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Subject: YARLOM ko. Lvov

Source: []

Date: 24 June 1968

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3D2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

1. Subject left from JFK Airport on 13 May 1968 for Moscow and after additionally visiting Kiev and Lvov returned via Moscow and Brussels to New York, N.Y. on 3 June 1968, at 19.50 hrs by a Sabena flight. Originally Subject was to arrive at JFK at 15.00 hrs and accordingly sent a telegram to Source from Moscow. However, instead, he arrived several hours later and could give no logical explanation why it happened. Allegedly he confused departure time with arrival or something to that effect. In Source's opinion Subject was scheduled to arrive at 15.30 hrs but probably at the last moment had been ~~xxxxxxx~~ delayed in Moscow and had to take the next flight. Furthermore, judging by Subject's depressive and rather agitated mood he probably went through some unpleasant experience at the last moment. Anyway, his frame of mind on his arrival was quite different from that on his departure. On the last day ^{before} his departure Subject visited Source. He was in high spirits, full of energy and plans, looking forward with great joy and expectation to his trip. The trip, formally, was a commercial one and arranged through a Shevchenko at the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D.C. But "informally" Subject hoped to see also other people in Kiev and Lvov, and meet with old friends. The more striking was the contrast in Subject's spirits when he came back. It was more than just tiredness, and Source is inclined to assume that Subject has been given at last moment some harsh treatment like a thorough search or "even something more". He was so much under some impact that on his arrival he ^{almost} acted like an absentminded man and even burned Source's friend on her hand with his cigarette during greetings.

From the Airport Source brought Subject to her house. Following is the gist what she was told by Subject, before she drove him to his friend in Astoria, N.Y. by the first name Sashko (Alexander).

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Source did not get Bashko's address but she described it as "on 31st Drive and Vermont Blvd, second apartment house on the left side, after the garage". Bashko - according to Subject - is a watchmaker and Subject stays quite often with him. He knows him still from Europe.

2. On his arrival in Moscow, Subject stayed ^{there} for 4 days or so. He met with the people from the Commerce Department and signed quite a favorable contract for books, ceramics, rugs etc. The Sovs gave him a 3 month credit and he considered it quite good. The signing of the contract ended with a party and "the pens were formally exchanged". However, Subject was less lucky with his plans to get Ukrainian artists to perform in this country. His partners asked what letters of credit could he present and in brief it was clear that they were not going to interfere with Hurok's business. Even more depressing was the fact that when he mentioned this matter in Kiev he was ~~not~~ simply told that this belonged to Moscow's competence and he was just coming from there.

3. From Moscow Subject went to Kiev. A female secretary by the name Zenia, Inu, from Levishchenko's office, made for him reservations at the Dnipro Hotel. She also brought to the hotel a cousin of Subject by the name MYHAL on a visit from Darnytsia, near Kiev.

In Kiev Subject met with BASHAN, KYEIA, PAVLYCHKO, DMYTRUK, LEVISHCHENKO. He wanted to see ZBANATSKY but the latter happened to be at that time in Bulgaria. DMYTRUK was on the eve of her departure for Ukrainian Days (Days of Ukrainian Culture) in USSR and Subject saw her very briefly. She did not impress him. In his opinion she was of little importance and herself was "a small individual". She was the one who told that only Moscow was competent ~~to~~ ^{to} organize tours in this country.

BASHAN was unwilling to discuss recent protests and persecutions in the Ukraine. His only comment was that one should ^{Not} "those things ~~are~~ exaggerate". BASHAN did not sign the protest and ⁱⁿ his opinion so far the regime did not touch writers and poets of professional standing and therefore they had nothing to protest against.

PAVLYCHKO, at whose house Subject spoke with him, was more or less of similar opinion. Arrests, trials and dismissal from jobs were

restricted to some "minor fish", though, of course, it didn't mean he approved of what the regime was doing. But on the other hand he did not approve of everything done "on the other side" by some hot-heads, either present at their talk was a friend of PAVLYCHKO by the name LYTOVENKO//, an architect, aged approx. 40, who was much more outspoken and critical of the present policy. PAVLYCHKO warned him not to talk like that in his house but LYTOVENKO told him he couldn't care less since he had signed the protest of the 126th and tomorrow he might be in same situation as those in Nordovia. Pavlychko replied that "they" needed L. still as an excellent architect specializing in skyscrapers.

Pavlychko knew "all" about publications of zakhelavna literature abroad. He asked subject to tell "to whom it may concern" that they should not identify people in the Ukraine with themselves and stop praising them because by doing so the emigration was putting them into real trouble. "The less you praise us there the better for us" - was his conclusion.

4. Pavlychko "advised" Subject not to visit HONCHAR Oles' "under the circumstances". "Wait until the wind blows over". It was SHAMOTA who led the attack against HONCHAR. BILODID is also "a canaille". But OVCHARENKO is O.K. However he cannot do much under the conditions. Many a thousand books of Honchar ("Sobor") have been put into "special book funds" and 100,000 examples in hard cover are still in ^{the} distributing office in Lvov and no one ~~knows~~ knows what to do with them.

