

SECRET

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

Re: Tour to Ukraine - June 3 to June 25, 1969.

Date: July 3, 1969.

1. Following is the gist of the information obtained by two visitors to Ukraine. Both are undergraduate students at American universities - one in Soviet area studies and the other in Slavic studies. Both are Americans of Ukrainian descent in their early twenties.
2. In Lviv, where they met with their relatives, some of them the same age as the visitors and students as well, they were told that in May 1969, on Whitsuntide, two demonstrations took place - one at the Yanivskyy Cemetary and the other at the Lychakivskyy Cemetary. A large group of Ukrainian youth gathered around the grave of Shashkevych* at Lychakivskyy Cemetary and after reciting patriotic poems and singing Ukrainian songs, put a wreath on Shashkevych's grave bearing the inscription: "For the nightingale of Ukraine, from Ukrainian youth." A similar demonstration took place at Yanivskyy Cemetary, where a wreath was laid on the grave of Tarnawsky, a general of the Ukrainian army. During the demonstration at Yanivskyy Cemetary, there was interference by militia and several arrests were made, but those arrested were ~~arrested~~ released the next day.
3. Since 1966 the Shevchenko monument in Sheshory village, which was designed by Opanas Zalyvakha, and with which the whole wave of arrests in Ivano-Frankivsk and other Western Ukrainian cities was connected in 1965-66, became a kind of shrine for Ukrainians in Western and Eastern Ukraine. Some young people from as far away as Kharkov made the "pilgrimage" to Shevchenko's monument in Sheshory. Finally the authorities had had enough of these "pilgrimages" and in 1969 they forbade visiting this monument. A warning was given to visitors that they might be arrested for disturbance of the peace.

Markijan SHASHKEVYCH (1811-43) a leader in the national renaissance in Galicia and most talented romanticist writer of his time in the Ukraine.

SECRET

4. During a reception at the Society for Cultural Contacts with Ukrainians Abroad in Kiev on ~~Ma~~ June 17 or 18, 1969, which was presided over by the chairman of the Society Yuriy Smolych, one of the visitors asked Smolych why Soviet Ukrainian writers in Soviet Ukraine are not allowed to freely write and publish what they wish. Smolych wanted to know whom the visitor had in mind. The visitor answered that, for instnace, he could buy ~~Byxx~~ Dzyuba's book only the United States and could not obtain it in the Soviet Union, and he also knew that some works by people like Drach could not be published in the Soviet Union. After a short silence Smolych replied: "What Dzyuba wrote was wrong. He wrote slander against the Soviet regime. Therefore we could not print him. Now he is on the editorial staff of a magazine. We asked him how his book happened to land abroad. He does not know himself how this happened, but he assured us that he did not want it published outside the ~~xxxx~~ borders of the USSR. As to Drach, ~~xxx~~ so he is sick and he drinks too much. Just yesterday I went with him for a drink and I can say that he is doing silly things."

Asked about the Russification of Ukraine, Smolych explained that one has to have more understanding for this phenomenon since Ukraine has been Russified for over 200 years and this is a complex problem.

5. In the area of Ivano-Frankivsk, people were talking that Bishop Velychkovsky, who was brought from Lviv to Moscow, lately either died from a heart attack or was killed by the KGB. There are also rumors that Zina ~~Frank~~ Franko might soon be arrested for involvement in dissemination of "zakhalyavna" literature.

6. Mykhaylo Rudnytsky of Lviv, who has a very bad reputation among Ukrainians as a KGB collaborator and a personal friend of Belyayev, stood up one one occasion recently to defend Shevchenko's religious convictions and emigre publications about the great bard. Everybody was surprised that he did this.

7. Soldiers stationed in Lviv are being told not to converse with the local population and at night to walk only in pairs.
8. Two members of the Kiev Dynamo - Lobanovsky and Bazylevych - were ~~xxxx~~ suspended from the club for attempting to organize a separate Ukrainian team.
- 9/ In Kiev one of the visitors was approached by an engineer (at least he claimed to be one) by the name of Ihor Gezhun, Kiev 24, vul. Enhelsa 32, apt. 29, telephone: 931-644. Gezhun is in his late 20's and a Ukrainian. He acted like an enemy of the regime and on the whole his behaviour aroused a strong suspicion that for all intents and purposes he was a KGB set-up.
10. Both visitors visited willages in the Western Ukrainian countryside on their own and had no problems whatsoever with the authorities.
11. The customs control on the way in and ~~xxx~~ out was very superficial.