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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
VAZ I WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

15 September 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR : SR/6  
SR/Reports  
SR/Requirements

SUBJECT : Information on Lvov

The following information was obtained through project AERODYNAMIC from a woman, approximately 70 years of age, graduate of physiology at University of Lvov, who emigrated to the United States on 8 May 1960 (untested source) via ARCADEMERY/15 (usually reliable source). Source lived all her life in Lvov.

1. Population of Lvov. Although according to official statistics, the population of Lvov is estimated as 400,000, source insisted that the present population of Lvov is at least twice that amount. She estimates the population to be approximately one million. She stated that a great number of individuals who do not have "privilege" status live in the city. Thirty per cent of the city population are local Ukrainians, the remaining 70 per cent consists of Eastern Ukrainians, Russians and Jews. In addition, there are about 20,000 Poles living in Lvov.

2. Great MISHA's return from the United States to the Soviet Union in 1957 was interpreted in the circles of Ukrainian intelligentsia in Lvov as follows: Misha was contacted by Dr. MAKSYMOVICH, Rector of the Lvov Polytechnical Institute, when he travelled to the United States to participate in the Gorbalski Congress. He allegedly convinced MISHA to return to the USSR and recruited him to collect some geodetic data before his return (MISHA was working for the Department of Interior). MISHA still lectures at the Polytechnical Institute in Lvov. He has made no advancement in his career.

3. Soviet Travel. Source who had contacts with young college students through the grandchildren of her friends and relatives, stated that the younger generation is primarily interested in higher living standards. They are very interested in better relations with the West because it gives them opportunities to travel abroad. This desire for travel is very infectious. The Soviet youth returns from visits to the West with new impressions and new observations. They are particularly impressed with American jazz and American cars and want these things for themselves at home. They are much less interested in political problems than were the students of the previous generation. She stated that this young generation is faced with the problem of overproduction of intelligentsia and that access to colleges and universities is growing more difficult.

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4. Propaganda circulation has improved considerably in the past year. There is plenty of food. Even the German line better now and not such better. Recently large orders of shoes have been brought in from Czech-czechs. They are of a better quality than Soviet products and cost only 150 rubles a pair as compared with 400 rubles for poor quality Soviet shoes. Garbs and corrugation are predominant in Iron. A bottle is a single unit which opens all doors and provides opportunities not otherwise available.

5. The Ukrainian Movement. Source was very critical of the former activities of the Ukrainian underground. Although in her opinion, underground activities at present are impossible, she does not exclude the possibility of the existence of clandestine groups who are waiting for better opportunities to strike. She stated that in case of an internal uprising, some Ukrainian Secretaries and some Russian Secretaries would rise against the regime. However, she does not believe there would be an upsurge at present.

6. International Politics. Russians in Iron are very much interested in the international situation, in such problems as now exist in Cuba, Panama, Africa, and Asia. They believe they receive only a one-sided picture from the Soviets and therefore seek Western views and interpretations. Great numbers of individuals listen to radio broadcasts. Source stated she followed VOICE OF AMERICA broadcasts very carefully, especially after Gaidis's death. She recalled broadcasts about her own son which, the planting of bombs, etc. Source was extremely critical of the VOICE OF AMERICA broadcasts. She stated, "Instead of speaking in formation which would counter Polish propaganda, they broadcast lessons on the killing of sons." She heard Polish language broadcasts from the West and stated that, in her opinion, the Ukrainian-language broadcasts and the Russian-language broadcasts of VOICE OF AMERICA are worse than the Polish-language broadcasts because they are element of political interpretations which is that the Soviets actually want war to have from the West.

7. The attitude toward the United States has changed considerably in recent years. Source believes that the United States could easily have defeated the Soviet Union in the 1940's. The industrial and lack of discipline on the part of the United States in recent years has concerned the ~~Ukrainians~~ that it is likely to erupt any day from the American continent. Therefore, the organization on evolutionary development and on the policy of encirclement which they feel might bring about some relaxation of tensions. The 6-2 incident caused disappointment by the general public in the Americas because the incident happened at a time when mutual understanding seemed to be no more and at a time when Soviets expected further relaxation internally as a result of this mutual understanding.

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The general attitude of the Soviets toward the capitalist system is negative. They want "social justice" and economic stability and no return to a system of large landowners and capitalists.

The spinoffs and leaks convinced Soviets that the Soviet Union is invincible and will conquer the world.

Although source expressed a kind of fatalism in stating that any active opposition against the regime is impossible, she stated that she was convinced that even now if "something goes wrong," the overwhelming majority would be against the regime. She stated that everyone is waiting for a change. No one is able to say what kind of a change but they feel the present situation cannot last forever.

8. Please contact   on extension 4377 if you have any questions regarding the foregoing.

Chief, SR/S

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