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NO.

XAAZ-16265

DATE

11 October 1963

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

DATE

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

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4. *OSR/OA*

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6. SR/6/E16

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Please index names as marked for file 74-124-29/3. All individuals marked for indexing, with the exception of A. N. SVETOVIDOV and G. L. POLYANSKY on page 2, had contact with sources of AECASSOWARY/1 during International Congress of Zoology in Washington, D. C., 20-27 August 1963. SVETOVIDOV and POLYANSKY were present at the Congress but there was no contact with them.

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ABSTRACT	INDEX
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FORM
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USE PREVIOUS
EDITIONS SECRET CONFIDENTIAL INTERNAL
USE ONLY UNCLASSIFIED

XAAZ-16265
11 Oct 63

CONTACT REPORT

SUBJECT: ^① Contacts with Soviets Attending the 16th International Congress of Zoology in Washington, D. C., 20-27 August 1963. (Identities for S., M. and Ya. referred to in this report are on file in SR/CA/E. All three individuals are American citizens of Ukrainian birth.)

Source of Report: AECASSOWARY/29 from S. []

The Soviet Delegation

KASYANENKO, Volodymyr Hryhorovych

no 201
D.O.B. 1901. Director of the Institute of Zoology ^{Ukraine} ~~Kiev~~ since 1950, and Specialist in comparative morphology, UKSSR Academy of Sciences. Wears glasses. Is shortsighted. Knowledge of English - poor. Was rather well dressed, talkative and energetic. Was eager to evade his group and talk to Westerners. However, was cautious and more interested in listening than talking. He was taken to see the Pentagon (outside only), and the grounds where the Taras Shevchenko Memorial will be erected in Washington, D. C. (22nd and P St., N. W.). He also was taken to see the Library of Congress and out to dinner in a restaurant.

Sister: Hanna KASYANENKO d.o.b. 1881. Recently returned from Siberia. She had been deported to Siberia for nationalist activities. Lives in Kiev. Interested in literature.

MARKEVICH, Oleksandr Prokopovich

Was met at Zoology Congress.
D.O.B. 1905. Appears much older. Formerly Director of the Institute of Zoology (until 1950), Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, ^{Ukraine} Kiev Specialist in parasitology. Asthmatic, hard of hearing, sickly. Speaks fair English (needs no interpreter). Shy and submissive. Cautious. Was constantly being watched by Valerie VIDOMENKO while at Zoology Congress in Washington, D. C. Appeared depressed and miserable.

VIDOMENKO, Valeri

10000
D.O.B. ca. 1928. 5'8"-5'9". Strong build, fair complexion "with some pink spots", blond, wears hair combed straight back. Speaks Ukrainian. According to Vladimir SOKOLOV, VIDOMENKO was employed with an herb reservation near Moscow. Obtained aspirantura in Odessa and now reportedly working for KASYANENKO, Volodymyr in UKSSR Academy of Sciences, Institute of Zoology, ^{Ukraine} Kiev. VIDOMENKO appeared to be charged with keeping an eye on Oleksandr MARKEVICH and Volodymyr KASYANENKO. On several occasions he "dragged" MARKEVICH and KASYANENKO away from conversations they were having with Westerners in Washington, D. C. VIDOMENKO tried to elicit biographic information on Westerners with whom he talked. Suspected KGB.

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16
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contact (see contact report)

no 201
SOKOLOV, Vladimir

CIT USSR

D.O.B. ca. 1923. Russian. SOKOLOV said he came from Moscow^{USSR} that he was of Greek parentage and that his father and grandfather were priests.

INU FNU

Young Polish delegate (from Cracow) to the Zoological Congress in Washington. Said he had studied for some time in Moscow and that he had travelled to Lvov. Presently supposedly studying at University of Minnesota. Appeared anxious to talk with Westerners. Made critical remarks about Soviets in general. He made the comment that fear continues to dominate in the Soviet Union and that, "We in Poland continue to gamble, although we do not know how long we shall be able to do so."

