

*Ann P.*

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT: Vitaliy KOROTYCH aka KOROTICH and his  
Contact With Rostislav CHOMIAK

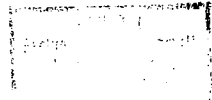
1. Per your request to our Liaison Officer, the following information was received from a confidential source concerning the contact of Rostislav CHOMIAK with Vitaliy KOROTYCH in Toronto in early March 1965. This Agency has no direct contact with CHOMIAK and he is not witting of the source's collaboration with this Agency. It is requested, therefore, that our relationship with the source not be divulged in any contact you may have with CHOMIAK, and that the contents of this report not be discussed with CHOMIAK.

2. CHOMIAK and his wife talked with KOROTYCH in Toronto in his hotel room and while walking on the street. They described KOROTYCH as being nearly 6 feet tall and slim. His black hair is receding but there were no traces of grey. He dressed very casually. His moods were varied, and he was usually loudly confident in his views. KOROTYCH said he was married to a girl from Moscow, Zina, a chemical engineer, and that they had a son 6 years of age. He said he was the proud owner of a co-op apartment located in the new section of Kiev. He has a large collection of books, some of which are proscribed.

3. KOROTYCH said he wrote his first verse when he was 7 years old and was soon thereafter reciting poetry in public and reading "little speeches." He was made a junior correspondent of the Pioneer newspaper Zirka. As he grew older he discontinued writing and reciting poetry and instead went in for volleyball, football and wrestling, because he considered the former an activity for sissies. When he was in the 8th grade, his school was designated as preparatory for future diplomatic corps assignments. Classes were limited to 8 persons each. English was taught, as well as table manners and ballroom dancing. Most of the students received grades

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of 4 and 5. Any pupil whose marks fell below 3 was automatically transferred. KOROTYCH was awarded the gold medal in his school. His parents took his records to the head of the Medical Institute, where he had hoped to study, and he was immediately accepted. The school authorities were angry when they learned he was planning to enter the Medical Institute because they wanted to send KOROTYCH to an institute in Moscow for future diplomats, and he was reminded that the State had spent a lot of money grooming him for the diplomatic service. KOROTYCH stuck to his decision and went to medicine. He began writing while at the Medical Institute. His first book of poetry came out during the literary thaw.

4. After graduating from the Medical Institute, KOROTYCH worked as a gynecologist for 2 or 3 years in Chernigov. He said he spent most of his time there performing abortions. A legal abortion cost 3 rubles and only the patient's consent was necessary. Illegal abortions were available for 30 rubles. KOROTYCH said he would have nothing to do with the illegal abortions. He said the Government had adopted illegal abortions because other means of birth control proved ineffective.

5. To obtain the UNESCO fellowship which brought KOROTYCH to Canada, he was required to write a 2 page statement in English on his reasons for wanting the fellowship. This was to test his knowledge of English and to outline his proposed study. He had a blue passport, which he said fell between the diplomatic and the tourist passport in importance. He said it was the only document he had with him because he was required to leave all others behind. He did not have to apply for his passport or visa. Everything was done for him and the passport was presented to him prior to his departure.

6. KOROTYCH served only 3 months in a military boot camp. However, because he is a medical doctor, he holds the rank of lieutenant in the Reserves. He said he could give up medicine and make more money as a writer but that he wanted to continue his medical profession as long as he was physically able to do both, because medicine gave him an independence and the opportunity to be closer to people and better understand them. He said he appeared regularly on television, speaking mostly on literary

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topics, but that he was free to speak about anything he wanted.

7. KOROTYCH referred to his literary colleagues as "the boys." They are not organized in any formal group but know each other and help each other in various ways. There is no clearly defined group, but a rule of thumb to determine whether an individual is "in" or "out" is when the writers appear publicly. The "ins" never read on the same program with members of the "out" group. "The boys" have patrons among the older literary men such as Mykola BAZHAN and Andrei MALYSHKO who help them get their works pushed through to the publishing stage, and who frequently defend them before the authorities when necessary. The younger writers have no real conflict with their predecessors. They respect such writers as Pavlo TYCHYNA and realize they were forced to toe the Party line because of fear. Aleksandr KORNEICHUK was referred to more often with a feeling of pity than hate, and Lyubomyr DMYTERKO was a frequent butt for jokes. They are not envious of the success of Dmytro PAVLYCHKO, which they realize came about as a result of his adherence to the Party line.

8. KOROTYCH spoke without any conceit about "the boys" and himself as nation-builders. He talked about the need to evenly divide the burdens among the few of them and to continue to work on the day-to-day job of building the Ukrainian nation. It is necessary, of course, to bear in mind that KOROTYCH said many of these things because he wanted to impress CHOMIAK and to win his complete confidence. He readily admitted that he and "the boys" have difficulties in many areas of their work, but he also frequently emphasized that his generation is not afraid. "What can they do to me? Take away my apartment? Let them. There are even men like Ivan DZYUBA who are convinced that we could accomplish more as dead men than we do now. I do not believe that. The point is, however, that we are not afraid of death." In a more optimistic tone, KOROTYCH pointed out that things were much better than they were several years ago. He implied that he and his colleagues were playing a game of chess with the officials. There were recent demands on the officials to permit use of the Ukrainian language in all departments

of Ukrainian universities.

9. To the knowledge of this Agency, Rostislav CHOMIAK had no contact with Vitaliy KOROTYCH other than that reported through our source. It is known, however, that KOROTYCH has sent greetings to CHOMIAK and his wife via postal cards from the Soviet Union.

FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR PLANS:

JAMES ANGLETON

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