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Chief of Mission, Frankfurt

7 August 1952

Chief, CSOB

REDSOX/CSOB Supported Publications

Ref. [] Memorandum of 23 July re "DYCLAIM Supported Publications."

1. At the present time CSOB supports three newspapers and a considerable miscellany of other publications. (We use the term CSOB to distinguish the Munich portion of REDSOX operations from the Frankfurt portion [] will report directly on those publications which are supported by REDSOX operations directed out of Frankfurt.) These papers are the Latvian "Latvija", the Ukrainian "Sushasna Ukraina", and the Belorussian "Fatherland". The miscellany of other publications are put out entirely by the Lithuanian organization VLIK on a sporadic basis. The data requested in reference memorandum follows.

2. "Latvija"

a. Published in Augustdorf bei Detmold, Germany by Latvian Central Committee.

b. Circulation: 6000 weekly.

c. Support: 3500 DM per month, without which the publication would fail. Has been supported since December 1951.

d. General character and policy: Straight news-coverage of emigre activity and politics. Anti-communist, but not very forceful in presentation. Presents both sides of various political questions in fairly objective way. Generally in support of Western, rather than U. S. policy.

e. Influence: The only Latvian newspaper in Germany and the largest in Europe, it is an old and relatively well known sheet.

Distribution ^{orig.}

2 - COM (handcarried by [])
 ✓ 3 - SR and EE
 2 - CSOB

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f. Control: None is being exercised at the moment; our support is being passed through a cut-out. This situation is being reviewed now with the idea of putting a case officer in direct touch with the editorial personnel. We cannot tell, at this point, to what extent, if any, we will be able to control editorial policy. P

3. "Suchasna Ukraina"

a. Published in Munich by ZPUHVR, Foreign Representation of the Ukrainian Supreme Liberation Council.

b. Circulation: 7000 copies biweekly.

c. Support: 14,000 DM monthly, without which the publication would fail. Our support has been given since January 1951 and represents about 75% of their revenue.

d. General Character and Policy: Mainly devoted to internal and emigre Ukrainian politics and activities. Although it pushes a strong line on the future independence of the Ukraine, and indulges in considerable but not vituperative criticism of QKACTIVE line, it is generally cautious in its direct criticism of U. S. Policy.

e. Influence: It is the official organ of the organization, and as such has a great influence on Ukrainian affairs.

f. Control: We have, up to date, made no attempt to control the editorial policy of the paper, only going so far as to suggest that anti-Russian articles should not be printed. Our case officers have discussed many times and at length the Ukrainian problem vis a vis official U. S. policy and QKACTIVE policy, but no attempt has ever been made to insist that U. S. or ANCOMLIB policy must be reflected, or at least not attacked, in their newspaper. In spite of our present close operational relations with this group, it is doubted that he will ever be in a position, even if it were considered wise to attempt to attain such a position, to dictate the policy of the paper. However, it is believed that we can in the future, by giving more study to the contents of the paper and by encouraging our case officers to discuss political affairs more frequently with the editors, exert greater influence on the editorial policy of the paper. It should also be remembered that if it were not for our support this paper would undoubtedly adopt an infinitely more anti-Russian if not anti-American line than it is now doing! we?

4. "Fatherland"

a. Published in Munich by the Belorussian National Rada. ✓

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- b. Circulation: 3000 copies biweekly.
- c. Support: 1150 DM per issue. This represents about 90% of what it costs to print the paper; it could not survive as a commercial venture. Has been supported since January 1951.
- d. General character and policy: Devoted to reporting on all emigre activities with special emphasis on political aspects. It takes a strong line on Belorussian independence, and has been somewhat critical of the QKACTIVE line even though its group is one of the participating members of QKACTIVE. It has been generally pro-American and cautious in its criticism of American policy. Our knowledge of this paper has been severely limited by our inability to read it; we have just recently been able to arrange for regular translations.
- e. Influence: Considerable in emigre circles, it is the official organ of predominant organization in the Belorussian emigration.
- f. Control: We have as yet made no attempt to mould editorial policy due in part to our lack of knowledge of what was in the paper, and in part to our rather sensitive operational relations with the group. The editors of the paper are very jealous of their independence, but we are confident that in the future we will be able to exert an increasing influence on, but never be able, to dictate, the editorial policy of the paper.

