

SECRET

13 June 1967

1. From 15 April to end-May 1967 Sidney, Australia was visited by the Moscow Ensemble of Osipov. Among its singers was also KONDRATIUK, Mykola, a ~~young~~ Ukrainian artist, aged 36, formerly with Veryovka group, soloist. KONDRATIUK stems from Poltava, there he finished a Vocational Training School, and then Locomotive Repairs School. Later on began to sing and joined Veryovka group. In 1964/65 spent almost a year in Milan, Italy "improving his singing". Married; his wife is a pianist. KONDRATIUK complained that there were too many soloists now in the Soviet Union and many had to join ensembles. That's how he landed at Osipov's group. While in Australia KONDRATIUK tried to get into contact with some impresarios and arrange for his solo performances in the future. He would like to take his wife with him as accompanist.

Our Source and others tried to "get closer" to Kondratiuk but he showed a very great amount of reserve and almost fear. Source asked him to his house but he refused to come. He complained that he was very busy, that he met a friend of his by the name Andriy in Melbourne ( who is employed at the airport) and he had enough of quarrelling with him. Kondratiuk said that he had some difficulties due to the fact that so many Ukrainian emigres are approaching him, and indicated quite clearly he preferred to be left alone. He made an impression of a rather simple, unsophisticated, frightened human being interested only in his career and determined to avoid anything that might compromise him.

He avoided any political topics and told our Source he was not going to discuss "those problems" moreover that "we are completely different, our way of thinking is different and we'll never understand each other".

Our Source wrote a complimentary review on his performances and sent it to him and the Conductor. Kondratiuk did not react in any way.

Approaches to other members of the group were also fruitless. As a rule they all stayed in groups and ~~were~~ remained under control of "administrators" and guides.

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2. On 2 May 1967 there took place a private meeting of a group of young Canadian Ukrainian with 7 Soviet tourists in Winnipeg, Canada at the house of Klymkiv Maria. Following are the names of the Soviet visitors: [redacted] who were mostly in their late twenties and early thirties:

KOSNIYCHUK, Wolodymyr of Kiev, Ukrainian

MASHTALARCHUK Boris of Lvov, editor of "Leninska Moled'" ,Ukrainian

KHARCHENKO Hryhori of Zaporizzhia, Ukrainian,

MENZHERES Halyna of Chernivtsi, teacher, Ukrainian,

GANIIEV Valeri, editor of "Molodaya Guardiia", Russian

plus two others who were not identified by our Source.

The visitors made a very bad impression as <sup>being</sup> very reserved, sticking all the time to official party line, denying even the arrests and persecution of intellectuals in the Ukraine, and the Russification itself. Most of the questions and topics raised by the Ukrainian Canadians they answered in a typical propagandistic manner full of phraseology. Also socially they seemed to be somewhat "backward" in comparison with other visitors, Their manners were not up to standard and they did not feel at ease.

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