

ASSESSMENT REPORT

31 AUGUST 1957

SR/DOB/SA&E

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

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### ASSESSMENT OF CONSTANTINE MIERLAK

A full assessment of Constantine MIERLAK was administered by SA & E to determine the capabilities of Subject for use as a spotter. The assessment was conducted from 8 July to 12 July 1957, and the results were favorable.

#### 1. Biographical Summary

Constantine MIERLAK is a 37 year old Byelorussian who was born 25 December 1919 in the village DZIETOMLA in the former Polish part of Byelorussia. Subject's father was a farmer and teacher. Subject attended elementary school in the village and later Agricultural School, receiving a diploma in 1938. In turn Subject worked as an accountant with an agricultural cooperative, gosbank in KOROLICHE, a Raion town 23 kilometers from NOVOGRODEK. During the German occupation Subject stayed at his parents' home and helped out the farm until November 1941. In July 1942 Subject was assigned to act as an interpreter between the German Army authorities and the Byelorussian defense forces in Lida. Subject's mother died as a result of beatings she received at the hands of communist partisans. He was later assigned mayor of the villages of HORODECHNO, SOLITACHI, and VALKOVICH, with offices in NOVOGRODEK. During the following years of the war Subject performed in many capacities with the German designated Byelorussian units. With the turn of the war to the allies advantage Subject fled to Italy in hopes of representing the Byelorussian cause to the Allies. In 1944 Subject was interrogated by the American forces and subsequently imprisoned by the British. On 10 September 1946 Subject escaped together with two Italians and resided in Rome, Italy, until December 1947 when he emigrated to Argentina. Subject was employed at various jobs in Argentina and simultaneously took an active part in Byelorussian matters.

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On 1 September 1950 he married his present Byelorussian wife. Subject became a member of the "Byelorussian National Council" and simultaneously the only representative of the "Byelorussian Government in Exile" in Argentina. In June 1954 Subject obtained a U.S. immigration visa and left Buenos Aires arriving in New York on 29 July 1954. In November 1954 Subject was elected chairman of the New York Branch of the Byelorussian-American Association. At the present time Subject is Chairman for the third consecutive year.

2. Spotting and Recruitment

SA&E is not aware of the manner Subject was recruited. Subject was assessed at the request of [redacted] SR/DOB.

3. Comments

Subject's polygraph and physical reports disclose no derogatory information. Subject's intelligence is above the U.S. average. He takes himself and his activities quite seriously. While not a charmer he is a thorough organizer, and on the whole he should be an effective one. Subtlety is not one of his strong points, and this may be his principal limitation as a spotter. From the psychologist's point of view he had definite promise as a spotter of individuals of his political group, but he might be judged, due to a lack of creativeness and originality, unacceptable for PP activities.

4. Recommendations

Subject is presently under contract to SR/DOB performing an operational task for [redacted] as well as spotting Byelorussians for AEREADY. Subject is well suited for this task and therefore no other recommendations are submitted.


5. The following reports are attached as evidence to support the above recommendations:

- A. Assessment Schedule
- B. Biographical Debriefing
- C. Assessor's Report

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- D. Polygraph
- E. Psychological Evaluation
- F. Medical Evaluation
- G. Photographs
- H. Fingerprint Card
- I. Secrecy Agreement

  
Chief, SA&E

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ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

Constantine MIERLAK

Monday, 8 July 1957

Biographic Debriefing

( )

Tuesday, 9 July 1957

Biographic Debriefing  
Administrative Details  
Weschler-Bellevue Examination

( )  
( )

Wednesday, 10 July 1957

Psychological Interview

( )

Thursday, 11 July 1957

Physical Examination

( )

Friday, 12 July 1957

Polygraph

Interrogation Research Branch

NOTE: The above true names were changed to aliases in Subject's presence. Subject's alias was used at all times except for polygraph and debriefing.

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## BIOGRAPHICAL DEBRIEFING

### I. DETAILED INFORMATION

- A. Name: Konstanty MIERLAK
- B. Date of Birth: 25 December 1919
- C. Place of Birth: Village of DZIETOMLA, District of  
NOVOGRODEK (until 1939 Polish Byelorussia)
- D. Nationality: Byelorussian
- E. Citizenship: Stateless, US Resident
- F. Religion: Russian Orthodox

### II. CHRONOLOGICAL BIOGRAPHY

#### 1919 - 1927

Subject was born on 25 December 1919 at the village of DZIETOMLA, approximately 20 kilometers northwest of the district (voyevodstvo) of NOVOGRODEK, which until 1939 belonged to the Polish part of Byelorussia and which at the present time is the Byelorussian SSR.

Subject's father, Elyasz (Russian Iliia) MIERLAK, a Byelorussian, was born approximately 1882 in DZIETOMLA. Before World War I Subject's father was a farmer and teacher at the local school; during World War I he was a supply officer with the Czarist Army; and, after World War I he was a middle class farmer. Subject's father is still alive and works as a warehouseman at the kolkhoz Pravda near NOVOGRODEK, Byelorussian SSR.

Subject's mother, Olga MIERLAK nee TIKHANOVICH, a Byelorussian, was born in approximately 1897 in LUBCZ

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near the district town of NOVOGRODEK. She had grammar school education and had no specific profession. She died in 1942 from injuries suffered during a partisan attack.

Subject has one brother, Ivan MIERLAK, born 1921, who at the present time resides at the kolkhoz Pravda with Subject's father.

Subject has one sister, Yelena SOSIK, born 1923. She lives with her husband at the kolkhoz Pravda where her husband works as a smith.

Subject spent his early childhood at his father's home at the village of DZIETOMLA, which consisted of about 45 houses. Subject's family shared the house with Subject's father's brother, George MIERLAK, and his family. Subject remembers that his father was a spiritual leader among the villagers. Subject accompanied his father frequently to the fields and in the evenings Subject's father taught him to read and write, and read to him in the old Church-slavic. Subject's mother was very religious, and educated him in such spirit. In the evenings she would weave linen and tell him fairy tales. There were no outstanding events in the life of the family.

