



In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

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**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**  
**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**  
**Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

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MAY 18 1964

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MYKOLA KOWALCZUK  
SERHIJ KOWALCZUK

In February 1964, a confidential source furnished information to the effect that at a meeting on December 21, 1963, of the Ukrainian Workers Club, 85 East 4th Street, New York, N.Y., LEON TOLOPKO, whom the source described as editor of the Ukrainian language newspaper, "Ukrainski Visti," reported on his participation in a secret Communist conference which took place in Chicago, Ill., on November 24, 1963.

According to TOLOPKO, a decision was made at the Chicago meeting to organize special committees or cells of individuals who would seek out among emigres, particularly those who send gift parcels to relatives in the Soviet Union, individuals who had in the past committed what the Soviets considered to be crimes against Soviet citizens. The accused individuals would then be compelled to face deportation proceedings to the Soviet Union or other country of origin. TOLOPKO told the group that such a campaign "had been successful" in the cases of a Croatian who had lived in San Francisco, the KOWALCZUKS of Philadelphia and others.

The current Philadelphia, Pa. telephone directory reflects listings for MYKOLA KOWALCZUK, 193 West Fern Street, and SERHIJ KOWALCZUK, 224 67th Avenue, both in Philadelphia.

Page 20 of the December 12, 1963, issue of the "Philadelphia Daily News," Philadelphia, Pa., 8 Star Final Edition, contained the following article pertaining to the KOWALCZUKS:

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"UKRAINIAN-BORN KIN DENY WAR CRIMES

"Two Ukrainian-born Philadelphia brothers have retained a lawyer to clear their names of "a malicious slur" they say was made by a Soviet trade union newspaper.

"The brothers are SERHIJ KOWALCZUK, 44, of 224 67th Ave., and MYKOLA KOWALCZUK, 37, of 193 W. Fern St. They are naturalized U.S. citizens.

"According to a report yesterday in the New York Times, the Russian newspaper Trud accused the KOWALCZUKS of helping liquidate the Jewish ghetto in their home town of Lyuboml in the western Ukraine. It said they also took part in confiscating the property of the 5,000 persons living in the ghetto.

"These alleged war crimes were said to have occurred during the Nazi occupation of the Ukraine during World War II. The KOWALCZUKS were said to have been members of the German police.

"The KOWALCZUK brothers refused to answer questions at their homes here, but SERHIJ issued this statement through attorney FERRIN C. HAMILTON:

"My brother MYKOLA and I absolutely deny the charges printed in the Russian newspaper Trud and reprinted in the New York Times..

"The charge is a malicious slur upon our family. We have retained the law firm of Hamilton, Darmopray and Malloy, of Philadelphia, to take the necessary steps to clear our names and to obtain redress."

"HAMILTON said it had not been determined what action would be taken."

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Page one of the December 11, 1963, issue of the "Morning Freiheit" contained an article setting forth the charges made by the Russian newspaper "Trud," all of which accused the KOWALCZUKs of murder and other crimes against the Jews, as reported in the "New York Times." Page eight of the December 13, 1963, issue of the "Morning Freiheit" reflected an article setting forth a denial of above charges by the KOWALCZUK brothers.

A characterization of the "Morning Freiheit" is attached to this memorandum.

On December 12, 1963, a representative of the Philadelphia Police Department, 22nd and Hunting Park Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa., advised that at 11:10 p.m., December 11, 1963, MYKOLA KOWALCZUK received an anonymous telephone call from an unknown male who stated "Watch out tonight, we're going to blow up your house."

KOWALCZUK was interviewed by a detective of the Philadelphia Police Department and advised latter that he had previously received a telephone call from an individual who stated he was JOHN MURPHY, a news commentator from the "New York Times." MYKOLA stated that an article had appeared in a Russian newspaper to the effect that KOWALCZUK and his brother, SERHIJ, were associated with the death of 5,000 Jewish people in Luboml, Ukraine, during World War II. Mr. MURPHY did not specifically state when this article appeared in the Russian newspaper but gave Mr. KOWALCZUK the impression that the "New York Times" intended to reprint the article. Mr. MURPHY asked KOWALCZUK if he had any comments to make concerning the article. KOWALCZUK emphatically denied any participation in above matter.

On December 12, 1963, Mr. ROBERT MC LAUGHLIN of the 35th Philadelphia Police District advised above bomb threat had been investigated and had been proved to be unfounded.

On December 20, 1963, Detective WILLIAM MAGILTON, Northwest Detective Division, Philadelphia Police Department, advised SERHIJ KOWALCZUK informed him he had received a postcard through the mail on December 16, 1963, threatening the lives of KOWALCZUK and his brother in revenge for the death of "our family" and "all Jews" whom the KOWALCZUKs

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and their friends allegedly murdered. The card was postmarked at Brooklyn, N.Y., December 13, 1963, and was signed "Jew from Luboml."

On December 23, 1963, Assistant U. S. Attorney THOMAS F. GILSON, Eastern District of Pennsylvania, declined prosecution of above matter under the Federal extortion statute since in his opinion the note received by KOWALCZUK did not appear to set out definitely that the writer intended to personally do harm to the victim, his brother or his family.