To Both
CIT USSR
OCC Science

The Soviet delegation to the 16th International Congress of Zoology in Washington consisted of approximately 12 individuals. According to Volodymyr H. KASYANENKO, the "official" delegation was composed of himself and A. P. SYETOVIDOV of the Institute of Zoology, Academy of Sciences, USSR, plus G. I. Polyansky of the Institute of Cytology, HSSR Academy of Sciences, both of the latter from Leningrad. The remainder of the delegation had tourist status, although they also read papers at the Congress. There were 3 Ukrainians (KASYANENKO, MARKEVICH and VIDOMENKO), and at least one Georgian in the delegation. The 3 Ukrainians spoke Ukrainian among themselves. The Soviets were rather conspicuous because they generally kept together in a group. Contacts with members of the delegation were established at the Shoreham Hotel where the Congress was in session.

On 21 August 1963, KASYANENKO asked S. whether he would be present at the dinner at the National Gallery. KASYANENKO complained to S that some of the older emigres (whom he identified as political emigrants and, therefore, felt it would be better for him to avoid them) were trying to involve him in conversations. He preferred to talk to younger Americans of Ukrainian birth as they would be regarded as less dangerous contacts.

On 25 August, KASYANENKO permitted himself to be persuaded to be taken by M, in the company of S, to the area on 21st and P St., N. W. where the Taras Shevchenko monument is to be erected. In the drive to the monument grounds, KASYANENKO commented favorably on the activities of the Ukrainian emigration in general and was quite impressed by the story about the monument to be erected as told to him by S and M.

On the same day, 25 August, S and M also took KASYANENKO to the Library of Congress and then to dinner in a restaurant. KASYANENKO gave S the latest volume on the Institute of Zoology which he himself edited and asked that it be kept at the Library of Congress together with other books which he had authored.

S took KASYANENKO to see the Pentagon on 27 August, but the latter

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refused to go into the building commenting that it would be "too much and besides, I can now say that I have seen the Pentagon". KASYANENKO gave S two hand-carved wooden boxes and asked that they be given to M who had showed him around his laboratory* the previous day. S presented KASYANENKO with a collection of Kulish's works which the latter said he would give to his sister, Hanna KASYANENKO, who he said was interested in literature and of whom he spoke with great pride.

Topics discussed with KASYANENKO

A. Podgorny and the CC of the CP Ukraine

ranked of the CP.
He was in the top ranks of the CP.
He was in the top ranks of the CP.

KASYANENKO told S that although he was a Party member, he did not know the genesis and actual details of the recent developments in the top echelon of the Party ^{or} "peculiar", and that their Ukrainianism was practically limited to the fact that they had Ukrainian names and were born in the Ukraine. This also applied to PODGORNY who was concerned with nothing more than his own career. KASYANENKO said that LUBCHENKO was the last true Ukrainian in the top ranks of the Communist Party and that since his death, only career beaurocrats remained. KIRICHENKO, who KASYANENKO said was like PODGORNY, was demoted because of his ruthlessness and disloyalty to his friends rather than because of his Ukrainianism. KIRICHENKO interfered in too many matters, created conflicts in the Party and pushed people around. "Even in the distribution of dachas, KIRICHENKO showed partiality."

B. Kozlov and Brezhnev

KASYANENKO said he did not consider BREZHNEV had much influence. He was of the opinion that BREZHNEV's influence was a figment of the American press, and that the American press also demoted KOZLOV. Actually, KOZLOV was released only because of his illness, and BREZHNEV's position was not as strong as generally estimated in the West.

C. Ukrainian Writers

According to KASYANENKO, unlike selfish careerists like PODGORNY, there are people such as RYLSKY and some of his colleagues in the Union of Ukrainian Writers who are genuinely interested in Ukrainian politics. Their influence at present should not be underestimated, even though their main field of activity is linguistic and cultural. At present, almost all official correspondence of the CC CP Ukraine was in Ukrainian and this has its significance.