1927 - 1935

In 1927 Subject began to attend the six-grade grammar school at DZIETOMLA, which was the only school at the village. During the first year Subject had Byelorussian language lessons, but later the entire curriculum was in Polish. The school had only one teacher. At the beginning it was fnu KORSHUN, and when Subject graduated the teacher was Maria GEISLEROVNA. Subject attended school with Konstanti SOSIK, the brother of Subject's present brother-in-law. During the Soviet occupation Konstanti SOSIK was deported to Siberia but returned after World War II. He now lives in Upper Silesia, Poland. Subject was a good student and had no difficulties in getting along with the teacher and the classmates. Subject is the only one of his class who continued his education, and the only one in the Free World.

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During the years 1932 to 1934 a general land reform was carried out in Byelorussia by the Polish Government. In the course of this action the various small pieces of land composing Subject's father's farm were exchanged for a single lot. The house was taken apart and reconstructed at the new lot approximately one kilometer from DZIETOMLA. At that time Subject's uncle George sold his land and his share of the house and emigrated to Brazil. As a consequence of the hardships of the resettlement of Subject's father's farm, Subject fell ill with a paralysis of his left leg and was hospitalized for several months. Because of the above changes and his illness, Subject did not graduate from the grammar school until 1935.

1935 - 1937

In the fall of 1935 Subject was admitted to the agricultural (two-grade) school at KUSHELEVO near NOVOGRODEK. For the continuation of Subject's education his father chose this school because it accepted payment for tuition in grain, and because it was the closest school in the vicinity of the home of Subject's parents. The school was located at a former estate and was a farm in itself with cattle and various agricultural machines. There were approximately 50 students at the school, all sons of farmers of the NOVOGRODEK district. They were all Byelorussians, but the curriculum was in Polish. All students lived at the dormitory. Director of the school was fnu BLONSKI and the teachers were fnu BARTUSHEVICH (general education), fnu MALINOVSKI (gardening and fruit growing) and fnu ZhAKEVICH (cattle breeding). Good friends of Subject's were Jakub KOSKO from DZATLOVO and fnu GORELIK from KRIVICH.

In the summer of 1936 the school organized a three-week excursion through Poland for the students which was part of the school program. Subject went with the group by train to WARSZAWA, then down the VIZLA by boat to DANZIG, and returned home via GDYNIA and WARSZAWA. The group visited agricultural and commercial cooperatives, cultural installations and the Palace of Pilsudsky.

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The school program included military training every week, and to conclude this program Subject participated at a compulsory three week military summer camp near the VISLA River in May 1937. The camp consisted of thousands of tents. The students wore uniforms and lived the life of soldiers under the command of Polish Army officers. At the conclusion Subject won a medal for sports and a medal for general education.

1937 - 1939

After graduation from the school in KUSHELEVO Subject spent one month at his father's farm and frequently visited NOVOGRODEK seeking the continuation of his education. Subject's former school director, BLONSKI, arranged a 300 Zloty scholarship for him through the town council of NOVOGRODEK, and helped him to enroll at the State Agricultural College at NALEMChUV, about 16 kilometers from LUBLIN. This was the only agricultural school under the direct auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture of Poland. NALEMChUV was a summer resort of the Warsaw aristocracy and the school was completely self-contained with dormitories for students and teachers, shops, a sports stadium and a farm located at the outskirts of the town. The course of the school was actually two-year, but it was the custom to carry on studies without vacations, and therefore the full course lasted 16 to 18 months.

The subjects of the school course included accounting, salesmanship, organization and administration of cooperatives, business and banking law, agriculture, and the utilization of its products. The school was composed of students from all over Poland and even from the Baltic countries.

Subject made special note that in connection with his entry into this school he faced for the first time the national minority problem. The agricultural cooperations in Poland were organized in unions, and in addition to the Polish unions there was one Ukrainian union, but no Byelorussian. Therefore when Subject filled his application

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form for the school he was advised to state his nationality as Polish lest he might not be accepted. Subject met only one other Byelorussian at the school by the name of BELKEVICH who was considered a Pole from the Lithuanian part of Poland.

The director of the school was Stefan PACZOS (legal sciences), and the professors were fnu DROSDOVICH (commerce), fnu SAGAN (general education). Among the students Subject associated with Henrik KRAYEVSKI and Stefan VELUPEK from ZAMOST. Subject does not know the fate of either.

In June and July 1938 Subject participated in an excursion organized by the school to study the agricultural business life of Poland. Subject visited meat packing factories, dairies, slaughter houses, export firms and cooperations in RADOM, KIELCE, KRAKOW, SANDOMIERZ, BOSNIA, TARNOW, ZAMOST, and TOMASHEW.

In December 1938 Subject had to take final examinations, and he passed them with above average ratings. It was the tradition of the school that after the examination each student evaluate the results of the examination himself. Subject was one of two students who evaluated the results at the same rate as the professors did. Subject lost his diploma during World War II.

Subject returned home in December 1938 and spent a few weeks with his parents. Through the help of Prof. BARTUSHEVIC, who at that time was also president of the control board of Zwiazek GOSPODARSKY, Subject got a job with this cooperative at NOVOGRODEK. On 6 February 1939 Subject began to work as an accountant and assistant to the director, Zigmund ZALESKI. The cooperative purchased agricultural machines and tools. In July 1939 ZALESKI left his post and went to West Poland, and Subject became director of the cooperative.

In the spring of 1939 Subject had to appear at the selection board to be examined for the Polish Army. One of the members of the selection board was fnu KUKHARSKI,

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councillor of NOVOGRODEK. When the board asked Subject about his nationality he stated that it was Byelorussian. Later Subject was severely reprimanded by KUKHARSKI for not representing himself as a Pole, thereby jeopardizing his career with the cooperative. Subject was to be drafted to the Polish Army in November 1939.

