

SECRET

Re: Tourist visit from Sweden to the Soviet Union in August 1965

Date: 3 Dec. 1965

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

1. The following information was obtained from a group of Ukrainian Swedish citizens who visited Leningrad, Moscow and Yalta, Crimea in August 1965. The group was composed of: SCHUSSELEDER Nadia; SCHOFA Teodor; SAUTSCHUK Claudia; CHEPLAK Clara; ROMANOVSKIY Pylip and wife and SWIDERSKIY Alexander with wife.

2. Mrs. SCHUSSELEDER Nadia; (maiden name CHEPLAK) of Erikslundsgaten 2-II Hagerston /Stockholm/ relates the following: The group left Arland 8 August by SAS airlines for Moscow. From Moscow the group proceeded to Yalta via Soviet airplane, where they stayed 8 days. On the return trip they stopped in Moscow for 3 days. In Yalta subject met a young couple from Kiev, during a conversation with them, she admonished them for speaking Russian and not Ukrainian. They seemed embarrassed by this, and replied that they have become accustomed to speaking Russian, and that in the cities some people are ashamed of speaking Ukrainian, and others are just afraid. On the return trip to Moscow, Subject met a young Ukrainian lawyer, age 27. He told her that while he was a student in Moscow, he met a Swedish girl and that she became pregnant. Since the authorities did not let them marry, she had to return to Sweden. Presently she is living in Stockholm with the child. This lawyer told Subject that he is planning to visit Sweden next year, and if this should happen they would surely meet, adding that the leader of the group had the address of the girl friend in Stockholm. The lawyer and the leader of the group seemed to be well acquainted.

3. CHEPLAK Clara; (maiden name SCHOFA) relates the following: One evening her brother Victor SCHOFA (of OREBRO) met two men in Yalta. They went drinking and started singing songs, eventually the police came and told them in no uncertain terms to keep quiet. When told by the two local men that they were having a good time with a country man, one of the policemen referred to SCHOFA as a KHAKHOL. This angered SCHOFA, and

SECRET

he replied that only in Ukraine had he been called that derogatory name. The policeman immediately apologized, and lowered his tone of voice. Subject further relates that one evening the leader of the group became quite drunk and began singing forbidden songs. The police came and tried to quiet her down, but she started to call them names, and complain that in the Soviet Union there is always talk of democracy, and freedom, but in reality there is a lot of misery. Eventually she was taken to her room, and nothing more was said about the incident. In Moscow the leader of the group noticed that she was being followed by a man in a car everywhere she went.

4. ROMANOVSKIY Pylyp; of Shevde relates the following: Upon departure for Leningrad by the liner "Mikhail Kalinin" his party had a total of 80 kilograms of clothes. Upon arrival at Leningrad all they had was taken from them, including Subject's two wrist watches, and a golden pocket watch. In Leningrad Subject made inquiries about his watches, and was sent a letter saying that the watches had been confiscated as contraband. Subject's wife's sister had been to DNIPROPETROVSK and said that in the city there is a place where civilians are not allowed to enter. It is a military zone, and many prisoners from Western Ukraine are kept there. In general the mood of the people is one of complaining, about the whole system, and misery in general. Subject himself is from the VOLYN region, age 70, his wife is 68 years old.