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TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE		OFFICER'S	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from who to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment
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TECT. PURPLICATION (1) Varie and his 3 collection

SUBJECT: YERMOLOVICH (1) Yuri and his 3 collegues, Soviet tourists in New York, June 1963

SOURCE : MAG

6.

1 Around 21-25 June 1963 MEIS, Vitali of ABronx, N.Y, aged 28, Student

of Russian Institute of Columbia accompanied for 4 days, usually for a few hours every day, 4 Soviet tourists - 3 Russians and 1 Ukrainian by the name YERMOLOVICH Yuri - in their sightseeing in N.Y.C.

Sove by STABLE, Arthur "manager" of the Hospiz-Dormitory. Most of his time KEIS spent in company of YERMOLOVICH, Ukrainian from KIEV, aged 35, physicist, lecturer at Kiev Univ.

According to KEIS, YERMOLOVICH seemed to be a genuine Ukrainian, well read in Ukrainian history and literature. He recited by heart many poems by Rysiky, Tychyna, Franko, Lesia Ukrainka and others. He also made some indications about his anti-regime sentiments though in a very vague manner. As a result KEIS considers him to be anti-Russian. According to M., KEIS appraisal is to reserve be taken with personation as KEIS is considered to be a still rather young naive and talkative man, that can easily be fooled.

Together with KEIS YERMOLOVICH and his Russian friends visited Ukrainian section in downtown New York and took some pictures of premises of various Ukrainian organization. They did not , however, go inside. They also took picture of KEIS

in fract of one of the buildings. When YERMOLOVICH phot@graphed St.George's Church, his Russian friends seemed to be dissatisfied with that.

YERMOLOVICH gave KEIS his address in KIEV and invited him to visit the Ukraine. (The address will be eventually obtained from KEIS by M.)

2. KEIS gave YERMOLOVICH 2 numbers of 2Suchasnist". YERMOLOVICH told Keis that he bad seen this journal once before and now read it with great

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interest. In particular he liked the poetry of BOICHUK and commented that such poems were still not permitted in the Ukraine. YERMOLOVICH knew several werses of Boichuk's poetry and recited them to KEIS.

- 3. In his conversation with KEIS, YERMOLOVICH asked why there was no co-operation between Ukrainian students and the youth in general, in the Ukraine and those abroad. He recommended quite emphatically an action conducive to such co-operation although remained massifies unspecific in practical aspect. himself.
- 4. YERMOLOVICH was reluctant to talk about present pressure on writers, poets and artists in the Ukraine and in the Soviet mion in general. He simply availed this topic.
- 5. KEIS remarks on Russification in the Ukraine YERMOLOWICH parred with statements that no one was able to russify Ukrainiansand iterresimals that the Ukrainian potential remained undestructable. On such occasions he used to recibe some Ukrainian patriotic poetry. Also in presence of his Russian collegues once he stressed that Pereyaslav-Agreement meant actually Russian treason (zrada) to the Ukraine and that only since the October Revolution the Pereyaslav-Agreement acquired its proper contents and meaning.
- 6. YERMOLOVICH claimed not to know who killed REBET and BANDERA and remarked that in some parts of the Ukraine mothers were still frightening their children with #Banderovtsy". YERMOLOVICH'S Russian friends asserted that BANDERA was definitely killed by Germans.
- 7. YERMOLOVICH claimed to have read "Blue Etudes" by KHVYLOVYi and have liked them very much. He was surprised when KEIS told him that PETLURA had been a socialist.
- 8. YERMOLOVICH and his Russian friends made some derogatory remarks about
  Jews and Negroes and in general seemed to be rather biased on both.

9. During a debate at Hospiz when an American student was mixing up Ukrainians with Russians, one of YERMOLOVICH'S Russian friends stood up and called him crazy and an ignoramus of geography. The Russian explained that Ukrainians and Russians were two different nations, that Ukrainians had their own identity, their separate language, culture etc. At one moment he pointed at YERMOLOVICH and continued: "Look, here is a Ukrainian, I don't understand his language and you say that there is no difference between Russian and Ukrainian".