5. Lithuanian Publications - "Elta" News Bulletin:

- a. Published at Pfullingen bei Tubingen by the ELTA News Agency, a subdivision of VLIK - Supreme Lithuanian Committee for Liberation.
- b. Circulation: 250 biweekly.
- c. Support: Financed out of general support to VLIK for propaganda-political action purposes, thus far paid as follows: \$10,000 in February 1950, \$25,000 in July 1951. Supported since February, 1950, the bulletin is not a commercial enterprise. It is distributed free, on basis of a selected mailing list. Withdrawal of support would affect the quality and frequency of Bulletin, but in all likelihood not bring about its discontinuance. (In addition to publishing the Bulletin and frequent books and pamphlets, VLIK uses our support and places main emphasis in propaganda work on the supply of factual materials or ready articles to important newspapers and magazines in Europe (Zuricher Zeitung, Gazette de Lausanne, Stuttgarter Nachrichten, Neue Zeitune, L'Osservatore Romano, Il Popolo etc.) and in South America; arrange radio programs (Germany, Italy, France) and sponsor political meetings, concert and lecture tours.)

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d. General character and policy: Bulletin is a news service, the main source of news from Behind Iron Curtain for some 70 Lithuanian publications dailies, weeklies and monthlies published in U. S., Canada, U. K., South America and Australia; it also presents review of LSSR, Lithuanian emigre and world press on anti-Soviet developments; sets anti-Soviet propaganda and political action lines and coordinates activities of Lithuanian anti-Soviet organizations in above areas, as well as France, Italy, Spain and Sweden.

e. Bulletin is leading though unofficial spokesman for Lithuanian anti-Soviet movement.

f. Control: Our control is probably sufficient to dictate editorial policy, but it is not exercised beyond general indications of propaganda lines due to the probability that dictation would be interpreted as a lack of confidence in the competence of VLIK efforts and would destroy the independent Lithuanian character of these efforts. In a showdown VLIK is likely to forego our support rather than compromise on this point.

6. It will be noted that in no case do we presently have control over the editorial line of the papers we support. This fact is due to a number of circumstances: In the first place, in three of four papers involved we started giving support as a quid pro quo for operational assets which were turned over to us. In each case the fiercely independent spirit of the group and our sensitive operational relationship with them made any attempt to dictate editorial policy unwise and probably impossible. In most cases the case officer involved was quite understandably more concerned with operational commitments than with political considerations, so that even such influence as we might have had has often been neglected. In all cases we have not had the personnel available to do the careful analytical job which is really required to insure adequate control of such publications.

7. To remedy these defects, CSOB has recently undertaken in its new PW Branch to be responsible for the support of all publications. In all cases the PW branch will continue to operate through the group case officer involved, but the Branch will undertake to do the careful studying and analysis of the papers which is required; the Branch will acquaint all pertinent case officers with these analyses and point out where and in what degree the editorial line differs either from official or unofficial U. S. policy. The Branch will also undertake to make suggestions as to how the editors may be pressured, or persuaded, or argued with, on certain political or policy lines. In all cases the Branch will initially concentrate on the task of ascertaining exactly what the editorial policy of the particular paper is, and then proceed to a decision as to whether increased control is necessary, and, if necessary, whether it is feasible.

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In some cases we shall no doubt find that the present line of the paper is entirely satisfactory from our point of view and to attempt to more closely control the line would be a waste of case officer time. In other cases suggestions and guidance will be necessary and productive. However, we must guard against exerting control simply for the sake of exerting it. An attempt to go too far in this direction robs the newspaper concerned of its indigenous character and puts us in the position of operating a newspaper rather than supporting a newspaper. Within the near future the PW Branch expects to be in a position to decide precisely how much control or influence is desirable, and in what direction it should be exercised.

8. In addition to the papers noted above, there are a large number of emigre publications supported by AMCOMLIB under the QKACTIVE project which it is not within our province to report on here. For purposes of coordination we are kept informed of what papers these are and how much support they are given, but we do not control the giving of the support nor are we involved in any way in controlling or influencing the editorial line of any of these papers. The criteria for their support as judged by AMCOMLIB is solely their support of QKACTIVE.

Approved