1939 - 1941

On 1 September 1939 the war broke out and many residents of NOVOGRODEK fled westward to escape Soviet occupation. According to his own words, Subject was politically immature, and thought that nothing could happen to him as the son of a small farmer, and because he had not been involved in any politics. Subject therefore decided to stay. In addition, he was persuaded to stay by a former co-student, Vlodimir ZHURKO, who for seven years was imprisoned by the Polish Government for alleged communist activities. He was released in 1939. Subject alleges that SHURKO became a real communist during his imprisonment, but was at the same time a patriotic Byelorussian. ZHURKO maintained that there was a Byelorussian SSR, and obviously, even living under a Soviet regime, the national interests of the Byelorussian nation would be more observed by the Soviets than by the Poles. Subject also imagined the Soviet system to be based on a cooperative basis, and thought therefore that the Soviets would recognize his educational background. Subject's calculations were supported by the lawyer of the cooperative, Mikel TULEIKO (not identical with the one residing in New York City), and his cousin Evgen TIKHONOVICH (at the present time resides in NOVOGRODEK).

With the arrival of the Red Army the population of Poland purchased all available merchandise, and the cooperative Zwiasek GOSPODARSKI lost its operational basis. In December 1939 the cooperative was taken over by the Commissariate of Commerce of the "Temporary Government of Western Byelorussia". Subject resigned because of the chaotic situation.

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In January 1940 Subject went to BARONOVICHE and got a job with the new Soviet Insurance Agency as an accountant. The agency was in its organizational phase and Subject could not adjust himself to the job.

In February 1940 Subject went back to his parents in order to be close at hand in the event of a critical situation. Subject started to study Russian and for one month lived with his cousin, TIKHANOVICH, in NOVOGRODEK. In NOVOGRODEK Subject met fnu POPOV at political meetings. POPOV was a Soviet banking specialist and communist part functionary, who had come from the Soviet Union. During a discussion POPOV asked Subject if he was a relative of a certain Mikel MIERLAK. Mikel MIERLAK was not a relative of Subject, but just a resident of the village of Subject's parents and an old communist. He had become chairman of the local soviet of DZIETOMLA, and POPOV had met him at party meetings. In order to establish a favorable impression Subject confirmed that Mikel MIERLAK was his uncle. On the basis of a friendly relationship with POPOV, Subject received employment with the Soviet State Bank (Gosbank) in NOVOGRODEK. Subject did not work at the bank, but was sent to BIALYSTOK for participation in the "highest finance and credit courses" organized by the Republican Gosbank. Subject attended these courses from April until October 1940. Curriculum was free and Subject received a 600 Rbl salary per month for his living expenses. Subject had to sign a contract to work for the Gosbank for two years upon completion of the course at any place in the Soviet Union as ordered by the bank. There were approximately 40 to 50 students, Byelorussian nationals from the former Polish part, as well as from the Byelorussian SSR. The lectures were in Russian exclusively. The students from the former Polish part of Byelorussia, who had command of the Polish language and knew the conditions of life in Poland, received special political training for being capable to take over bank positions in Poland in the event that Poland should be occupied by the Soviets. The director of the Gosbank of BIALYSTOK and at the same time director of the banking courses was fnu BRITAREV. Lecturers were high officials of the Gosbank. The students were

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taught banking business, Russian language and communist ideology. The bank of BIALYSTOK occupied a particularly important position among the banks of Byelorussia, and was responsible for the financial transactions between the Soviet and German occupation forces in Poland.

In May 1940 Subject had to appear at the selection board of the Soviet Army. Because of the courses Subject attended at that time, and a rupture, Subject received postponement for one year.

In October 1940 Subject successfully passed the final examination and was credited with the title of Senior Credit Inspector of the second category. Subject preferred not to work in NOVOGRODEK where it would have been embarrassing to appear as a Soviet official. Being under the jurisdiction of the Bosbank of MINSK, Subject was assigned to the bank of KOROLICHE, a Raicn town 23 kilometers east of NOVOGRODEK. Subject became senior credit inspector and vice director of the bank. Subject pretended to have come from the Byelorussian SSR because all upper level employees of the bank were Soviet citizens. The Director of the bank was Ivan KARALEVICH from the Byelorussian SSR, whose salary was 1000 rbl per month. Subject's salary was 600 rbl per month.

In November 1940 Subject was ordered to collect from the bank employees the "voluntary" State Loan for the fiscal year June 1940 - June 1941. It was an unwritten law to sign for one months salary, and since it was November, it would have been customary to sign for a half years salary. The employees signed for amounts between 20 and 60 rubles, and Subject signed for 100 rubles. In May 1941 a political meeting was held during which Subject was accused of not having collected the customary amount. Before the meeting the employees had to sign for the loan for the following fiscal year, and Subject, being on the safe side, signed for 110 percent of his monthly salary. At the meeting Subject stated that not being a Soviet citizen in November 1940, he had signed for more than all other employees, and had at

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the present collection signed for 10 percent more than Soviet citizens, who should have known better the amount for which they should sign. The information that Subject was not from the Soviet Union was something completely new to the bank director, and an investigation of Subject's background was started. As a result of the investigation it was disclosed that Subject had received a scholarship in 1937 from the town council of NOVOGRODEK. This was interpreted as proof of Subject's loyalty to the Polish Government. Subject had not mentioned this in his application for service with the Gosbank. Subject contacted POPOV in NOVOGRODEK, who straightened the question out temporarily, but Subject felt that from then on he was mistrusted, and that the investigation was continued. Subject felt that before long he would probably be released from service for misrepresentation of his background.

When the war broke out between the Soviet Union and Germany on 22 July 1941 Subject offered to the director KARALEVICH to take the cash and hide until the arrival of the German troops. KARALEVICH rejected the offer, took the cash and fled with the Soviet employees of the bank to the Soviet Union. Subject went for several days into hiding and returned then to his parents in DZIETOMLA. About one week after the outbreak of the war the German Army arrived.

