments have been obtained from []</p> <p>a. In the absence of an autopsy and a complete toxicological report on intestinal contents and all body tissues and fluids, it is theoretical at best to consider whether a "combination poisoning" occurred. It is unlikely that two substances of lethal capacity would be administered to one target and, without the complete data described above, it is impossible to say even as a guess.</p> <p>b. It appears the information contained in reference A is more than adequate to explain the circumstances of death in this case.</p> <p>c. Certain factors may be considered such as:</p> <p>(1) Cyanides:</p> <p>(a) The average fatal dose of sodium and potassium cyanide is about 0.25 gram (4 grains). However, one-fourth of this amount has caused death. As a rule, only a small part of ingested cyanide is absorbed before death. Therefore, evidence can be found frequently in the remaining intestinal contents.</p> <p>(b) They are oxidized in the body to cyanate and sulfo-cyanate, and excreted into the urine. Therefore, evidence may be found in retained urine.</p> <p>(c) The concentrations of HCN found in tissues at death range usually around 0.3-2 milligrams per 100 ml. Therefore, tissue analysis will reveal this.</p> <p>(d) If cyanide evidence was not found in these circumstances, it is fair to assume the man did not die from cyanide poisoning. However, if it was found, one may feel certain the man died from that cause or would have even if some other mechanism was used.</p> <p>(2) Warfarin, 3-(a-acetylbenzyl)-4-hydroxycoumarin or 3-a-phenyl-Bacetonyl ethyl-4-hydroxycoumarin. Ordinarily, successive small daily doses as low as 1.0 mg./kg./day for five days will produce fatality. However, an accumulated total of this will frequently produce of fatality in one dose. The previous case [] had more than that estimated as minimum to produce fatality. Autopsy findings are consistent with etiology of other than the warfarin series /Or, indeed, with causes of death other than poison/. Hence, positive diagnosis is impossible unless one identifies the substance as being present.</p> <p>(3) Fumarin, 3-(a-acetyl-furfuryl)-4-hydroxycoumarin, is used as a rodenticide. Toxicity symptoms similar to those of Warfarin.</p>			
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(4) Pival, 2-pivalyl-1, 3-indandione, used as pesticide and
rodenticide. Symptoms resemble those produced by Warfarin.

d. It is agreed that, in the absence of the type of information
described in paragraph 1 above, that paragraph 1C of reference B is a
correct statement.

e. Since references C and D only indicated the possibility of
something else for the field's consideration, UPHILL's findings cannot be
regarded as contrary to ours.

2. According to AECASNOWARY/2 it is rumored that cyanide was found
in Bandera's colon, indicating that it must have been swallowed a number
of hours before he died. Is there any truth to this rumor?

3. It seems strange that the autopsy performed after the death of
such an important political figure was not thorough enough to determine
definitely the cause of death.

6 April 1966

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