KYAZIA told Subject "how ~~can~~ we treat Honchar differently when even the Pope wanted to give the highest prize for his 'Sobor' ". The same story about "Sobor" and the Pope Subject was told by "official" people in Lvov.

5. LEVISHCHENKO visited Subject at his hotel. He wanted to know everything about the emigration. He also asked Subject to send ^{him} interesting press-cuttings.

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Levishchenko told him that they want as many people as possible, ^{to} visit the Ukraine from abroad and he gladly will arrange for meetings with writers, poets, artists etc. "But don't play any politics and don't try to get to the ministers. Only culture, that's all."

In Subject's opinion Levishchenko was right. One has to restrict all contacts to the cultural ones because emigres have no power to play real politics. Subject stressed the strength of the communist party and several times mentioned the fact that "there are 12 million people as one hand". This provoked Source to comment that he probably had been brainwashed.

In Subject's view the "progressives" in the States and the Round Table Club of New York were responsible for a complete breakdown of cultural contacts. The "progressives" finished off KOLOSSOVA who bypassed them and "over their head" wanted to develop contacts with "national" emigration. And the Round Table Club had quite a strong tendency to transform cultural contacts into political battle games. He mentioned ILNYTSKY Roman and HIRNIAK Joseph who used to overstress political aspects of cultural exchange.

Another way of developing nowadays contacts was "pure business". But for that much money was needed.

Subject wanted to see KOLOSSOVA in Kiev but she went to Odessa or at least he was told so for three consecutive days.

6. On 22 May 1968 Subject was in Kiev. Prior to that people like PAVLYCHKO were afraid that some hotheads might provoke some kind of serious trouble. But everything turned out not too bad. Knowing of the planned Shevchenko demonstration the regime brought masses of Komsomol members to celebrate on the same day their 50th anniversary. The demonstrators tried to do something separately but succeeded only to some extent. 2 or 3 thousand people gathered around Shevchenko's monument in Kiev and groups of people were near the University and at other public places. Their main feat was singing of Shevchenko's Testament and "Reve ta Stehne Dnipr Shyrokyi" and similar patriotic songs which were not included in Komsomol's program. As far as Subject knows there has been no serious trouble and no ~~clashes~~ clashes with militia.

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7. Pavlychko told Subject that his ~~work~~ and Drach's book on their sojourn in the States won't be published because "we would write it in such a way that they would not publish or we should write it in such a way that we wouldn't like it to be printed".

8. According to Subject, DRACH Ivan signed the protest of the 126, and now went with VINHRANOVSKY to Caucasus to make ~~some~~ film.

9. As a proof that only "minor fish" was touched at the present by the regime, KYZIA, BAZHAN, PAVLYCHKO and others mentioned the fact that SVILYCHNY is free, so is DZIUBA who even got a good job with the Publishing House "Dnipro". (Subject described ^{Dziuba's} ~~his~~ position as "editor" and ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ thought ~~he~~ worked with "Dnipto" Magazine.)

10. PARADZANOV, the film producer, was active again and was doing very much ~~for~~ Ukrainian cinematography.

11. Subject wanted to see CHERNIAVSKY Viktor and asked for him three times on telephone at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was told that there was no one by that name.

12. In Lvov Subject visited LUTSIV, Yuri, the singer, at his house. He met his second wife, a Jewess, and her ~~only~~ daughter. Mrs Lutsiv spoke very fine Ukrainian. LUTSIV gave him also a ticket for "Faust".

13. Subject met in Lvov with Dr MAKAR and his wife. The latter "became crazy on religious matters" and wanted to give him some letters to ~~be~~ a stigmatic in Rome with request to pray for Ukraine. Subject could hardly persuade her that he will do it without ~~her~~ letters. Dr MAKAR himself is in trouble with his University authorities. They did not ~~to~~ recognize his Vienna PhD and demanded he would obtain a Soviet degree. Subject thought MAKAR would gladly return to the West.

14. In Lvov Subject also met with his relatives and his former girl friend Olga Buchko. He did not want to talk about them.

15. Subject stayed in Lvov at the Inturist Hotel. Strangely enough, he claimed to have paid to a "dyzhurna" and not to the management. Source was inclined to think that he probably was staying at some private house and not in the hotel. Subject complained that contrary to original arrangement he had to pay more in all places he stayed and for hotel alone they charged him & 15.40 per day.

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In Moscow Subject stayed at the hotel "Ukrayina".

16. Subject's general impression was that the centralization course had recently been intensified. "They are tightening screws again". This will also have ^{an} impact on cultural exchange with emigration and thus, for instance, DMYTRUK told him to arrange everything through the "League of Ukrainians" i.e. through "progressives".

17. In Kiev and Lvov, in both, official and private circles, there was a great interest expressed about the establishment of the Faculty of Ukrainistics at Harvard. All considered it to be a great achievement and wished luck.

18. In Subject's view Ukrainian patriots in Kiev are more outspoken and courageous than those in West Ukraine.

19. Subject was interested in what Ivan KERNYTSKY was doing and mentioned that some people, also among the official ones, asked about him. He said something to the effect that if he still suffered from TB, the Carpathian air would do him good.

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