1941 - 1944

Subject stayed at his parents' home and helped at the farm until November 1941. With German assistance the Byelorussians organized a welfare organization, BELARUSSKAYA SAMAPOMOCH, and Subject joined this organization in NOVOGRODEK. The chairman of this organization with headquarters in MINSK became Ivan YERMACHENKO (at the present time resides in New Jersey), and was later replaced by Yuri SOBOLEVSKI (presently resides in New Jersey). The chairman of the NOVOGRODEK chapter was Alexander STAKHANOVICH (presently vice-chairman of BNR, resides at 17 Guilden Street, New Brunswick, N. J.). During the course of the war the SAMAPOMOCH organization became a political organization. Subject worked as a general welfare worker, organized branch offices in the country, and acted as an

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accountant. A co-worker of Subject at the SAMAPOMOCH was Peter RUSAK (at the present time resides in Springfield, Mass.).

In the spring of 1942 the German military authorities gave permission to organize the BYELARUSSKAYA SAMAKHOVA which represented the Byelorussian defense forces under the auspices of the SAMAPOMOCH. YERMACHENKO in MINSK chose Francis KUSHEL (present address: 385 Alabama Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.) to become commander in chief of the forces. In June 1942 the SAMAPOMOCH in NOVOGRODEK sent Subject to a one month officers training course in MINSK. Almost all of the 160 trainees were former members of the Polish or Soviet Armies, and the main purpose of the course was to induce Byelorussian as a command language. Some instructors were Russian speaking members of the German Police Force. Among the Byelorussian instructors were Eugen MATISEK (former Polish Army officer, Native of NOVOGRODEK) and Madest NORZYK (resides in Massachusetts). Subject graduated from the school and was given the rank of sergeant.

Upon completion of the course in July 1942, Subject was sent with M. MORYK to LIDA. They were to assist fnu KASATSKY (former Demkin Army officer, resident of LIDA) in organizing in LIDA a SAMAKHOVA company. By that time Subject had learned some German and served as liaison interpreter between the German Army authorities and KASATSKY. For three months Subject did mostly administrative work and helped to organize the company.

In September 1942 Subject learned from unofficial sources that the Germans intended to disband the just recently organized Byelorussian units. This was explained by the new policy induced by the German civil administration, at that time replacing the military administration. At the same time Subject received word that communist partisans had raided his parents' home. Subject hurried home, knowing that he would not return to LIDA again. When Subject arrived home he found that his father had been away from home during the partisan attack but his mother had been stricken by the

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partisans with rifle butts so severely that she died from the injuries on 24 October 1942. Subject went to seek help at VSIELUB where many police forces were stationed. For future protection the police resettled the entire family from its secluded house to an empty house at VSIELUB.

In November, after his mother died, Subject went to NOVOGRODEK, where through the commendation of the SAMAPOMOCH Subject was assigned mayor of the villages of HORODECHNO, SULITACHI and VALKOVICHI. The assignment was officially made by the town mayor of NOVOGRODEK, Nikolai BULAK (resides now in TORONTO, Canada). Subject's new office was located in NOVOGRODEK and twelve people worked there. Besides the routine administrative work Subject's duties included liaison work between the German command and the local population of these villages. It mainly consisted in levying taxes in the form of farm products and in ordering the population to road mending work. Subject states that he regarded it his duty to cut the German orders short and defend the interests of the local population. Subject's salary as village mayor was 600 Rbl which at that time had the value of one kilogram of bacon. Subject was on good terms with his superior, BULAK, and in order to maintain himself and his family, he became engaged in "black market" transactions by exchanging goods available from German sources for farm products. In the course of these operations Subject went to VINIUS and MINSK.

By 1943 the Germans had concentrated all Jews at the Ghetto of NOVOGRODEK. There were shoemaker and tailor work shops organized and German as well as Byelorussian officials could place work orders. Subject sympathized with the Jews and ordered clothing at the tailor shop. He frequently brought food to the Ghetto which was forbidden. On one occasion he took two girls out of the Ghetto secretly by horse wagon and took them to the woods. There they went off in unknown directions and probably joined the partisans. The names of the two girls were LANDA and VOLOSHINSKI.

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In November 1943 Captain Boris RAGULA organized a new military unit in NOVOGRODEK with the permission and support of the German authorities in BERLIN. The First Byelorussian Cavalry Squadron (Pershy Belaruskyy Eskadron Kavalerii) received all supplies from the German Army and was supposed to be a completely independent national unit. Subject knew RAGULA well from the beginning of the German occupation. Subject was assigned as supply officer and given the rank of sergeant. RAGULA had been liberated by the Germans from Soviet imprisonment, and since that time had served with the district commissioner of NOVOGRODEK as interpreter. The squadron consisted of 180 men, and the main idea in organizing the squadron was to concentrate the Byelorussian youth under military discipline, and to save it from being deported as forced labor to Germany. From November 1943 to March 1944 the squadron underwent military training and occasionally participated in fights against partisans. Subject participated at two night raids but was not involved in actual fights.

On 22 March 1944 Radoslav OSTROVSKI, at that time president of the Byelorussian Central Council (Byelarusskaya Centralnaya Rada) in MINSK ordered a countrywide mobilization. As a consequence of this the squadron of RAGULA was increased to a battalion of 800 men, consisting of four companies, infantry and cavalry. Subject was promoted to Lieutenant and became supply officer of this battalion. The new unit was given the designation "Byelorussian Cavalry Battalion No. 60" (Byelorusskiy Batalion Kavalerii No. 60), and a German liaison officer was assigned to the battalion. The battalion became part of the "Byelorussian National Defense" (Byelorusskaya Krayovaya Oborona) under the command of Colonel F. KUSHEL. By the time the Soviet Army took Byelorussia, approximately 100 such battalions had been organized.

In May 1944 the battalion of RAGULA was ordered into battle against partisan units. Subject went to visit his parents thinking that it might be for the last time due to the overwhelming Soviet force. During Subject's visit his parents, sister and brother stated that they had decided not to flee westward in case of a Soviet advance.

