

SECRET

*Translation*

CONVERSATION BETWEEN MRS. MYTROVYCH AND VASYL FROM LVOV 20 September 1959

\*Mrs. MYTROVYCH asked VASYL about Lvov in the presence of the "Odessit", whether it has been rebuilt, living conditions, etc. VASYL praised everything routinely: "Our Lvov is completely rebuilt, especially outwardly. We live very well at present. You wouldn't even recognize Lvov, it is so beautiful," etc. When the "Odessit" left, Mrs. M. asked, "Is it true that one hears Russian on all the streets in Lvov?"

VASYL: "Well yes, what can one do?"

Mrs. MYTROVYCH: "Have things changed any since the death of Stalin?"

VASYL: "It has changed a bit, everyone is a bit more free."

In the meantime, the "Odessit" returned and the conversation was turned to television. After his departure, Mrs. M asked what he thought of the emigration."

VASYL: "We know about you. It is necessary for you to learn more about us. They negate everything here and this is not fair. It is necessary to recognize the positive aspects of certain things we have. It is not right to deny them. This is a mistake the emigration makes. More of you should come to see then you would be able to evaluate things better."

An engineer came along and Mrs. M. exchanged generalities with VASYL and departed.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3820  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

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CONVERSATION BETWEEN MRS. MYTROYCH AND VADIM (LNU) 20 September 1959

VADIM introduced himself as an engineer, a specialist in the sugar industry. He comes from Zaporozh. Studied in Lvov. During the conversation he said the following: The Ukrainian language is used in the Lvov schools of higher education but the professors interpret in Russian. Therefore you have confusion. There also is confusion in other cities of the Ukraine. There are no Ukrainian schools in the RSFSR because in the first place, the Ukrainians there do not live in compact masses and secondly, there are no desires expressed for Ukrainian language instruction. They prefer to learn Russian because the "doors are opened" for those with the Russian language.

He said he did not feel any special pressures of Russification in connection with the recent school reform. The problem presently is that it is difficult to get into schools. One needs all sorts of certificates from various organizations - the komsomol, the party, factory, and the devil knows from whom else. Or else one must have good contacts. Then everything goes more smoothly. VADIM considered himself lucky that he finished his studies earlier.

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CONVERSATION OF PROFESSOR SHUMOVSKY WITH VASYL FROM LVOV

20 September 1959 (In the UkSSR Pavilion)

Taking advantage of the fact that Vasyl was alone by the television display, Professor SHUMOVSKY walked over to him and in a low tone of voice stated, "I am not MYR but Professor SHUMOVSKY and I have many colleagues in the Lvov Polytechnic. I used to teach there at one time. My good friend, Professor KIYAK worked on his dissertation under my supervision."

VASYL: "Until very recently my wife worked for Professor KIYAK as a laboratory technician. She just recently changed jobs."

S: "How goes it with the language? Is it true that in Lvov at present one hears Russian most of the time?"

V: "Yes, it is true. Here they also give the impression that they speak Ukrainian. They are predominantly Russians in embroidered shirts (and he grins)"

S: "And what is it like in the universities?"

V: "The Russian languages dominates. Only some of the professors have preserved the Ukrainian language."

S: "Have conditions changed in general?"

V: "There were changes during Beria's time - for a short time. Persecutions continue. There are no practical changes. They aren't exiling anyone at present because there is no need to do so."

S: "How about Russification?"

V: "It continues. Only during Beria's time was there partial Ukrainianization. Right now everything is set back."

S: "How about the church?"

V: "The Greek-Catholic church does not exist. St. George's is open but there is no reason to go there."

S: "Have you been in Lvov very long?"

V: "No, only since 1950. I come from Stanislav."

Two more engineers approach. S asks V questions about the size of the television screen and V replies and talks about (the television).

OTE: V had been listening to Professor SHUMOVSKY's conversation with RYVOSHEYEV. That is how he knew S's name to be MYR.

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CONVERSATION OF ~~OLYA~~ REPETYLO WITH VASYL FROM LVOV

20 September 1959 (Afternoon)

OLYA: "If you travelled via Paris on your way home, I would invite you to my home for dumplings (varenyky)."

VASYL: "I would be very pleased, but I shall not be going via Paris. Not everyone will travel via Paris."

OLYA: "Then we will meet again here, in the city, or at the Fair and we will drink wine (together)."

VASYL: "It is bad for me to leave the Pavilion. I cannot."

OLYA: "You don't speak clearly--you talk in riddles."

VASYL: "You must understand that I am just like you. Do you understand? I am alone here - all the others are exhibits. Please extend my regrets to Lesya for not wanting to talk to her this morning. I - couldn't do otherwise."

OLYA: "Then perhaps it will be better if I don't come back to you either and I won't even come for the promised book (L'UKRAINE SOVIETIQUE)."

VASYL: "No, no, do come, even more frequently. I can talk with you here."

OLYA bid him farewell and left.

NOTE: On 20 September 1959, Professor KUBIYOVICH visited the exhibition together with Mrs. SIYAK. VASYL reportedly made some critical comments about the Soviet Regime. It appears Mrs. SIYAK drew a "logical conclusion" that VASYL wishes to remain in the West. She told this to editor ZHDANOVYCH who was at the Festival the same day in company with Messrs. LAZOVIMSKY and ZHUKIVSKY with his wife. As a result, OLYA was put in charge of VASYL's "defection" and especially to verify the fact that he desired to do so. At any rate, she was instructed on how to proceed, including arrangements for his trip to Paris, "or someplace further" - the protection of the French Police. In accordance with these instructions (from ZHDANOVYCH) she was supposed to approach VASYL on 22 or 23 September. I advised her to go immediately on Monday and told her I doubted anything would come of this.

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OLYA's CONVERSATION WITH VASYL FROM LVOV

21 September (Afternoon)

OLYA received the brochure, L'UKRAINE SOVIETIQUE and thanked him. She said she was sorry she could not return the favor. "Do you have children? Perhaps I could give you something for them or for your wife."

VASYL: "I thank you very much. I have two children. I am very fond of them. But do not give me anything. It is not convenient for us to take anything. It is better not to take anything."

OLYA: "You really cannot get out to go someplace?"

VASYL: "I already told you that it is not convenient for me. And anyway, I would not be able to go out alone."

OLYA: "That is a shame."

VASYL: "How is it in Canada? Are there many new emigres there? For instance in Toronto?"

OLYA told him about KUK, about the Ukrainian senators and representatives, and Ukrainian influences in Canada in general.

VASYL: "O, then Ukrainians are doing much there."

They were approached by an "Odessian" and a Russian. They turned their conversation to television.

VASYL: "If you can, come to our country as a tourist. You will see for yourself. That is the best way. Until we meet again."

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