

January 7, 2007

Agency Release Panel
 c/o Scott Koch
 Information and Privacy Coordinator
 Central Intelligence Agency
 Washington, DC

Reference: F-2007-00392

Dear Sir:

It is difficult for me ^{to} understand your reasons for refusal to release documents from 53 years ago, relating to Soviet crimes committed in post-WWII Poland. It could be that your letter is a routine stonewalling first response, or else your decision may be based on lack of knowledge of these events and I suspect that you do not know who Josef Swiatko was. There is no logical reason for classifying the information which I requested, which at this late date has only historical value. There is no agent, source or informant alive who could be compromised. The Russians are no longer in Poland and the Soviet Communist Empire has fallen. By classifying these documents, all you are doing is continuing the 67 year old cover up of Soviet crimes committed against Poland, and postponing the eventual disclosure. I can assure you that only Vladimir Putin and other recycled Communists will be most grateful to you for your decision. They are paranoid about the possibility that the Russian people will become aware of the magnitude of crimes committed against them by successive Communist governments.

In appealing your decision, let me further elaborate on my request. I am collecting information for a report, hopefully to be published on Soviet crimes against Poland focusing on post-WWII period. There are very good reasons for writing to CIA or our State Department for documents pertaining to those Soviet crimes. In Poland, under Communist and under the post-Communist regimes (governments where former communists had control of the government) there has been systematic destruction of documents pertaining to Soviet and Communist crimes. The so-called "Polish" government was totally loyal to Kremlin and disloyal to Poland and its people. A few documents were retained but most important ones were destroyed. Thus the CIA, British Intelligence and our State Department may be the last remaining sources of these documents. What remains in Poland are more often than not, fabricated documents meant to cover up Soviet Crimes and records of "show trials" full of confessions obtained through torture.

Here are some examples of Soviet crimes: 1) the systematic show trials and murders of Polish officers who returned to Poland, often under pressure from the British Government, and were promised immunity and in fact offered positions and higher rank in the Polish army. There were at least 39 or more of these officers killed (the so called Gen. Tatar Trials), 2) systematic murder or imprisonment of members of the Home Army (estimates of victims in that reign of terror is anywhere from 100,000 to 150,000 killed

2007 JAN 17 PM 12: 27

2007 JAN 17 PM 12: 18

and 150,000 deported to Russia, 3) pogroms of Jews, Ukrainians and others committed by NKVD for propaganda purposes, notably the Kielce Pogrom and 4) murder of over 130 ranking officials and many more of rank and file of the Polish Stronictwo Ludowe (Polish Peasant Party) the only democratic opposition to the Soviet Puppet Government. The Russians refuse to even discuss the murder of 180,000 Polish POW captured in 1939, which includes the 22,000 officers murdered in Katyn type mass murders.

Josef Swiatlo, who defected in 1953, was familiar with these crimes as the head of Department 10, and discussed some of the above crimes in his monograph. One must assume that he provided original documents to support his statements during the debriefing. It is these documents that I would like to have access to as well as any verbal information he provided which was classified.

Swiatlo made an invaluable contribution to our knowledge of the Soviet mechanism of control of the East European Governments. He described the dual system of government and how the Soviet leaders controlled all actions of the respective puppet governments from the Kremlin, bypassing those puppet governments. Apparently, the CIA which was privy to that information kept it a secret from President Gerald Ford, who during the election of 1976, essentially stated that the puppet government of Poland was the legitimate governing and decision making body. He lost the election.

During the Perestroika initiated by Gorbachov, there was hope that indeed the Russians will finally stop the endless campaign of misinformation and fill in the "blank pages" in Poland's post war history. Of course that was another false hope since for practical purposes, Perestroika died in 1990, and now with Putin and his cohorts in power, it appears that Russia is regressing back into some kind of collective dictatorship

I am asking that you reconsider this decision and review this request with people more familiar with the events in post-WWII Poland. If necessary, I will be willing to come to review these documents in a CIA facility.

If you need to talk to me, please call me at [redacted] or e-mail me at [redacted]. I will be happy to provide additional information to supplement my request.

(b)(6)
(b)(6)

Sincerely,

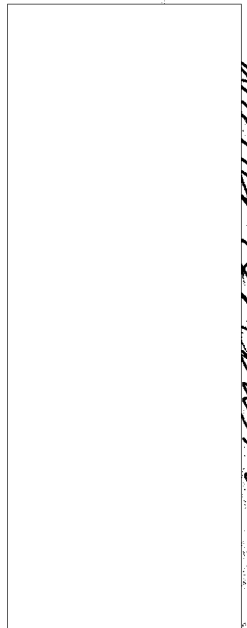
[redacted]

Walter Orlowski,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Mr. Tom C. Lawrence

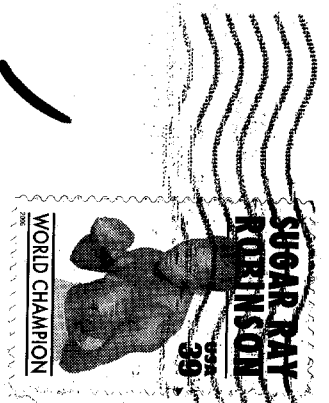


INSPI
JAN 16 2007

(b)(6)



*Agency Return Panel
c/o Scott Koch
Information and Privacy Coordinator
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505*



20505+0000

