

SX-4666
29 Jul 65

W. R. SOU UKRAINIAN State Ballet
(WIRSKY group)

0 Contact 10/9/65
Re: GORDEICHUK, Eugeni Kusmich

Date: 29 July 1965 in Cracas

Source: ~~R~~ Necessary/57

Source met subject in the lobby of the hotel El Conde, source asked subject if he was a dancer with the company, subject said that his dancing days are over, and now he is an assistant regisseur.

X GORDEICHUK, Eugeni Kusmich, nationality Ukrainian, born in Kiev 1917. Presently is regisseur to the company, before this was a dancer. Subject is 5'6", 150 lbs, brown hair, round face, ~~quite~~ quiet, and well mannered, is friendly and willing to talk.

Subject asked source how he enjoyed the performance in Venezuela. Source said that as of the present did not see them, but is planning to go as soon as possible. Subject then told source that he is satisfied with the tour, except for the fact that one of their very beautiful beautiful numbers was removed from the program. This number "TOPOLYA" or "When the willow weeps" explained subject is based on one of Shevchenko's poems. In it a young cossack goes away to war leaving his young bride crying behind. The bride waits for the cossack every day, and finally she sees in the distance cossacks riding carrying one of their comrades, and on his body, his sword. The girl weeps, and takes the sword and gives it to her son, who was born while the father was away. This part said subject did not please certain officials because of the heavy symbolism of the struggle of the Ukrainian people being handed over from one generation to the next. Subject was hopeful that when the ensemble visits the U.S. next year, the number will be shown.

Subject commented favorably on the Ukrainians he has met in South America, saying that they received them very nicely, and mentioning in particular Ukrainians in Argentina.

There was no political discussion. And they parted.

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