RYLSKY propounds the Ukrainian line whenever he is able. When asked about TYCHINA, KASYANENKO said that he was a "good old man", but not of the same caliber and energy as RYL'SKY. According to KASYANENKO, RYL'SKY

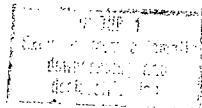
* Research Laboratory in Beltsville.
 Dept. of Agriculture where M. is employed.

is a human dynamo, full of initiative and perseverance, whereas TYCHY^NAA is a quiet and good-natured "starychok". There was a time, before the death of Stalin, when RYL'SKY was a heavy drinker. KASYANENKO recalled an incident in 1952 during the distribution of some kind of prizes, RYL'SKY disappeared from the room and was later found alone in a small room "behind a pile of empty bottles". RYL'SKY was thoroughly drunk and was murmuring something to the effect that he was going to stay there and wait for the next meeting of the Union of Ukrainian Writers because he didn't want to be late the next time. He stopped drinking only after his wife became very ill and begged him to stop. After his wife's death, he became very active in cultural and political life. He began to write a lot, made frequent trips and read many papers. He strengthened the Union of Ukrainian Writers and his influence reached the Party top echelon.

KASYANENKO was reluctant to talk about SOSYURA who he said was once accused of nationalism but that this was past history. KASYANENKO claimed that he didn't know very much about the younger Ukrainian writers and commented about them only in general, saying that some of them were good, some bad and some very bad and that he could not understand the latter, in particular some of the artists. When S mentioned the names of a few of the younger writers, KASYANENKO said that he was acquainted with the parents of Vitali KOROTYCH and that he and KOROTYCH's father frequently met.

D. Russification

KASYANENKO admitted there was Russification in the Ukraine and added that it was caused to no little degree by the lack of sufficient resistance on the part of some Ukrainians. As an example, he cited that whereas one hears Ukrainian on Volodymyrivska Street in Kiev because of the many conscious Ukrainian students and intelligentsia, the Russian language dominates on Khreshchatyk Street. He said that it all depends on the individual himself. No one is officially encouraged to speak Ukrainian but neither authorities force anyone to speak Russian. S remarked that Russians in the Ukraine were immune to assimilation. KASYANENKO replied that Ukrainians in certain Russian environments had also succeeded in retaining their national identity. He mentioned as an example certain Ukrainian enclaves East of Kharkov and in Siberia, and that Ukrainians in the virgin lands have their own schools. As another example, he cited the Ukrainians in Bulgaria who stemmed from the Ukrainian Cossacks who landed there following the Battle of Poltava. KASYANENKO said he participated in a scientific conference in Bulgaria in 1959 at which time he heard about the Ukrainians there and met some of them personally. He said he read his paper at the conference in Ukrainian and as a result received a tremendous ovation. Many of the Bulgarians present came up to him, congratulated him for reading his paper in Ukrainian and told him that they understood Ukrainian better than they did Russian. They asked him why some of his Ukrainian colleagues read their papers in Russian. KASYANENKO said he felt Ukrainians had much more in common with Bulgarians, such as their language, history, etc., than they did with the Russians.



KASYANENKO considered ridiculous the concept of the amalgamation of nations in the USSR and said that it was as impossible as true socialism. He rejected the idea that the Russian language could become a "Communist esperanto" and said that even the Russians didn't take seriously the concept of amalgamation of peoples.

When asked whether there was any chance for enhancing the status of the UkSSR through the establishment of separate diplomatic missions and a separate Ukrainian army, KASYANENKO replied, "That would mean the end of the Soviet Union and who is ready to risk that?" S remarked about the British and Sudanese attempts to establish diplomatic relations with the Ukraine after WWII. KASYANENKO became very interested and asked to be told all about it. He appeared pleasantly impressed by this revelation and did not try to conceal his feelings.

