

Subject: MOTKOV, Michail Petrovich
and IZOTOV, Vasyliy Serheyevych

Caracas

On Wednesday, August 4, B. left the hotel el Conde about 3:00 AM. Since he was very thirsty, he went ~~in~~ into a nearby restaurant for a beer. After he left the restaurant, he was approached by two dancers from the ensemble, ^{Sov. Ukr. State Ballet (Virsky's group)} MOTKOV and IZOTOV, who wanted to know if B. had seen a few dancers in the vicinity of the hotel. B. had seen a blond dancer who had gone into the hotel some time ago, but that was all. One of them replied that they were waiting for that blond fellow and some of his friends.

Suddenly without any provocation one of the two, MOTKOV, began calling B. various names -- louse, prick, and others. The reason for the outburst being that Motkov was annoyed at some of the things that were written in the journal SUCHASNIST about his wife KALYNOVSKA (Motkov had approached B. that same day and had ~~asked~~ asked him for a copy of Suchsnist, January 65, in which there is an article about the Kiev ballet in Paris, mentioning also Kalynovska's name). Motkov at first talked a lot of nonsense which B. did not understand because he was already a little tipsy. He was also making a lot of noise on the street, and since the situation in Caracas at night is not too safe, B. asked both of them to join him for a beer at the nearby restaurant.

There he finally understood what Motkov was trying to say. He was disturbed that Suchasnist, instead of writing about the achievements of his wife as a dancer, argued whether her name was KALYNOVSKA or KALYNOVSKAYA. "What difference is there, she might even be MOTKOVA", said Motkov, ~~and then he said~~ "as long as she represents the Ukrainian ballet from Kiev, and is an honored peoples artist of the Ukrainian SSR and of the USSR, and is considered ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ a top 'star'." Motkov added that he even came from Moscow to marry her. At this point, the other, IZOTOV, started defending B. saying that B. probably did not have anything to do with the article and is in no way responsible for it. B. explained that there was ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ only a mention in the article about his wife and, of course, nothing bad about her, adding that the French press Russified not only her name, but also PAVEL (Pavlo) Virskyy's, and other's.

Motkov praised his wife very highly, calling her a very good Ukrainian, the kind that are hard to find these days. She made him, a Russian, into a KHAKHOL (Ukrainian), and is raising her son in the same way. Motkov added that under her influence he, a Russian, is even representing the Ukrainian dance and not a Russian, in this ensemble. B. stated his approval, being happy that she made him into a Ukrainian.

Motkov stated that the author of the article did not have the faintest knowledge of art and dance, and should not write such articles. Motkov differed with the statement in Suchasnist that SAMSOVA "achieved her artistic style in Leningrad". He argued that she never studied there ~~anywhere but only in the Kiev school~~ but only in the Kiev school, and her style is without a doubt Kievan.

Motkov mentioned that he will not show his wife this article because it would insult her. He had only torn out the photographs to show her, and the rest of the journal he threw out. The only other worthwhile thing in the journal was SYMONENKO's poetry. This led to an attack on the leaflets put in Suchasnist. Motkov stated that the journal with the article about their ensemble was only a "mask" for spreading anti-Soviet propaganda among the dancers. No one needs it, and no one believes it anyway. Motkov continued that they knew "bourgeois ~~nationalists~~ nationalists" very well, and that they didn't do any good for the Ukraine anyway. During the WW II they collaborated with the Gestapo, and presently they are instruments of capitalists, spreading lies and causing agitation. At this point, Izotov started helping Motkov, saying that he suffered very much during the war, lost two brothers at the front, one of which was an excellent dancer (Izotov himself is an excellent ~~dancer~~ dancer and soloist in the ensemble). He was fighting against the enemies of Ukraine, fascists, while all that time the nationalists were collaborating with them. B. replied to the charges by saying that both of them were misinformed and looked upon matters in a very primitive and narrow view. In the first place, the UPA did not collaborate with the ~~ENEMIES~~ Germans but fought them, as well as the Communists. On the matter of the leaflets stuck in the journal, B. said that in a democratic world anyone can write and read what he pleases. Whoever does not agree with the contents of articles can throw it away, but never use slanderous terms when referring to it. Further, B. explained

that what was ~~written~~ written in the leaflets is not lies or slander against the USSR or Ukraine, only a different viewpoint on certain facts which might not be known to them, or which they might not want to know, being brought up in a system of communist propaganda. Therefore they should read those leaflets, and see the other side of the story.

The atmosphere of the conversation quieted down somewhat, and ~~the~~ ~~XXXXXX~~ their tone was softer. But they still complained that they try to spread ~~the~~ the Ukrainian culture throughout the world, and in return are picketed by the Ukrainian emigres, as was the case in Argentina and Brazil. B. replied that they cannot judge the entire Ukrainian emigration by the actions of a few individuals, as it is always easier to see faults than something positive. B. added that he himself could go and scatter the leaflets at a performance to the extent, that they would think that there are hundreds of people involved in the action. They also forget about the many Ukrainians who invite them to ~~the~~ their homes. To their statement that there were very few of such Ukrainians in Latin America, B. replied that the Ukrainians there are widely spread apart, and when they ~~are~~ come to the USA and Canada, they will get a truer picture of the situation.

After another round of drinks ~~by~~ the group decided to go home since it was quit late, 5 AM. Tzotov mentioned that he would not be able to come to America next year since he was retiring. Motkov asked B. for another copy of Suchasnist so he can bring it to his wife anyway. B. said that he did not have any more left, and told him to find the copy he had thrown out. They all parted as friends after all.

Motkov throughout the conversation asked B. to speak only Russian because he did not understand Ukrainian very well. B. replied jokingly that his wife did not really ~~make~~ make a Ukrainian out of him yet. To this he replied, "It does not matter what language I speak, as long as my soul is like that of my wife."