Issue #3 of the "Voice of the Homeland" (Russian edition), January 1964, contained the following article:

DO NOT BELIEVE THEM!

By Yu. Vasilev

Sergey Kovalchuk, who owns a nice home on 67th Street in Philadelphia, and his younger brother, Nikolay Kovalchuk, are described as Nazi collaborators during the German occupation of Lyuboml, Ukraine. They allegedly served in the German police and escaped from the Ukraine with the retreating Germans, bringing over with them much of the loot they collected. They are responsible for the death of many of their fellow citizens.

They left their aged parents at home and did not correspond with them for 14 years. Now, believing that their crimes are forgotten, they started to send letters and parcels to their parents. They also send photographs showing how well they live beyond the ocean.

The writer concludes:

"Our Soviet system is humane. Parents abandoned by the Kovalchuks receive now a pension and live in a nice apartment. Their young sister, Raisa, graduated from an institute. Naturally, no one is going to interfere with their living and working in peace.

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"But the people should know the real truth about the scoundrels, Kovalchuk brothers, whose hands are covered with blood."

A characterization of the "Voice of the Homeland" is attached to this memorandum.

According to alien registration file A-747 1576 maintained at the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), Philadelphia, Pa., MYKOLA KOWALCZUK entered the United States as a Displaced Person at New York City on May 9, 1950, aboard the U. S. Army Transport JOHN W. G. HAAN. Immigration visa 6426/71 had been issued to him on April 5, 1950, by the Displaced Person's Visa Office, Salzburg, Austria, pursuant to Public Law 774. In his application for the visa dated December 7, 1949, KOWALCZUK stated he was born at Krzemieniec, Poland, on December 19, 1925. His residences from age 14 were reflected as "1939-44 - Poland; April 1944 to date - Austria." The application reflected his last permanent address as: DP Camp, Lexenfeld, Salzburg, Austria.

According to alien registration file A-740 8669 maintained at INS, Philadelphia, Pa., SERHIJ KOWALCZUK entered the United States as a Displaced Person at New York City on February 2, 1950, aboard the U. S. Army Transport JOHN A. W. GREELY. Immigration visa 5645/69 had been issued to him on December 29, 1949, at the Displaced Person's Visa Office, Salzburg, Austria. In his application for this visa KOWALCZUK indicated he was born at Krzemianec, Poland, on March 15, 1920. His residences from age 14 were shown as "1934-44 - Poland; 1944-45 - Czechoslovakia; April 1945 to 1949 - Austria."

The application reflected his last permanent address as " DP Camp, Hellbrunn, Salzburg, Austria. His final United States destination was indicated as Mr. IWAN TESLUK, 319 West Berks Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Above INS records reflected the parents of the KOWALCZUK brothers were DMYTRO KOWALCZUK, father, and ALEKSANDRA KOWALCZUK, nee Filimonow, mother, and that the address of the parents was unknown.

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Records of the U. S. District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa., reflect that SERGE KOWALCHUK, 224 West 67th Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa., became a naturalized U. S. citizen on November 30, 1960 (naturalization certificate #825 0996). These records revealed that subject's wife, LYDIA BOBRIWNYK, was born in Polonne, Ukraine, December 25, 1929, and that she entered the United States, February 2, 1950, at New York City. She also became a naturalized U. S. citizen on November 30, 1960 (naturalization certificate #825 0995). Above records also showed the KOWALCHUKS had two children - NEONILA (female), born May 29, 1953, Philadelphia, Pa., and SERGE (male), born October 17, 1956, Philadelphia, Pa.

Marriage License #907 263 on file at the Philadelphia County Orphan's Court, Room 417, City Hall, Philadelphia, Pa., reflects SERHIJ KOWALCZUK and LYDIA BOBRIWNYK were married September 30, 1951, at St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Philadelphia, Pa. In his marriage application KOWALCZUK indicated he was a tailor residing at 1027 East Palmer Street, Philadelphia, Pa., and that he was born March 15, 1920, at Kremianez, Ukraine. LYDIA BOBRIWNYK indicated she was a hand sewer residing at 707 West Oxford Street, Philadelphia, Pa., and that she was born at Myluscha, Ukraine, December 25, 1929.

Marriage License #969897 on file at above court reflects that MYKOLA KOWALCZUK and KATHERINE SENIAK were married March 11, 1956, at Philadelphia, Pa., by Rev. JOHN SAWCHUK, 518 West Berks Street, Philadelphia, Pa., pastor of St. Vladimir Church. In his marriage application KOWALCZUK stated he was a tailor residing at 1027 East Palmer Street, Philadelphia, Pa., and that he was born in Poland on December 19, 1925. KATHERINE SENIAK indicated she was a machine operator residing at 2241 Leithgow Street, Philadelphia, and that she was born in Poland, September 25, 1935.

