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15 December 1966

## MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, SB Division

SUBJECT

Soviet Efforts to Establish Within the Ukrainian Emigration a Society for Cultural Contacts with the Ukraine

1. During the past two years, Soviet representatives from the Ukrainian delegation to the U. N. in New York have, both directly and through contacts of theirs, tried to set up a society for cultural exchanges with the Ukrainian emigres. Our best source on this is an AERODYNAMIC contact, Dr. Maria KLACHKO, who is engaged in research at the Russian Institute, Columbia University in New York. Victor CHERNYAVSKY, Second Secretary to the permanent Ukrainian U. N. delegation, asked KLACHKO to organize and take charge of such a group and also to lead a tourist group to the Ukraine. KLACHKO refused to visit the Ukraine this year because, so she said, Kiev had taken no action on the list of changes in the Ukraine requested by emigre Ukrainians in a statement handed to Luka PALAMARCHUK before his dismissal from the post of Ukrainian Minister of Foreign Affairs.

2. CHERNYAVSKY talked to KLACHKO for two hours in September of this year about establishing a cultural exchange society. He urged the establishment of a formal body to represent the Ukrainian emigre community and to negotiate with the Soviet Ukrainian Government. Private individuals, CHERNYAVSKY said, would not be as influential in negotiations with Kiev as would a formal representative body.

3. In October of this year, Ivan YAREMKO, an emigre living in Chicago who imports Soviet Ukrainian goods and who appears to be a close collaborator of the Soviets at the U. N., also tried to impress KLACHKO with the importance of having an emigre organization for cultural contacts with the UkSSR. He called it a "friendship society." He urged that the emigres



place fewer demands on Kiev, saying that this would increase the chances for the realization of the demands they made. YAREMKO also said that the question of the revival of the Ukrainian Catholic Church and other religious questions should not be pushed now because there is no prospect for success. YAREMKO told KLACHKO not to heed the arguments against cultural exchange on the part of the rightist Ukrainian emigres and that these people and the people from Prolog should be excluded from the exchange group. YAREMKO said Prolog should be excluded because it is involved in intelligence activity, and the behavior of its members makes Kiev nervous. He added that the information published about the arrests in the Ukraine could only have come from intelligence channels and that by publishing such information, Prolog closes all doors to Kiev. YAREMKO said he knew who was who in Prolog and that some of Prolog's employees were very intelligent but that its hard core definitely was not to be included in the kind of exchange organization he had in mind. KLACHKO responded to YAREMKO's suggestions by saying that as far as she and her friends were concerned, they saw no need to establish any formal organization so long as Kiev made no concessions to emigre demands for changes in the Ukraine.

In a later conversation with KLACHKO, YAREMKO urged 4. that she cultivate G. G. SHEVEL in New York, a Ukrainian official with the delegation, saying that SHEVEL is very influential in the Ukrainian mission, well informed about the Ukrainian emigration, and that in regard to negotiations with the emigres, much depended upon him. YAREMKO added that in Kiev there are two distinct attitudes toward the emigres. Some individuals are hostile toward the emigres, whereas others are more progressive and genuinely want contact with non-communist emigres. The latter believes that the emigres can help the Soviet Ukrainians in their efforts to counter Russification in the Ukraine. With regard to the latter group, YAREMKO mentioned that a Ukrainian official personally escorted him through customs in Kiev when he felt sure the official was aware of the fact that he was carrying to the West a copy of a fiery speech delivered to the Union of Ukrainian Writers by the Ukrainian literary critic and writer, Ivan DZYUBA, in which he attacked the regime for suppression of national ideals and national consciousness in the Ukraine. Most recently, YAREMKO has informed KLACHKO that he is proceeding with plans of his own to organize a group of tourists, no matter whether or not a "friendship society" is established.

5. What emerges from these contacts and other events is that the Soviet authorities consider the Ukrainian emigration a significant force, to be cultivated, encouraged and scorned,

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but never neglected. The establishment of some sort of "friendship society" seems clearly intended to improve the control by Soviet authorities over visiting Soviet Ukrainians in the United States. At the same time, there appear to be other motives at work, possibly a genuine desire to use the political importance of the emigration in the United States and Canada to counter Russification from Moscow. The comments about Prolog are interesting and most likely reflect the Soviet's concern about the effectiveness of Prolog contact operations. The line about not making too many demands is, of course, one we have heard many times before and very likely continues to be a good indication that the making of demands is an effective means of putting on pressure. In this regard, the question of the revival of the Ukrainian Catholic Church is particularly significant. There are Polish Catholic Churches in Lvov which are heavily attended and which would be difficult for the Soviet authorities to shut down.

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Acting Chief, SB/S/CA