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15 May 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Contact Report, Meetings with QRDYNAMIC
Principals 11-13 May 1973

1. On 11 May 1973 I met with QRDYNAMIC principals Lebed, Prokop, Kaminsky and Czajkowsky in New York to discuss current QRDYNAMIC operational and administrative matters, and [] themes and distribution. At dinner at the home of Dr. Prokop on 11 May we had further informal discussions. The evening also afforded an opportunity for further assessment of Mrs. Kaminsky and our hostess Mrs. Prokop. My wife was also a guest at this dinner. Although []

[] whose specialty is Soviet and Eastern European affairs, these ladies have long been associated with the project, are native-born Ukrainians with active nationalist sympathies, and it must be assumed that they are aware of CIA interest and support of ZP/UHVR and Prolog. To their credit, they have never hinted at such a relationship in my presence.

2. On Saturday, 12 May, we met for breakfast with George Lopatinsky (QRDYNAMIC/4), who retired from Prolog in 1971, but who maintains an active role in ZP/UHVR and in the distribution of Suchasnist. Lopatinsky was formerly a para-military asset of SR Division, and has a long history of association with CIA. After breakfast we drove with Lopatinsky to his home, a tourist lodge in Jewett, New York, 145 miles north of New York City. There we were joined by Lebed, Kaminsky, Czajkowsky and their wives. From noon Friday until our departure at 1400 Sunday we were able to relax, converse, take long walks in invigorating mountain air, and eat the sinfully rich gourmet Ukrainian cooking of Mrs. Lopatinsky. This was an opportunity to talk under ideal conditions with the QRDYNAMIC principals, hear their individual views on Ukrainian dissidence, the nationalities issue, European affairs in general, and even emigre community and Ukrainian Uniate Church problems--all excellent background for understanding the motivation of these highly political people. Mykola Lebed, the group's vigorous and outspoken leader, is frequently bitter about

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the detente between the US and USSR and the tacit support of Brezhnev's policies which he feels is a natural consequence. Lopatinsky, as a former lieutenant colonel in the UPA (Partisan Army), also understandably takes a hard line toward any accommodation of the Soviet leaders. Kaminsky, who is equally dedicated but more of a realist, understands the political, military and economic motives behind the detente. We agreed that the apparent growing apathy of the general public toward the plight of the non-Russian minorities, coupled with the hard fact of detente, will require more strenuous efforts to improve the quality and impact of QRDYNAMIC publications. I explained that we would be discussing more specific ways of improving Suchasnist in the coming months. We also agreed that ZP/UHVR with Agency guidance and support has to continue to support dissidence and encourage action to oppose Soviet policy toward the non-Russian minorities.

3. A word concerning the site of our meeting, Hilltop Acres, described somewhat inadequately in the attached brochure; the accompanying map shows the location and route from New York. This converted 100-year old farmhouse was bought by George and Lydia Lopatinsky upon their retirement in 1971. With the aid of one permanent employee the couple run this house with 18 rooms and accommodations for 35 persons, located on a little-traveled road between Jewette and Hunter. During the peak summer season or winter ski season additional help is recruited locally from vacationing students. The area has been chosen as a home by over a hundred Ukrainian families, and Hunter has a very picturesque Ukrainian Catholic church which is a tourist attraction. The area resembles the Carpathian Ukraine, an obvious attraction for the emigre settlers. The tourist lodge, tastefully furnished and impeccably maintained, consists of a main building with a dining room and 12 bedrooms, a smaller building with 5 rooms, and 2 individual cottages. Either of the two cottages would make an excellent site, preferably in off-season, for debriefing of a sensitive asset of any sort whom we might wish to keep isolated. I have not explored this possibility with Lopatinsky, but I am certain he would be pleased to cooperate. He has the necessary OA, and both he and his wife have had a long association with the Agency, dating from 1948.

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4. In summary, I feel that a great deal was gained operationally by these discussions, in addition to the fact that it was a relaxing social occasion.

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Attachment

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