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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT : (Optional)

FROM:

NO.

DATE

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

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1.

SR/3

Paul MBE
Amos

AM

1 copy for SR/3/PP

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For file

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHODSEXEMPTION 9828
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

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1 December 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA : Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT : Stefan BANDERA's Death and PP Exploitation Threat

1. This memorandum is for your information only.
2. On 15 October 1959 in Munich, Germany, Stefan BANDERA died a victim of cyanide poison. German police investigation has ruled out suicide, but has not yet solved the crime. Investigation and exploitation continues.
3. News items giving various versions of his death were carried in many Western European and American publications in October. Coverage in English press has naturally been wide and continuous throughout November. The Communist Press inside and outside the Soviet bloc also mentioned the death prominently, but proposes that the German Intelligence Service killed BANDERA. *my guess*
4. A factual script on his death and biography was included in our taped Ukrainian program scheduled for broadcast over our PRIDE Station from Athens in October. Because PRIDE transmissions to the USSR were temporarily suspended in October, pursuant to the ZHUKOV-ALISH talks, this material has not been broadcast. SR English agents and case officers discussed exploitation of this murder from many angles, but elected to wait until a full report had been received from Munich. A full report has not been received since the police investigation is still in progress.
5. The SR Division has been reluctant to launch wide-spread PP press play labeling BANDERA's death a Soviet deed for several reasons, among which are the following:
 - a. Until the German Police investigation of suspects has been completed, it could be premature to make allegations which the German Police investigation might later contradict, for

example, as matters now stand, pure enigre vengeance might have been the motive for murder.

b. The implication of RIS omnipotence and omnipresence in this unsolved crime is naturally damaging to Ukrainians' morale at home and abroad.

c. SR is formulating Western press articles about BANDERA's death for eventual use. Already planned for inclusion are comparisons between BANDERA's death and the assassinations of the previous figureheads of Ukrainian nationalism, Simon PETLIURA (shot in Paris in 1926) and Evhen KONOVALETS (handed a package containing a bomb in Brussels in 1938).

6. According to the best available evidence, BANDERA was apparently attacked and poisoned by two unidentified men between the frontdoor of his apartment house and the third floor door to his apartment.

Chief
Soviet Russia Division

cc: DDCI

DDP/SR/3/PP: [] :mjs (1 Dec 59)

Orig & 1 - Addressee
1 - SR/3/PP
1 - C/SR