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Subject: Rev. Konstantyn DOBRIANSKY of Terebovla, West Ukraine

Source: S. *upalski*

Date : 3 Jan 1967

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SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3020
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

1. Subject arrived in Dec 1966 to Canada on a visit to his brother, Rev. Roman Dohriansky in Winnipeg, Man. On this occasion he also visited Rev. FEDUNYK of Edmonton, and other people in Saskatoon. He is a former Ukrainian catholic parish priest of Ternopol, West Ukraine, who "converted" to Orthodoxy and should have been quite active in his new ritus. His relations with authorities were reportedly very good. Now he is parish priest of the Orthodox Church in Terebovla, obl. Ternopol, West Ukraine. He is Ukrainian, in his sixties, married, has children. According to Subject, he had in Ternopol a KGB officer as neighbor, who was a Ukrainian, and they made friends, mainly with help of parcels Subject was receiving from Canada. Their children were playing together, the parents saw quite often each other, and so finally they became friends. The KGB officer should have helped Subject to get him now on a visit to Canada. Subject persuaded him that after the visits of various priests from Canada and the States to Ukraine (like Rev. Khimiy, Rev. Soloviy and others) it was "politic" to let him go now to Canada. Subject went together with the KGB officer to the head of oblast (a SHEVCHUK - according to Subject) and the latter fully approved their suggestion.

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Subject got a Canadian visa for 6 months and his Soviet permit is valid ~~ated~~ ^{ated} for 2 months only in Canada. Therefore he will have to return in Jan 1967. In summer 1967 he plans to come again to Canada to Montreal Expo.

2. According to Subject, among the sentenced in Lvov and other places in Ukraine in 1966, there were also sons of priests. Subject mentioned two HORYNS and GERETA.

(N.B. Subject confused the father of Mykhailo and Bogdan Horyn with another Horyn, namely, Rev. Myroslav Horyn who indeed is still

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in Ternopol oblast but is only a very far relative of other Horyns.)
Subject knew very well parents of GERETA and often stayed in their home.
They were also often visited by a young student from Eastern Ukraine by
the name LYTVYN, fnu who played bandura, knew many patriotic songs, and
even played Ukrainian anthem Shche ne vmerla. This looked somewhat
suspicious to Subject but GERETA assured him that LYTVYN was O.K.
HORVNS, GERETA, LYTVYN and other students organized a choir at the
Lvov University and with it ^{visited} almost all the bigger places in Galicia.
Their repertoire was very patriotic and included even anti-Russian
recitals by Rudansky. According to Subject it had some material based
on works by Svitlychny and other contemporary writers. Their
performances were accompanied by speeches and lectures in which they
spoke about the necessity to demand more rights for Ukrainian people,
to implement the prerogatives guaranteed by the Constitution of the Ukrainian
SSR aso. They stressed that they wanted Ukraine to remain socialist
or rather communist but ~~with~~ ^{with} all the rights granted by the
Constitution. It was an explicit "satellite-program". The choir was
very popular, had great successes, and somehow the KGB did not touch it.
Encouraged by their success the students decided to organize similar
choir in other Ukrainian cities.

GERETA was arrested, for instance, on his way to ODESSA with
texts, programs, and other materials of Lvov choir which he was
bringing there from Lvov University. On him were also found many
adresses. His arrest started a wave of arrests all over Ukraine.
Among the arrested was also LYTVYN. The latter broke down during the
investigation and "involved" the others. Then came the trials
The one in ^{TERNOPOL (?)} was not secret but open "with admittance of public aso".
The defendants defended themselves very skilfully. Among them were
also party ^{m/} members, and they all claimed that they were convinced
communists, they did not want to separate Ukraine from Russia and
demanded only the fulfillment of rights guaranteed to Ukraine by
Soviet Constitution. They wanted Ukraine to have the same rights as
Poland, Hungary and other satellite republics.

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TERNOPOL (?)

At the trial in 1 LITVYN changed his mind and withdrew all his former statements. He demanded to be equally treated ^{with} all the others. So did ^{other} defendants who broke down in investigation.

The trial is over but Subject thinks this has been not the end. There have been appeals and most probably the whole matter will be solved positively and quietly, for the simple reason that practically all the Ukrainian youth nowadays think the same way as the sentenced. And in general the sympathy is on the side of the sentenced. Subject mentioned the following example to that effect: His daughter took some oral exams shortly after the trials. The professor asked her whether she knew Oles, one of the leaders of the arrested. The daughter fearfully admitted that she indeed knew him. "How well?" "Very well" - she replied. The professor did not ask her one single question, ~~she~~ gave her the best mark and let her go.

3. According to Subject there is now in the Ukraine, and particularly in West Ukraine, ^{a trend} to put forward in official administrative and party positions good Ukrainians.

4. YURIK, Lvov-Bishop, is a relatively young, idealistic priest, who had been sentenced to 10 years of Siberia for having suggested for ordination a Banderivets for whom the KGB was looking. In the course of an amnesty YURIK returned to West Ukraine and the Patriarch Oleksey made him a bishop. In the beginning YURIK was reluctant to accept it but finally gave in.

Subject was present at Yurik's ordination for bishop, in Moscow and on this occasion read his sermon in Ukrainian. In it he mentioned the Patriarch as the one who "also carried his cross". This pleased very much the Patriarch and he presented Subject with a golden chest-cross. Now, Subject sold it for Ruble 2,000 to get money for construction of ^{his} house.

It is generally known that all epistles and circulars by the Patriarch are being first submitted to "authorities" and censured. Often they are being only corrected but sometimes also completely changed.

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The Patriarch finances all church activities by funds he gets from believers. Subject reckons that there are about 100 mil. believers in the Soviet Union. If every one gives only 1 Rubel, it amounts to quite a nice sum. But most people are very generous and give Rubel 2,3,4 and more, per month.

ZAKALAK - Uzhgorod bishop - is restricted now in his movements. According to Subject this happened not because of his political activities but as a result of his living together with his stepmother. The procurator wanted to ban him into a monastery but the Patriarch objected because this could ^{have} ~~been~~ interpreted as a persecution of Uniates. ZAKALAK should be ^{of} very weak character in general, and ~~only~~ ^{thus} because of *lack of* proper resistance on his part, authorities managed to close 60 churches in his diocese.

5. In Subject's ^{opinion} KOSTELNYK was liquidated by the KGB. Shortly before the formal liquidation of Ukrainian Catholic Church in West Ukraine, KOSTELNYK should have expressed ^{the} following view:

1054 the Christianity split itself into two different streams, which flow ~~in~~ parallel and sooner or later will again unite. Today they are faced by atheism which fights them both in same way. In view of this common menace we have to stick to Christianity, also at the price of switching over to Orthodoxy, if it is the only way to remain Christians. And those who will not convert to Orthodoxy will sufficiently prove our adherence and loyalty to Rome by their act alone.

Later on, he should have had a very patriotic sermon in St Volodymyr Sobor in Kiev. In it he attacked the Soviet regime and people thought he would be arrested ~~immediately~~ at once. But nothing happened. Shortly afterwards he was assassinated.

6. Confidentially Subject told some people that one should be careful with Rev BARSHCHEVSKY "because you never know on whose side he is on".

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