

CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED  
 SECURITY INFORMATION **RESTRICTED**  
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT  
 INFORMATION FROM  
 FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS CD NO. [ ]

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COUNTRY USSR - Ukrainian SSR DATE OF INFORMATION 1951  
 SUBJECT Political - Russian emigre organizations  
 HOW PUBLISHED Weekly newspaper DATE DIST. 6 Dec 1951  
 WHERE PUBLISHED Paris NO. OF PAGES 4  
 DATE PUBLISHED 23 Sep 1951  
 LANGUAGE Ukrainian SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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SOURCE Ukrains'ke Slovo.

UKRAINIAN EMIGRE PRESS TAKES STAND AGAINST COUNCIL OF LIBERATION OF PEOPLES OF RUSSIA

GERMAN GROUP SAYS COUNCIL NOT REPRESENTATIVE -- Paris, Ukrains'ke Slovo, 23 Sep 51

As a result of the intervention of Soviet Russia after World War I, the nations which had been enslaved by Tsarist Russia were robbed of their national independence which they had regained in 1917 - 1920. This same Soviet Russia after World War II has subjugated a whole string of other nations in central and southeastern Europe and now threatens the entire free world.

We, the spokesmen of the free thought of the Ukrainian nation in exile, regard it as our duty to remind the world of these facts at a moment when certain factions are seeking to influence world opinion by promoting the continuation of the Russian "prison of nations," and camouflaging these plans with promises of plebiscites and self-determination which would follow the downfall of the present Bolshevik regime

At the end of August of this year, there was initiated in Germany the so-called Council of Liberation of the Peoples of Russia. Judging from its title alone, this organization purports to speak in the name of all the peoples of the USSR. Actually, the Council of Liberation of the Peoples of Russia is a purely Russian organization which falsely proclaimed itself spokesman for all the people of the USSR, tendentiously calling these people "the peoples of Russia" and capitalizing for itself the anti-Bolshevik struggle of these peoples.

We affirm that in the Council of Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, aside from Russian emigres, there are no responsible representatives of the other peoples of the USSR. In particular, no Ukrainian group in the entire world has any connection with this council and no existing Ukrainian press organ supports it. Thus, by creating a Council of Liberation of the Peoples of Russia the Russian emigrants are falsifying reality.

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We declare herewith publicly before the entire world that the Council of Liberation of the Peoples of Russia does not bespeak in any manner the will of the peoples enslaved by Russia and has no right at all to speak in their name. This right belongs only to the national representations of these peoples.

We protest the pretention of the Council of Liberation of the Peoples of Russia to speak in the name of the Ukrainian people and we warn the world against this entirely underhanded attempt of the Russian emigrants.

Strange as it may appear, this action of the Russian emigrants is supported by some American citizens who are members of the American Committee of Liberation of the Peoples of Russia. Thanks only to the attempts of the representatives of the above-mentioned committee, some Russian emigre groups, have been united. These groups, under the protection of this committee, assume the right to speak in the name of all the peoples of the USSR.

We consider this type of activity by these American citizens counter to the fundamental principle of self-determination for nations. Such principles were announced during World War I by President Wilson and repeated during World War II in the Atlantic Charter.

The peoples of the USSR demonstrably fought for self-determination in their liberation struggles of 1917 - 1920 and at that time created their own independent states which Red Moscow eventually took over by "fifth column" actions and armed intervention, later converting these states from satellites into members states of the Soviet Union. Under the Soviet system, these lands are juridically regarded as nation-states and theoretically, according to the USSR constitution, they retain their national sovereignty. The national position of the Ukraine and Belorussia is further reinforced by their representation within the UN.

Thus, the right of the Ukraine and other peoples to sovereign statehood, which has been won in battle and bought by the blood of millions of fighters for freedom, has also been legalized by the recognition of an international body.