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It was the last time Subject saw his parents. The batallion went into action and Subject organized headquarters at DOKSHITSE (approximately 120 kilometers north of MINSK). Subject had three supply trucks and was chief of the supply unit consisting of three clerks and 40 guards. Subject went frequently with the truck convoy under guard protection to the railroad station of PARAFIANOVO (approximately 15 kilometers west of DOKSHITSE) to receive supplies for the batallion. The convoys were frequently attacked by partisans who also mined the road. On one occasion a German truck driving in front of Subject's convoy hit a mine and all the German soldiers were killed. Subject's supply unit did not suffer any losses. Subject remembers the following officers of the Batallion No. 60: Lt. JASKO, RAGULA's adjutant and former officer of the Czarist Army, wounded and died in July 1944 in BIALYSTOK; commanding officer of the first comp., Lt. fnu SILVKO, fate unknown; commanding officer of the second comp., Lt. Dimitri DRUTSKO, former officer of the Polish Army, fate unknown; one platoon commander, Lt. George MAZURO, presently lives at 5316 Sheridan St., Detroit Michigan.

When the German Army broke through the German front at WITEBSK, the fight against partisans lost its meaning, and the batallion was ordered to retreat in the direction of NOVOGRODEK. On 5 or 6 June the batallion moved to PARAFIANOVO where, however, no trains were available. It appeared that the German rear was in great disorder. The batallion moved by its own means to VILEIKA and seized a German train between MOLODECHNO and BOGDANOVO, by which it traveled to LIDA. In LIDA it turned out that the evacuation of the local population of NOVOGRODEK had been completed, but the batallion proceeded to NOVOGRODEK. Subject followed in the course of his duties as supply officer. In NOVOGRODEK Subject stayed just one day and left the town as one of the last by one of his trucks on 9 July 1944. Many members of the batallion had decided to stay at their homes in NOVOGRODEK and vicinity. Approximately 200 men of the batallion went westward. Near LIDA, RAGULA

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and Subject parted from the batallion which detoured LIDA at the south, but RAGULA and Subject both in motor vehicles passed through LIDA, GRODNO and BIALYSTOK, and arrived on 12 July 1944 in WARSZAWA. RAGULA's passenger car and Subject's truck were the only motor vehicles of the batallion left. The batallion moved by horses on a different route.

1944 - 1946

Previously Subject had met Nadia FULDA, a Byelorussian married to a German, in NOVOGRODEK. The couple had been evacuated by the Germans in 1943 to WARSZAWA, and her husband was later arrested by the Germans for anti-nazi activities and blackmarket operations. Subject lived at Nadia FULDA's apartment, ulitsa Idzikovskego #4, temporarily. Just before the WARSZAWA insurrection RAGULA and Subject gathered several refugees from NOVOGRODEK, including the family of RAGULA's uncle fnu BITUS (presently lives at 4 Aberwine St., South River, N. J.), and left WARSZAWA on about 28 July 1944. RAGULA went by his command car and Subject by supply truck carrying the refugees.

The group went to DALWITZ near INSTERBURG (Eastern Prussia) where the Germans had organized an operational base in the forrest for propaganda activities against the Soviet front. RAGULA became commanding officer of the Byelorussians stationed there, but the camp itself was under the command of an officer of the German Luftwaffe. In DALWITZ Subject and the others received a German certificate to the extent that the bearer was not to be asked any questions by German authorities. Soon it turned out that the actual task of the camp was to train members of a Byelorussian underground resistance movement to be parachuted behind the Soviet lines. While in WARSZAWA Subject had decided that the war had been lost for Germany, and that he would by all means try to escape to the West, perhaps France, and join the Allies. Ltn. George MAZURO and some other 15 Byelorussians considered the situation in the same way, and not being interested in returning to Byelorussia informed RAGULA that they did not wish to stay at the camp any longer. RAGULA did not try to

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persuade anyone to the contrary. The group left the camp clandestinely, and with the help of the German certificate arrived unharmed by train in KOENIGSBERG in August 1944. Since that time up until the end of the war Subject had no contact with RAGULA.

In KOENIGSBERG Subject contacted the Byelorussian National Representation, recognized as such, and supported by German authorities. Subject posed as a Byelorussian civilian refugee and through the recommendation of this office obtained travel orders to KRENS in Austria from German authorities. The town of KRENS Subject had deliberately chosen from the map solely for having a target for which to request orders.

Subject left KOENIGSBERG by train at the end of August 1944 and stayed at a hotel near Alexanderplatz in BERLIN for six days.

In BERLIN Subject contacted the local Byelorussian Representation where he met the chairman, Vsevolod RODZKO. Subject told him that he had met a fnu WIEZHYN, a Byelorussian national in WARZSAWA. WIEZHYN had told Subject that he served with the German Abwehr in Italy and that he soon was to go back to his unit. WIEZHYN gave Subject his German APO and invited Subject to contact him. Subject does not remember the number. RODZKO advised Subject that if he should succeed in getting over to the Allies, he should try to convince them to treat the Byelorussians captured in France, Italy and Germany as regular prisoners of war. Subject should explain to the Allies that the Byelorussians did help the Germans, but were fighting for the liberation of their home land and for an independant Byelorussia. Subject agreed to act in accordance with RODZKO's advise.

Subject traveled by train to VIENNA and stayed there for one week. He contacted the local Byelorussian committee and established friendly relationship with the chairman, Josef OSINSKI (at the present time resides in Buenos Aires, Argentina). Subject contacted the local

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office of the Supreme Command of the German Army (OKH) and asked to be ordered to the unit whose APO he had received from WIEZHYN. After a few days Subject was issued travel orders to VERONA, Italy.

On 17 September 1944 Subject arrived in VERONA and reported to the German Army Unit at Via dei Milla. It turned out that this unit trained Byelorussians for subversive activities within the Polish II Corps (General ANDERS), which at that time fought with the Allies in Southern Italy. The Byelorussians were to cross the border, volunteer for the Polish Army and persuade the Byelorussians to defect to the Germans. Subject does not know how many Byelorussians were with this unit, because its operations were carried out in great secrecy.

