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**MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE**

**SUBJECT: Soviet Statement on American Subversive and Espionage Activity, 6 February 1957**

1. In a three-hour broadcast and televised press conference of unprecedented elaborateness, L. L. Ilyichev, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry's press department, presented detailed charges of American subversive and espionage activities against the USSR and other Bloc countries.

2. Most of the material has been discussed earlier in the Soviet press and radio at various times. A number of captured agents were presented personally before a large audience of 200 newsmen, including many Western correspondents, and their "espionage materials" were prominently displayed.

3. The statement was made after three persons had been arrested in the United States as Soviet spies and a number of Soviet diplomatic personnel had been expelled from the United States and several Latin American and West European countries on charges of espionage and subversion. It also occurred in the midst of increasingly palpable student, intellectual, and worker unrest within the USSR. Thus its timing is apparently calculated to counteract the impact of these events and to serve as a warning to Soviet citizens

and possibly as a pretext for cracking down on non-conformist elements within the USSR.

4. Ilyichev began with a general statement that "imperialist aggressive quarters in Western countries" have always tried to undermine the Soviet Union. Now the United States, "for the first time in history," has "raised to the level of official policy subversive activity against countries 'unsuitable' to it." Ilyichev referred to "an early 1956 White House statement" that "liberation of the people's democracies was, is, and will be the chief aim of United States policy until success is achieved...." "It is a matter of common knowledge that the United States Congress earmarks hundreds of millions of dollars for subversive activity," said Ilyichev, and he went on to repeat familiar Soviet charges against the Mutual Security Act and the Kersten Amendment.

5. Charging that "official United States government bodies are conducting subversive and espionage activity against the peace-loving countries," Ilyichev added that "these self-same forces are actually operating under the guise of all sorts of 'private' committees, foundations, and unions. Noteworthy in this connection is the Ford Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation. The best known organization established for financing and directing subversive activity is the so-called 'Crusade for Freedom'."

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6. In connection with "interference in the home affairs of the Soviet Union and other Socialist nations by the aggressive quarters of the United States," Ilyichev again mentioned the American military attaches, Stockell and Tansey, and charged that during the period between April 1950 and December 1956 there were "no less than 12 violations of the Soviet Union's air space."

7. The most important names mentioned at the press conference are listed below.

a. Galai and Khrantsov were reportedly smuggled into Soviet territory on an intelligence mission.

(SR comment: An SR operation, in which two young Soviet defectors, trained in the Munich area, were despatched overland from Norway into the USSR. They were captured at an early stage after infiltration and their cases publicized.)

b. Moroz was reportedly smuggled into the USSR via Turkey and immediately surrendered to Soviet authorities.

(SR comment: The Director has recently been briefed on this case which still contains sensitive aspects touching on CIA relations with German authorities.)

- c. Irving Fiedler, Ronald Bollenbach, and Robert Dreier are mentioned as having been connected with espionage.



- d. Lakhno, Gorbanov, Makov, and Remiga are reported as agents infiltrated by air into the USSR.

(SR comment: These were four of a group of eight NTS agents air-dropped into the USSR in April 1953. The capture and execution of these four was announced with fanfare by the Soviet press and radio in May 1953.)

- e. Yakuta, Kudryavtsev, Novikov, and Khmelnitski were present at the press conference, and each made a long statement on the history of his recruitment, training, and despatch.

(SR Comment: These were the remaining four of the NTS group mentioned above. Both Novikov and Khmelnitski were played back at us over a period of three years. Novikov was surfaced several

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months ago, and the play cut off. Khmelaitski is here surfaced for the first time. The fact that these agents were under RIS control was positively known by us in the case of Novikov, and strongly presumed in the case of Khmelaitski.)

8. The Director is mentioned by name by Yakuta (above) as follows: "...An American serviceman had sewn ampoules with prussic acid into the collars of our shirts.... Among ourselves we called these ampoules a 'friendly gift' from Mr. Allen Dulles."

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