Disregarding the wrongful action of these American citizens, we believe nevertheless that the American people will not stand for this assault on the rights of nations and on its own ideals. We believe that the American Committee of Liberation of the Peoples of Russia does not represent the thinking of the American peoples, because we know that the American people recognizes all strivings for liberty.

We are convinced that the American people will support the liberation struggles of the peoples of the USSR for independence and will not be party to preserving the Russian "prison of nations" in a new form.

Munich, September 1951

The representatives of the Free Ukrainian Press in Germany for:

Avangard (The Vanguard)

Vil'ne Slovo (The Free Word)

Vpered (Forward)

Ranok (The Dawn)

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Suchasna Ukraina (The Present Ukraine)Ukrains'ki Visti (Ukrainian News)Ukrains'kyi Samostiynyk (The Ukrainian Independent)Khrystyans'kyi Holos (The Christian Voice)The above press organs represent the following emigree groups:Avangard -- Union of Ukrainian Youth (SUM), comprising both Western and Eastern refugees.Vil'ne Slovo -- Ukrainian Socialist Party (USP), representing three elder socialist parties which have devolved into splinter groups to which primarily Eastern Ukrainians belong.Vpered -- Left wing of the Ukrainian Revolutionary Democratic Party (URDP), representing, with the exception of Boris Levitsky, exclusively Eastern Ukrainians.Ranok -- Hetman group (SHD), a vestigial group of Eastern Ukrainians.Suchasna Ukraina -- Foreign representation of the Ukrainian Supreme Council of Liberation (ZFUVR), constituting the official foreign representation of the Ukrainian underground movement in the Ukraine, which although primarily Western Ukrainian, has a good measure of Eastern members and sympathizers.Ukrains'ki Visti -- Right wing of the Ukrainian Revolutionary Democratic Party (URDP), which is the largest Eastern Ukrainian emigre group.Ukrains'kyi Samostiynyk -- Foreign elements of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (ZCh OUN or OUN/Bandera), comprising primarily Western Ukrainians plus a few Eastern emigres.Khrystyanskyi Holos -- Western Ukrainian Greek Catholic (Uniat) emigres.]

UKRAINIAN JOURNALISTS IN FRANCE SUPPORT GERMAN PRESS GROUP -- Paris, Ukrains'ke Slovo, 23 Sep 51

In conjunction with the resolute protest of the entire Ukrainian press in Germany against the actions of the Council of Struggle for the Liberation of Russia, /sic, Sovet Borot'by za Osvozhdeniye Rossii/ the Association of Ukrainian Journalists (SUZh) in France at a special meeting of its members held on 17 September resolved unanimously on the following declaration:

1. The Association of Ukrainian Journalists in France fully supports and joins completely in the protest of the representatives of the Free Ukrainian Press in Germany against the action of the Council of Struggle for the Liberation of Russia:

2. This association urges all Ukrainians in France to support unami-  
mously the general Ukrainian act of protest before the entire civilized and free world against all actions aimed at depriving Ukrainians of their right to existence in an independent state. By its age-old struggle against foreign imperialism, the struggle which has continued ceaselessly down to

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this day, the Ukrainian people have shown and are showing before the entire world that they will never be led astray from their goal of Ukrainian state independence which was suppressed by the Red Moscow force in 1920.

The federative action carried on by the Council of Struggle for the Liberation of Russia is regarded by the Ukrainian people as a mystification which is intended to mislead decisive political circles in free Europe and to reconstitute on the free Soviet territories the old Muscovite regime of national suppression, russification, and economic exploitation.

Peace in Europe depends on the return of Ukrainian sovereignty!

In fighting for this peace in a free Europe of the future the entire Ukrainian people stand united.

Paris, 17 September 1951

For the SUZH in France:

R. Holiyan - Chairman  
Z. Matla - Secretary

For the free Ukrainian press in France:

For Soborna Ukraina (The Federated Ukraine)

For Ukrainets-Chas (The Ukrainian and Times)

For Ukrains'ke Slovo (The Ukrainian Word)

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