Subject met WIEZHIN at the unit and was accepted as a member of the unit. Subject was given accomodation for approximately one week in GARDA, when he was taken alone by car to a similar German Army unit in San Michele near PARMA. This unit was under command of a Lt. Dr. fnu SCHMIDT. Subject stayed with this unit for about ten days and during this time he was instructed to cross the German-Allied front line, volunteer for the General Anders Army and carry out propaganda work among the Byelorussians. Subject was to induce them to join the Byelorussian units under German command for the fight for a free Byelorussia within the "New Europe" as outlined by the German propaganda. Subject was given a cover story, according to which he was a Polish national, Konrad MACKEWIE, who had escaped from the ORGANISATION TODT (German auxiliary engineer corps attached to the German Army), and had worked with this organization as a laborer recruited in Poland. Subject was given an identity paper of the ORGANISATION TODT in the name of MACKEWIEZ and 20,000 lire, as well as a password for returning to the German side after the completion of his mission. All personal documents Subject had in his possession were taken away, and by request of Subject, were sent to Josef OSINSKI in Vienna.

As it turned out later, OSINSKI had received the documents, but left them together with his own documents with the Austrian family that he was living with at that time. OSINSKI wrote to this family after the war several times, asking about the documents without receiving an answer.

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Subject accepted the assignment but actually intended to carry out the mission advised by RODZKO, and then try to emigrate to America. On 28 October 1944 Subject was taken through the German lines by a German lieutenant of the Abwehr and a sergeant of the German Army front unit to the mountainous region near CAMPANNORI (north of LEGHORN). He wore civilian clothes and had no contact with any troops during the march. Subject arrived at an Italian village and met a US Army unit there. After a short interrogation Subject was taken on 1 November 1944 to FLORENCE, and was imprisoned there by the British at the MURATE jail. Subject stayed in solitary confinement for three days and was then confronted with a Soviet officer. Subject pretended to be a Pole and not speak Russian, and as a result the Soviet officer did not interrogate him. A few days later Subject was interrogated by two officers in British Army uniforms; one with a patch "Poland" and the other with a patch "Palestine". Subject did not disclose his Byelorussian origin, but maintained a new story, which he had developed during the interview. Subject posed as a Polish national, Konrad MACKEVIEC whose life matched in some phases Subject's real life, but certain phases were replaced by an imaginary Pole who had been recruited by the ORGANISATION TODT. Subject's recruitment and training as a penetration agent in upper Italy he reported in full. Subject was kept in prison until 30 November 1944 and was then sent to the interim camp in TERNI.

The camp in TERNI accommodated high calibre politicians, journalists, and party leaders of various nationalities. Among other Subject met the wife of Mussolini, the British traitor Joice "Lord HowHow", and the former minister of Foreign Affairs of Hungary. The population of the camp was approximately 1,500, and Subject had long discussions about politics with various interesting people. The internees were free to lecture about their specialties and Subject studied Italian, English and French. Subject made good friends with the Italian journalist Vittore QUEREL (Subject met him after the war in Argentina; now resides in ROME, Italy) and the former Italian pilot Count Carachi VRONSKI (resides now in ROME, Italy). There was also a large library at the camp, and Subject studied many books.

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In May 1946 the camp was liquidated and the 300 inmates were transferred to a camp located between RICCIONE and RIMINI. The camp consisted of tents enclosed by barbed wire.

On 10 September 1946 Subject escaped together with two Italians by jumping over the fence. The guards noticed the escapees and pursued them. The Italians ran away and were caught, but Subject joined a group of Italian peasants picking grapes and was not recognized by the guards. He went to the home of the father of V. QUEREL at ROMAGNIOLI, approximately 10 miles from the camp. Subject did not meet V. QUEREL, who had been released from prison four months earlier, but his father gave Subject a bus ticket to FORLI. Subject then proceeded from FORLI to ROME. In ROME Subject immediately contacted C. VRONSKI whom he had met at the camp in TERNI. Until November 1946 Subject stayed at the home of VRONSKI's aunt at LUNGO TAVERNE MICHELANGELO #9, ROME. Subject began looking for Byelorussian and Polish contacts, and established friendly relationship with the Byelorussian priests, Leo HOROSHKO (presently resides in PARIS) and Peter TATARINOVICH (presently resides in ROME and is in charge of the Byelorussian broadcasts over the Vatican radio station). Subject registered with the Polish Relief Committee, where he stated that he had entered Italy illegally from Germany in 1946. Through the Byelorussian priests and the Polish Relief Committee Subject obtained a refugee passport on 5 November 1946 from the International Red Cross under his real name and maintained from then on his original identity. After November 1946 Subject lived at the Polish student house at St. Stefano Rotundo, ROME, until he emigrated in December 1947. Since his arrival at ROME Subject received free meals at the Vatican and welfare support from the Polish Relief Committee.

From 28 December 1946 until 15 February 1947 Subject worked as a clerk with the Association of Polish Engineers in Britain, Italy Branch, Via Remuria 2a, earning 10,000 lire per month. From 1 May 1947 to 15 September 1947 Subject was employed as a shop supervisor with the Mediterranean Distributors Co. Ltd, Rome Branch, Via Vittoria Colonna #1. This company was engaged in the disposal of Allied war surplus material. Subject earned 12,000 lire per month.

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In November 1946 Subject registered for emigration to America with the US Consulate in NAPLES. Subject intended to go to his uncle Julian PETROVSKI (1145 Spruce Street, Wilmington Del., died in January 1955). Subject received money from his for his support in Italy, as well as for the passage to America. Subject's immigration quota for the US did not come up, and he learned from Bishop DRAGANOVICH at the Vatican that an Argentina mission in GENOA recruited immigrants for Argentina. Subject registered for immigration to Argentina and went with a group of Poles and Croatians to GENOA. There he received the immigration visa for Argentina on 3 December 1947.

