

SECRET INFORMATION
CONFIDENTIAL

IO-2468

19 November 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: SR/2
ATTN: C I I
SUBJECT: ABRAMTCHIK'S Views in Regard to Recent Developments

There is attached hereto a copy of a memorandum forwarded by a reliable source in Paris, in which ABRAMTCHIK, President of the Bielorussian National Rada, expresses his views in regard to the recent developments

It will be recalled that the Bielorussian delegate to the Starnberg Conference refused to sign unconditionally and thus did not participate in the formation of the Coordinating Center.

Abramtchik expects to leave shortly for the United States to discuss various questions including the SOER Project with the Rada. He hopes to talk to officials of the American Committee and at Washington to members of the State Department on the matter.

It is requested that attached memorandum be returned to C I I

C I I

Attachment: (1)
As stated above

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31 October 1952

SUBJECT: Interview with ABRAMCHIK, President of the
Belorussian National Rada.

Commenting on the establishment of the Coordinating Center for Anti-Bolshevik Struggle, Abramchik, President of the Belorussian National Rada, stated the following in an interview on October 28, 1952:

"It is extremely unfortunate that the advice of the Belorussian National Rada representatives in Paris to postpone any definite action in establishing the Coordinating Center for another month was not accepted by TSINTABZE, Georgian representative in this Center. A month's delay would have made it possible to come to an agreement with groups in the Ukrainian National Rada willing to cooperate with the American Committee, and this, in its turn, would have facilitated approval of participation in the Center by the Belorussian National Rada.

"At the present moment, with the formation of the Center and the publication of Statutes, the collaboration of the Ukrainians and the Belorussians with the Center becomes almost impossible in view of certain clauses introduced into the Statutes by the Russians. NIKOLAEVSKI of the League is mainly responsible for their introduction, since he was undoubtedly the most intelligent and the most skillful politician who attended the Starnberg negotiations. These clauses are: (1) paragraph 11 of Section II concerning "the elimination of the aggressive foreign policy of the USSR ... " which signifies the approval of the division of Belorussia between the Soviet Union and Poland, since it implies approval of acts previous to 1923, and (2) paragraph 2 of Section II concerning the principles of the February Revolution introduced under the pretext of opposing "restoration" by Nikolaevski but actually directed against Belorussian claims to independence.

"There are two ways now open to the American Committee and the Center which it sponsors. One is to introduce amendments into the Statutes as approved at Munich on October 16, 1952, which will permit the collaboration of Ukrainians and Belorussians with the American Committee. The other is to approve the adherence to the Center of organizations such as Gulai Ukrainian federalists or Austrovski Belorussians, which will entail a complete split with Belorussian National Rada circles, as well as with

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562
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-2-

UNRada, as confirmed in conversations between Bielorussian leaders and UNRada representatives such as DOVGAL and LEVITSKI."

Abrestchik, who plans to proceed to the United States in November to confer with the members of the Bielorussian National Rada residing in America, hopes to visit the headquarters of the American Committee of Struggle for the Freedom of Russia in New York and the State Department in Washington to present his views on the possibility of collaboration between the Bielorussians in exile and the Coordinating Center.

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567

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No. 597
Belorussia - Ukraine - Poland.

25 November 1952

Dear

In supplement of my letter No. 562 of 31 October 1952, I am reporting below additional information with regard to the current activities of ABRANTCHIK of the Belorussian Reds:

1. Abrantchik has decided, following conversations with Georgian exiled representatives supporting the Coordinating Center, to postpone his trip to the United States. At the advice of Tsintadze, Georgian representative, who stated in a confidential interview informed Abrantchik that "The Coordinating Center will undoubtedly collapse, and the nationals will then form a Center uniting all the peoples of the Soviet Union other than the Russians", Abrantchik now intends to delay his demarches before the American Committee for Aid to the Peoples of Russia until further notice. He plans to wait until the Ukrainian emigration, upon the arrival of the Ukrainian delegation from the United States, pronounces itself on the question of collaboration with the Coordinating Center and to resume his collaboration with the American Committee only in the event that the Ukrainians decide to support the Coordinating Center.
2. In the meantime, in view of the postponement of his trip to the United States, Abrantchik is statedly devoting his efforts to the promotion of Polish-Belorussian friendly relations. For this purpose he is proceeding in the immediate future to London, where he will approach GRZYBOWSKI and other leaders connected with the Polish Government in Exile in order to obtain from the latter a statement of Polish position toward the Belorussian people similar to that issued by the Poles with regard to the Ukrainians. (It will be recollected that about one month ago the Polish Government in Exile recognized, in a resolution passed by the National Council, the struggle for independence and against Communism of the Ukrainian people.)

It would appear that Abrantchik's proposed visit to the United States has been adjourned for some time.

Sincerely,

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