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28 Jan 1967

According to KRAVCHUK, Petro of Toronto, Ont., Canada, the known "progressives" leader, as told to one of our Sources in Toronto in Dec 1966, shortly after the arrests of SVITLYCHNY and others in Kiev, Lvov and other cities, the KGB and "authorities" in Kiev asked Oles HONCHAR, head of the Union of Writers of Ukraine, to convene an extraordinary meeting of writers in Kiev and after condemning the arrested demand~~ed~~ for them severe punishment.

HONCHAR convened the meeting and there were about 100 writers and poets. HONCHAR told the present what was the meeting about and stressed that he personally was against any condemnation of the arrested because this would mean a revival of old "cult of personality" practices, and no one wanted them to come back. The other speakers were also against condemnation and some demanded first an explanation of the arrests. Some speakers were saying that they simply could not take any stand on the matter because they did not know for what reasons those to be condemned were imprisoned.

On the whole, the meeting did not take the stand the KGB wanted it to, and furthermore, its fizzling off, forced many people on the party top to take into consideration what had happened at this event.

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

~~SECRET~~

1 - Kravchuk

1 - arrest

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