

# NEWS

FROM

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
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SOME 70 PERSONS TRIED AND CONVICTED  
FOR POLITICAL REASONS IN UKRAINE

NEW YORK — Earlier this year Prolog Research and Publishing Association, Inc. released information about mass arrests in the Ukrainian S. S. R. by the Soviet Security organs. At that time the names of only two of the persecuted were reliably known. They were the two literary critics Ivan Svitlychny and Ivan Dzyuba.

Since then, Prolog, Inc., which specializes in research on the current situation in Ukraine, has been able to gather more information about the arrests, including the names of some of those arrested, and their terms of imprisonment.

As reported earlier, the arrests — which began in July, 1965 — took place throughout Ukraine: in Kiev, Odessa, Lutsk, Lviv, Ternopil, Ivano-Frankivsk. At least 70 persons, the majority of them intellectuals, were arrested or detained. Most of those arrested were immediately transported outside the borders of the Ukrainian Republic for questioning. The trials started in January, 1966 in Lutsk, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil, and towards the end of April — in Lviv. The Lviv trial was a closed one, and not even the immediate relatives of the accused were permitted into the courtroom. Only after insistent demands by a group of young Ukrainian writers from Kiev, three of the writers were admitted to the courtroom for the sentencing on April 28.

(more)

...2

The sentences ranged from 8 months to 6 years. Following, in alphabetical order are the names of some of the accused and their prison terms:

Chubaty, first name unknown, a teacher from Ternopil - 4 years;

Hereta, f.n.u., a scholar from Ternopil - 4 years;

Yaroslav Hevrych, a student from Kiev - 5 years;

Bohdan Horyn, art and literary critic from Lviv - 4 years;

Mykhaylo Horyn, a scholar from Lviv - 6 years;

Hryn, f.n.u., an associate of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, from Kiev - 3 years;

Ivashchenko, f.n.u., a newspaperman from Lutsk - 2 years;

Sviatoslav Karavansky, a journalist, poet and translator from Odessa. He had been sentenced in 1944 to 25 years, released after serving half of his term, and now returned to prison in the Mordovskaya A. S. S. R;

Ye. Kuznetsova, a scholar from Kiev - 4 years;

Martynenko, f.n.u., an engineer from Kiev - 3 years;

Mykhaylo Masyutko, a retired person from Lviv - 6 years;

Valentyn Moroz, a historian from Lutsk - 4 years;

Mykhaylo Osadchy, a lecturer at Lviv University - 4 years;

Ozerny, f.n.u., a scholar from Ivano-Frankivsk - 6 years;

Rusyn, f.n.u., a scholar from Kiev - 3 years;

Atanas Zavalykha, an artist from Ivano-Frankivsk - 5 years;

Zvarychevska, f.n.u., a scholar from Lviv - 8 months.

The two literary critics Ivan Svitlychny and Ivan Dzyuba, about whom reports have been carried by the Western news media, are now at liberty. Svitlychny was released without trial after eight months' detention. Dzyuba, according to the most recent Soviet information, has been appointed editor of the Ukrainian Journal of Biochemistry. (The address of the editorial office is: Kiev 30, Leontovycha 9)

#### Reasons for the arrests

Those accused were charged with writing, copying and spreading of articles dealing with the present state of Ukrainian literature, language and culture under the Soviet system. They were also charged with spreading pre-1917 works in Ukrainian by authors who are currently proscribed in the Soviet Union, as well as other books, published abroad, dealing

(more)

...3

with the colonial status of the formally sovereign Soviet Ukraine, as well as such things as the text of the speech delivered by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower at the unveiling of the Taras Shevchenko statue in Washington and a speech by Pope John XXIII.

#### The trials

At the trials the defendants insisted that they do not consider themselves enemies of the Soviet state, that they merely fought for equal rights for the Ukrainian population. In particular, they demanded recognition for the Ukrainian language as the official language of the Ukrainian S. S. R. and for a free development of the Ukrainian culture. At the Lviv trial the defendants objected to being addressed in Russian. The judges and the prosecuting attorney relented, and the trial was continued in Ukrainian.

#### Reaction in Ukraine

News of the arrests and trials were widely deplored throughout Ukraine. In Lviv, a mass of people who gathered outside the courthouse loudly denounced the trial and expressed their sympathy for the accused. On the day of the sentencing the crowd outside the courthouse was so large and unruly, that firemen were called to disperse the people with water hoses.

#### The aftermath

Most of those tried have been removed from the Ukrainian territory and sent to prisons and concentration camps for political prisoners. Some have been kept in Ukraine, and their investigation continues.

Special tactics have been employed against those who have been released or those who are suspected of sympathies towards the accused. They have lost their jobs and are prevented from obtaining other employment.