1947 - 1954

On 6 December 1947 Subject left GENOA by the Argentina ship Tucuman and arrived on 22 December 1947 in Buenos Aires. There were approximately 900 immigrants aboard the ship. Subject was the only Byelorussian because the other Byelorussians in Italy were in refugee camps under the jurisdiction of UNRRA. Subject was not eligible for UNRRA support.

In Buenos Aires Subject found a job as an assistant porter with the City Hotel and worked there from 6 January 1948 to 31 January 1948.

From 1 February 1948 to 30 January 1954 Subject worked with Compania Maritima Holandesa (Argentina) SAO, 66 Maipu, Buenos Aires. Subject started as a clerk with a salary of 330 peso per month and at the end of his employment he worked as an accountant and bookkeeper earning 2500 Peso per month. Subject learned Spanish through daily conversation and by taking lessons, and obtained a good knowledge of the everyday language after one year.

At the beginning of his residence in Buenos Aires Subject lived at various hotels and boarding houses. On 1 September 1950 Subject married his present wife and since that time he resided at 671 Itapirv, Valentin Alsina, Buenos Aires.

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Upon his arrival at Buenos Aires Subject contacted his Byelorussian countrymen and devoted most of his time to the political and cultural work among the Byelorussian emigrants. On 4 April 1948 Subject founded the "Byelorussian Association in Argentina" together with the below named associates. For three years Subject was the chairman of the association. His associates were Nikolas LANKEVICH (presently resides in Buenos Aires, former member of the Gen. Anders II Corps, immigrated from Great Britain), Nikolas KEJZIK (same status as LANKEVICH), Vlodimir DRUGOVIETS (same status as LANKEVICH), Leon PETRASH (immigrated from Germany), Vasil KOZLOVSKI (former member of Gen. Anders II Corps), and Foka FAMIN (engineer, immigrated from Austria).

In late 1948 Subject became a member of the "Byelorussian National Council" and simultaneously the only representative of the "Byelorussian Government in Exile" in Argentina. There were two more members of the BNR in Argentina, N. LANKEVICH and V. DRUGOVIETS.

The following is an outline of Subject's main political activities as chairman of the Byelorussian Association and as a member of the BNR:

The targets of the political activities were the Byelorussian emigration in Argentina, and the general public opinion and the policy of the government of Argentina.

A great number of various Byelorussian organizations had been created during the period between the two world wars, and they were united in the "Byelorussian Federation of Societies". This federation was a member of the "Pan-Slavic Union". The federation was allegedly under communist influence, and it was the task of the "Byelorussian Association" to conduct among the members of the federation anti-communist propaganda, and awaken the thought for an independent Byelorussia. The association organized cultural gatherings and invited the members of the federation to them. Members of the federation were visited at their home, and Byelorussian national problems were discussed. The association mailed Byelorussian periodicals published in Europe to members of the federation, and published itself a "Bulletin".

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The Soviet Consulate mailed its propaganda literature to members of the federation and Subject intercepted samples. They were presented to the Argentina government with the indication that the literature contained information derogatory to Argentina. As a result the Argentina government extradited a member of the Consulate and no more Soviet propaganda literature was mailed to Byelorussians until the creation of the "Committee for the Return to the Homeland" by General MIKHAILOV in BERLIN.

By influencing the Argentina public opinion, and by proving that the "Pan-Slavic Union" was penetrated by communists, the Association achieved its liquidation by PERON.

During the period 1948 to 1950 the Association helped Byelorussians in Europe to immigrate to Argentina and gave them assistance in settling there. The Association also mailed parcels to needy countrymen abroad.

In 1953 a teleconference of the United Nations was held in Buenos Aires, at which the Soviet Byelorussian delegation participated. The association dispatched a formal protest to the United Nations and the Argentina Government indicating that the Soviet delegation did not represent the Byelorussian nation. The protest found its echo in the Argentina press.

In 1953 Subject wrote a pamphlet under the title "Byelorussia and Byelorussians in the Republic of Argentina". This pamphlet (98 pages, circulation 1,500) was published by the Association and distributed among Byelorussians in Spain and Latin America, and sample copies were sent to European and American libraries. Subject recommends this pamphlet as a full account of his activities in Argentina.

During his residence in Argentina Subject edited or wrote personally approximately ten articles about the Byelorussian problem for the Argentina press.

In 1954 Subject wrote four or five scripts about the Byelorussian national movement. The scripts were broadcasted over the stations Excelsior and Queblo.

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During his political activities Subject was in contact with representatives of the Argentina government and representatives of European national independence movements. In the course of these activities Subject visited Major George OSINDA, Chief of the Department for political activities of Immigrant Societies of the Argentina Federal Police, and his secretary, Hoze COLODRO.

Among the European political immigrants Subject met the former Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Polish Government in 1939 (under President BECK) and former Polish Ambassador to Roumania, Miroslav ARTISHEVSKI, and the official representative of the Ukrainian National Council (Unrada), Professor Eugen ONATSKY, the former Croatian Minister of Commerce of the Cabinet of Ante PAVELICH and present chairman of the Croatian Federation in Argentina, Dr. Vekoslav VRANCHICH, the former Minister of Defense of Lithuania, General Theodor DAUKANTAS, and the former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the TISO government of Slovakia, Dr. Ferdinand DURCHANSKI.

In 1953 Subject decided to emigrate to the United States because he considered that he had done what he could in the political field for the Byelorussian cause in Argentina and was looking for new and wider field of activities, the economical situation in Argentina did not show any improvement and Subject was not able to advance at his place of employment, and it was the last chance for him to come to the United States because his quota expired.

1954 - 1957

In June 1954 Subject obtained a US immigration visa and left Buenos Aires by the ship Alpherat of the Rotterdam South American Line, arriving in New York on 29 July 1954.

