

Shuron E.
7 C 29 Sept 65

~~SECRET~~

Subject: UKRAINIAN YOUTH IN LVIV, SUMMER OF 1965
Source: BURAVETS Yuriy of 651 Spadina Ave. Toronto 4, Ont. Canada
Date: 11 Feb. 1966

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

1. Source visited the Soviet Union in the summer of 1965 with his sister. They travelled in a rented car from France, through Switzerland, Austria, Hungary and Rumania into Ukraine. In Ukraine they went through ALLYTA, ODESSA, YALTA, ZAPORIZYA, DNIPROPETROVSK, KHARKIV, KIEV SHYTOHIN, RIVNE, LVIV, CHERNIVTSI, TERNOPIL and UZHOROD.
2. Source is 25-26 years old, a student at the University of Toronto doing graduate work in Library Sciences. Source's permanent residence is 320 Enniskillen Ave. Winnipeg 17, Manitoba Canada. He was born in the province of Manitoba in Canada, his parents came to Canada in the 1920's from Ukraine. Source still has a sizable family in Ukraine in the city of CHERNIVTSI. Source received his B.A. from the University of Winnipeg. In 1957 Source visited Ukraine for the first time with a bus tour and was in KIEV, LVIV, CHERNIVTSI and UZHOROD. On this previous trip nothing significant was observed.
3. While in Lviv, Source met FEDORYSHYN Myron of 37 Pedahohichna wul. Lviv, UkSSR. He was given his address by F.'s cousin in Hamilton Ont. (a girl age 20-22) who writes to him. In Lviv F. introduced Source to a group of his friends who are part of a secret student organization. F. also gave Source a handwritten copy of document about fire in the Kiev library, this document F. had in his possession in the form of a typewritten copy, which he re-copied by hand for Source, (included with report) also in F.'s possession were poems of Symonenko and a handwritten copy of reply by Ukrainian emigre cultural leaders to Soviet Ukrainian cultural leaders on the matter of the Shevchenko monument in Washington D.C. F. told Source that there are many students like himself who copy poetry of poets like Symonenko and various documents and pass them from hand to hand. F. himself is single, age 21-22, a student of engineering at the Lviv State University.

~~SECRET~~

11 Feb 66

4. In the group of Students in Lviv there were app. 10 people whom Source met. They were in the age group between 20 and 30, mostly students from the Lviv State University. Source was told that there are many more, but for security reasons they never meet as a whole, rather in groups of 10 or less. The meetings take place in private apartments throughout the city. Source attended a meeting in F.'s apartment, where they discussed a possible future status for Ukraine. In the discussion it turned out that the meetings were held in Ukrainian, and for every Russian word spoken, 2 kopecks were paid into a common fund. F. told Source that students in Ukraine can be classified into the following categories: Those who are apathetic towards politics and the nationalities problem of the USSR (a greater majority), those who agree with the party (a very small minority), those who would like to see a completely sovereign Ukraine (in the manner of France or Canada), and those who wish to see Ukraine in the position similar to Rumania or Poland. The latter are predominant among the opposition elements and amount up to 90% of it. F. and his group are with this latter group. They believe that Ukraine will have to remain Socialist, but as a nation must have a form of government similar to Rumania's or Poland's. Their main complaint was against Russian chauvanism in Ukraine and not Socialism as such. The activities of this group is limited to trying to raise the national pride of Ukrainians, encourage them to speak Ukrainian wherever they may be. They also walk through Lviv speaking Ukrainian loudly and demonstratively. The group re-writes documents (such as the one about fire in Kiev library, and passes them from hand to hand). Socio-economically they maintain that Socialism is the best form for Ukraine at present, as F. said to Source: "What will happen to all the plants and factories if there is a change, we could not just give them away".

5. F. seemed very well informed about the Ukrainian emigration in Canada and the United States, he told Source that if the emigration really wants to help out, they should send out as many tourists to Ukraine as possible and these tourists should ~~XXXX~~ ~~XXXX~~ ~~XX~~ ~~XXXX~~ try to smuggle books into Ukraine. As he explained, every one book will do a great job by informing

SECRET

the population about political processes in the West, in which particularly young people were interested. As a possible route for literature to reach Ukraine, F. suggested Poland. Since it is permissible for Polish citizens to travel to Ukraine without passports, and the control at the border is quite lax, a Ukrainian in Poland should be found who is willing to take books over the border.

6. F. told Source that he could not understand why Ukrainian communities in the U.S. and Canada reject Soviet Ukrainian cultural leaders as "agents of Moscow". F. believes that such visits should be welcomed by the emigration, and encouraged, since they put Ukraine in a better view internationally, and show that in the USSR not everything is Russian.

7. In Lviv, Source was told that there was an assassination attempt on Khrushchev in 1963 in the vicinity of TERNOPIL. Khrushchev was wounded in the arm, and remained hidden from the public for a few months afterwards. In 1963 there were many protests against Khrushchev's farm policy, and the planting of corn instead of wheat. Among these protests were strikes in the cities of Lviv, Zaporizha, Odessa, Zhitomir and Donetsk. The strike in ~~Zhitomir~~ Donetsk was extremely hostile, and reached such proportions that the workers took over the town. When a delegation came from Moscow to try and calm matters, it was met at the airport by a delegation of workers and told to go back, arrange for bread to be sent to Donetsk or else there might be real trouble. In a matter of a few weeks flour began arriving from Canada via Odessa and the matter was settled.

8. In Odessa Source met four young artists who confided in Source that they were being dictated what to paint, and being harshly criticized for modernism. Source did not know their names, only that two were of Russian nationality and two were Ukrainian.

9. In Kiev, Source met some students in a park near the Volodymyr Hill. They showed him handwritten copies of Symonenko poetry, and told him

SECRET

SECRET

about fire in the Kiev Public library. This fire the students said was an official act of vandalism, and that the trial of the arsonist, Pohrnzalsky was fixed by the KGB. The political views of these students in relation to Ukraine is that they would like to see Ukraine in the form of Poland or Rumania, separate, but communist. Their main complaint was against Russian chauvanism in Ukraine. For Russification they blamed mostly the Ukrainian people themselves, since the Ukrainian language as such is not forbidden, and is being taught in schools. Therefore the people themselves must be encouraged to speak it as much as possible, and be aware of their national identity.

10. In Lviv Source met a Ukrainian who re-emigrated to Ukraine from Canada in the 1950's. MOSKAL' (first name unknown) He came to Canada in the 1930's, leaving his wife and son behind, intending to work in Canada and thus support them. Early 1950's he was told by friends that life in Ukraine had improved a great deal, and they advised him to return, which he did. Upon arrival he found that his wife had re-married, and in reality, life was not as good as his friends had presented it to him. Last year he asked permission to return to Canada, and was granted it by both the Soviet and Canadian governments. He is due to return in May of 1966. According to MOSKAL' there are in Lviv app. 300 persons who re-emigrated to Ukraine from Canada. Most of them are unhappy with their present situation, being under constant servailance by the KGB, and having little or no right of movement, and correspondence. In Kiev there is a young girl who returned to Ukraine from Canada with her parents, and presently works as a broadcaster for radio Kiev's english section. (Name unknown)

11. Source was told in Lviv that there was a rumor that Estonia wanted to leave the USSR, but was forbidden.

12. In Kharkiv there are 3 churches according to Source, and all are closed to worshipers.

SECRET