E. Ukrainians in Moscow

KASYANENKO mentioned the fact that Ukrainian scholars contributed much to the all-Soviet scientific achievements and spoke with particular pride about a mathematics school in the Ukraine which paved the way for very important discoveries in nuclear physics. He did not elaborate. He mentioned recent streamlining measures of Academician KALDYSH, and said that certain individuals from Kiev might have to go to Moscow again. He said that in the past many Ukrainians served the Russian tsars in all fields and particularly in politics, and that indeed there were many Ukrainians in high positions in Moscow today. This, he said, was not unusual since KHRUSHCHEV took with him to the Kremlin all his friends and collaborators from the Ukraine

F. Vatican-Soviet Relations

KASYANENKO knew nothing about the release of Metropolitan Josif SLIPYY. His knowledge of church affairs seemed rather poor and he appeared really surprised by the news of SLIPYY's release. He did not want to elaborate on it but he did say that the Soviet Union had already benefited from the detente between the Vatican and the USSR.

G. German-Ukrainian Relations

M mentioned to KASYANENKO that the Germans recently helped organize a Home of Ukrainian Sciences in Munich and that they have expressed a growing interest in the problems of the Ukraine and other East European nations. KASYANENKO said that Ukrainians were fully aware of how interested the Germans can become in them and that they had already personally experienced this interest in the past. He told M about how the Germans were welcomed by the Ukrainians in the beginning, how badly the Ukrainians were treated in return and how finally, on orders from Stalin, Ukrainian youth took to the woods and fought the Germans.

H. KASYANENKO's Comments on Miscellaneous Topics

During dinner in a restaurant with S, while reminiscing about

various things, KASYANENKO made the following comment: "You know, whether we believe in God or not, there is nothing like Easter. When the bells ring at night and then in the morning, something inside you stirs." He told S that Easter continues to be celebrated in Kiev. He said that the Metropolitan in Kiev has a car which was presented to him by an Orthodox group in the United States (or Canada). This car has a very musical horn which the Metropolitan uses to signal his approach from a distance on Easter.

According to KASYANENKO, Prior to the recent presidential election at the UkSSR Academy of Sciences, many individuals insisted that the new president be a Ukrainian or at least know the language. Individuals like RYL'SKY in particular were very adamant about this. When PATON was proposed, many were indignant because of his Russian nationality but they were pleasantly surprised when PATON read his inaugural speech in excellent Ukrainian.

KASYANENKO expressed a desire for an English-Ukrainian dictionary which he said he wanted to use to improve his English. S had with him only a Russian-English one at the time and gave it to him. During a tour of the Library of Congress with S, KASYANENKO noticed a copy of Hrushevsky's, History of the Ukraine and commented that he knew a few things from it. He wanted to know which of his own books were available in the Library. He was pleased to see the long list of his books S showed him.

KASYANENKO was asked whether he knew VLASIUK. He replied, that he unfortunately did. He later told S, "VLASIUK played a very bad role in our Academy and is now in Moscow". He said it had to do with a very recent incident concerning some controversies in the biological field.

On 27 August KASYANENKO told S that he had been asked at the Soviet Embassy about how the Soviet delegation was being received locally. He said he then mentioned the hospitality shown him by S and M and that the Embassy official made no comments.

Topics discussed with Oleksandr P. MARKEVICH

Ya talked to MARKEVICH on 24 August. He asked him what the consequences of the KALDYSH reforms would be for the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences and was told the Academy would benefit from the reforms. Ya. said that he wanted to know the truth. MARKEVICH then looked around and replied, "I am very tired today. Please excuse me. I cannot talk anymore." and he walked away. On a later occasion, MARKEVICH asked Ya. how he knew about him. Ya explained that he had read about MARKEVICH at the Library of Congress. MARKEVICH calmed down and seemed pleased with the fact his books were available at the Library. When S. gave MARKEVICH a card catalogue of the latter's books available at the Library of Congress he was very pleased and he promised to send his other books directly to the Library. MARKEVICH then asked S whether bibliographies are published in the United States.

He complained that he was unable to get published in the Soviet Union a large bibliographical collection he had (about 25,000 items for about 3 volumes) on "The Fauna of the Ukraine" because allegedly no printing house is interested.

Comments made by Vladimir SOKOLOV

SOKOLOV mentioned to Ya that EVIUSHENKO is an ambitious young man who became somewhat dizzy with success. He wanted to obtain a copy of EVIUSHENKO's autobiography published in France and was disappointed when Ya did not have a copy of it for him.