On April 30, 1964, Mr. HARRY ROSENTHAL, Investigator for the Jewish Community Relations Council, 260 South 15th Street, Philadelphia, Pa., advised he had in his possession a clipping from the April 13, 1964, issue of the "Day-Morning Journal," a long-time established Yiddish newspaper, published in New York City which was recently mailed to above organization by N. GREENBERG, 5461 Montgomery Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. Mr.

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ROSENTHAL stated he was not acquainted with GREENBERG. The news item, which was translated into English by Mrs. REBECCA BAUMAN of the Jewish Community Relations Council, was published under the byline of GERSHON JACOBSON. In his article, JACOBSON stated that last week he had received a long letter from one YOLNA RADNOV, a Jewish resident of Riga, Latvia, in which he appealed to American Jewry not to forget the tens of thousands of Jews killed in western Russia during the German occupation, and urged them to expose and expel the murderers of Jews who are presently living in the United States. According to JACOBSON, RADNOV in his letter cited two Ukrainian brothers who live in Philadelphia and who killed Jewish people of all ages in the Ukrainian town of Luboml. He identified these brothers as SERGEI KOWALCZUK of 224 67th Avenue, Philadelphia, and NIKOLAI KOWALCZUK of 193 Fern Street, Philadelphia. According to RADNOV, on October 1, 1942, the KOWALCZUK brothers shot a couple thousand Jews in the Luboml Ghetto. They appropriated the possessions of the murdered Jews for themselves and took the illgotten gains with them when the Germans retreated from the Ukraine.

According to RADNOV, after settling in Philadelphia, the KOWALCZUK brothers for a period of 14 years did not communicate with their homeland nor even wrote their parents. Then they began to send letters and packages and boasted to their Ukraine relatives of their great wealth and sent "pictures of their grandiose living." RADNOV wrote their relatives did not envy them since they knew the brothers became rich from the possessions stolen from the Jews.

RADNOV related that the parents of these brothers live in "Kremenevitz" in the vicinity of Tarnopol. Their sister, RAISA, has received an enviable higher education and the family lives in a highly desirable home, and receives a pension. RADNOV wrote no one is trying to confiscate their worldly goods and commented "We have a humane government and do not seek revenge" but RADNOV indicated he wanted American Jews to take steps so that the KOWALCZUKS would be extradited from Philadelphia.

On April 30, 1964, Mr. EMANUEL COHEN, President, National Church Goods Supply Company, 821 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.,

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advised the KOWALCZUK brothers are employed as "cutters - tailors" by his firm and have been so employed for about 14 years. Mr. COHEN advised he considers them excellent employees, and is aware of nothing derogatory concerning their character or loyalty to the United States. Mr. COHEN stated the KOWALCZUKS have informed him of the war crime accusations which have been made against them by sources abroad and of telephonic threats against their lives which they have received in this connection. Mr. COHEN stated further that the KOWALCZUKS have denied committing these crimes and in the absence of proof from trustworthy sources that they are guilty as alleged, he intends to retain them as employees of this company.

On May 4, 1964, Mr. NATHAN GREENBERG, 5461 Montgomery Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa., advised he personally is not acquainted with the KOWALCZUK brothers and does not know if they perpetrated the crimes alleged in above reported article in the "Day-Journal." However, he said that if the story is true then "something should be done about it" and GREENBERG explained that is why he sent the clipping to the Jewish Community Relations Council.

GREENBERG also stated that an article relating to the KOWALCZUKS appeared in a December 1963 issue of the "Day-Journal."



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APPENDIX

CHARACTERIZATION OF ORGANIZATIONS

COMMITTEE FOR A RETURN TO THE HOMELAND AND THE  
DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURAL RELATIONS WITH  
COMPATRIOTS ABROAD

According to a source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, the Committee for a Return to the Homeland and Development of Cultural Relations with Compatriots Abroad is a Soviet propaganda organization, founded in East Berlin, Germany, in 1955; and, since that time, has been headed by various Soviet officials.

The Committee publishes a magazine, entitled "Homeland," and a newspaper, "Voice of the Homeland," in the Russian, Byelorussian, Estonian, Ukrainian, Georgian, and other related languages. Such publications, which are mailed to numerous persons having a family origin in countries now under Soviet domination, attempt to entice such individuals to return to their homeland; to praise the accomplishments of the current government of their individual countries of origin; and to attach and vilify generally the activities, leaders, and mores of countries in the free world. ||

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MORNING FREIHEIT

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications", revised and published as of December 1, 1961 by the Committee on Un-American Activities, U. S. House of Representatives, documents the publication "Morning Freiheit" as follows:

"The Communist International 'subsidized \* \* \* the founding of the CPUSA's newspaper, Freiheit.'"

(Subversive Activities Control Board, Docket No. 51-101, Modified Report with respect to the Communist Party of the United States of America, December 18, 1956, p. 159.)

"A Communist Yiddish daily."

(Attorney General Francis Biddle, Congressional Record, September 24, 1942, p. 7687.)

"The Freiheit has been one of the rankest organs of Communist propaganda in this country for almost a quarter of a century."

(Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report 1311 on the CIO Political Action Committee, March 29, 1944, p. 75.)

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