

Translation

CONVERSATION OF PROFESSOR SHUMOVSKY WITH DIRECTOR KRYVOSHEYEV

20 September 1959

The conversation took place in the company of BORISOV and other "ingeneers". Professor SHUMOVSKY used the name of Professor MYR. After exchanging initial greetings, he walked over to the souvenir stand complaining about the fact that there were only French girls on duty who spoke only Russian and that they even spoke poorly, or not at all. Why had they not brought Ukrainian girls?

KRYVOSHEYEV: "Your comments are very true, but it is not all our fault. We had arranged with a French firm to supply us with personnel and they gave us those which they had available. You see our display. This is only the beginning. We are just learning. We have had very little experience. In the future we will do things differently. The French have invited us to other fairs in Toulouse and Bordeaux. We also have invitations to other countries; i.e., to Milan in Italy next year. We have reserved this exhibition area for a period of five years, so that if we don't then one of the other republics will have a display here in the future."

SHUMOVSKY: Made some critical statements regarding Lenin's statue. "Why isn't there a statue of someone els (here), a Ukrainian poet, writer or artist?"

KRYVOSHEYEV: "It was actually an oversight. We will improve in the future."

SHUMOVSKY: Noted that art and culture were not appropriately displayed. Emphasis was on the village and ethnology.

KRYVOSHEYEV: "We are displaying more prominently those items which we desire to trade. That explains the limits in certain categories. We would need a separate exhibition for our culture and art. As a matter of fact, we wanted to display more of that category here but the French did not agree. We wanted, for instance, to bring a Ukrainian choir and dance ensemble but the French didn't permit it. They made such stipulations that we were forced to forgo the art category. However, your comments are true. It is difficult to take care of everything."

SHUMOVSKY: "I would like to buy something, at least some Crimean or Carpathian wine."

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2D
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

KRYVOSHEYEV: "The French forbid us to make sales. That is why we didn't take too much along with us." (KRYVOSHEYEV said he was sorry but he could do nothing about the situation.)

SHUMOVSKY: Noted that Ukrainian livestock was poorly exhibited. He mentioned the improvements made in the feeding (of livestock) during the last year and used this opportunity to ask to have his greetings conveyed to ZORIN, vice minister of village economy.

KRYVOSHEYEV: Thanked SHUMOVSKY. It is believed he will convey the greetings. "I am the director of the permanent exhibition of village economy in Kiev. Most of my people here are coworkers from the Kiev exhibit. I know ZORIN rather well. I have many business contacts with him."

SHUMOVSKY: Said he knew about a certain apparatus which isn't available in the West and which wasn't being shown at the exhibition. Why didn't they display it? There would be interest in it here. He called attention to the fact that there were no price tags on many of the articles on exhibit and that in general the exhibition was not well planned. Even the employees didn't know the price of certain articles.

BORISOV entered the conversation at this point. "This is not our fault at all. Everything goes through Moscow and the Embassy in Paris. It is always that way when two perform the same act. In the future, it will be necessary to take care of the matter of price tags."

SHUMOVSKY: Adds to BORISOV's remarks regarding two cooks spoiling the broth. "Why doesn't Kiev settle these matters itself? Why don't these things go through a Ukrainian embassy rather than the "Parisian" embassy? You say you are a nation, and a sovereign one at that, but when SENIN arrived there wasn't even a secretary from the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was met only by a representative of the Soviet Embassy. What kind of order is this?"

KRYVOSHEYEV: "Well yes, there is no Ukrainian consulate or embassy. But why haven't the French ever sent a diplomatic representative?"

SHUMOVSKY: Explained that this was not the fault of the French but because the Ukrainians have no diplomatic representation nobody has any respect for the "Sovereignty" of the UkSSR.

KRYVOSHEYEV: "We are a nation and masters of our own land. There is much for us to do yet as far as foreign representation is concerned. You see, dear Professor, this is merely the beginning!"

The conversation turned to the new type of sugar refinery, a model of which was on exhibit. It was also exhibited in Brussels. SHUMOVSKY complimented them on it and everyone was very pleased.

Note from Professor SHUMOVSKY: "I did not criticize them very much but on the contrary flattered them a bit. This created good feelings." In incidental conversations with others, Professor SHUMOVSKY determined that there were no academicians present. There were only engineers, technicians and some ordinary laborers. He felt an air of controversy between the engineers and technicians. The latter tended to feel that the engineers claimed too much credit both at the Fair and in general. They had little regard for the "plain laborer".