While enroute the ship stopped at SANTOS, Brazil, and Subject went to SAO PAULO and visited the daughter of his father's brother, Liuba BASIK. In RIO DE JANEIRO Subject met Victor SPALICH, 685 Copacabano Ave, Apt 702. Subject met him in line of Byelorussian national affairs, and he did not know him personally before. SPALICH had gone to Brazil after World War II from England.

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In New York Subject found employment with the Holland-America Line, 29 Broadway, New York, and works there as an accountant - clerk. Subject started there in August 1954 and his present salary is \$4400 per annum.

Since his arrival in New York Subject has lived at the following places: August 1954 - July 1955, 118 South Third Street, Brooklyn; July 1955 to present, 197 Roebling Street, Brooklyn.

In November 1954 Subject was elected chairman of the New York Branch of the Byelorussian-American Association, 333 Norfolk Street, New York. At the present time Subject is chairman for the third consecutive year. The Association was founded and chartered in New York in 1949 with activity all over the United States.

The New York Branch of the Association is headed by the executive committee. It consists of the following persons: Chairman - Subject, Secretary - Natalia KUSHEL, Treasurer - Alexander MITSKEVICH, Cultural Officer - John SAPRUDNIK, Member - Vasil YURTSEVICH. The All-American Byelorussian-American Association is located at the same address as the New York chapter. The executive committee is composed of the following persons: President - Nikolas KONTSEVICH, Vice-President - Peter MANKOVSKI, Secretary - George STANKEVICH, Secretary - Peter DVORETSKI, Org. Branch - Vlodymir KURILLO.

Every two or three months (depending on the financial situation) the Association published the newspaper, Belarus (in Byelorussian language, 8 pages, circulation 1,500, price \$.15).

The Association has helped Byelorussians to immigrate to America and settle to them down in this country. It has mailed parcels for needy countrymen in Europe. European publications in Byelorussian are distributed among Byelorussians in America. The Association maintains two Sunday schools, organizes lectures and social-cultural gatherings, has its own parish, and supports a soccer team.

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An important part of the activities of the Association is the popularization of the idea of an independent Byelorussia among Americans. In the course of these activities Subject was in contact with Congressman DORN and SANTAGELLO (New York), the former US Minister to Canada, Henry CRONWELL, and State Senator of New York MORISSEY. Subject has also met the permanent representative of China to the United Nations, Dr. TSIANG.

Subject maintains contact with most of the Welfare organizations working for the United States Escapee Program and with the various national committees operating in America, like the Armenian, Georgian, Polish, Cossack, Hungarian, etc.

### III. FAMILY HISTORY

#### Father

Subject's father, Eljasz (Russian Ili) MIERLAK was born in 1882 in DZIETOMLA, District of NOVOGRODEK, Polish Byelorussia. Subject's father was a teacher at the local grammar school before World War I. He became permanent supply officer of the Czarist Army during World War I, and then settled at his native village DZIETOMLA as a farmer. At the present time Subject's father resides at the same place, which now has been converted into a kolkhoz by the name of Pravda. Subject's father works there as a warehouseman. Subject has established regular mail correspondence with his father, however never using his name and proper address. The correspondence is being maintained in the name of Subject's distant cousin, Barbara PETROVSKI (845 Spruce Street, Wilmington, Del.). Subject has mailed food parcels to his father through shipping agencies. Subject's paternal grandparents were Vinsenty MIERLAK and Aksinia nee SOSIK MIERLAK. Both Subject's grandparents were dead before Subject was born.

Subject's father had one brother and two sisters.

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Paternal Uncle

Jurko MIERLAK, age approximately 70. He emigrated in 1933 to Brazil with his wife, Maria, and six children, son Eugen, son Alexander, daughter Luiba BASIK, son son Alexander, son Nikolas, and daughter Sofia. The family lives in the state of PARANA, Campo Novo, Nuncipal IGUASSU, Brazil, except the daughter Luiba, who is married and resides in SAO PAULO.

Paternal Aunt

Anna, deceased. Subject does not know anything about her.

Paternal Aunt

Maria RODZKO, deceased. Her son Antonio RODZKO emigrated in 1929 to Brazil and resides at Estados St. Spirito, Municipio GABRIEL.

Mother

Subject's mother, Olga nee TIKHANOVICH, was born in 1897 at the village of LUBCZ, district of NOVOGRODEK, Polish Byelorussia. Subject knows very little about her family. She was very religious but had little education. Subject remembers that one of her parents was Catholic and the other Russian orthodox. Subject's mother was badly injured during a partisan raid on her home and as a result of this she died on 24 October 1942.

Subject's mother had a brother, whose son Eugen TIKHANOVICH was a good friend of Subject in NOVOGRODEK. He presumably still resides there.

Brother

Ivan MIERLAK was born in 1921 in DZIETOMLA. Subject learned through correspondence that he was drafted into the Soviet Army in 1944 and fought in BUDAPEST and VIENNA. He returned later to NOVOGRODEK, married, and has four children.

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Sister

Elena, was born 1923 in DZIETOMLA, married to Ivan SOSIK. Ivan was drafted to the Soviet Army. The couple has four children and lives at the kolkhoz Pravda where Ivan works as a blacksmith.

Wife

Anna MIERLAK nee HUBERT was born 15 August 1932 in HORBACH, District SLUTSK, Byelorussian SSR. Subject's wife is of ethnic German origin and her ancestors settled in Byelorussia centuries ago as farmers. Subject's parents worked in Byelorussia at a kolkhoz. Subject's wife's parents are Antony HUBERT, and Alexandra HUBERT nee RUDNITSKY, both reside in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Subject's wife has a brother, Adolf HUBERT, married with two children, and a sister, Maria ZAVOLOKA, married with three children. Subject's wife's family left the Soviet Union as ethnic Germans, were resettled in Austria, and arrived in Argentina in December 1948. Subject married on 1 September 1950 in Buenos Aires and on 4 March 1952 his son, Julio Antonio, was born.

IV. FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES

John KRESLA, Byelorussian, 38, factory worker, 156 Freeman Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Maiko TULEIKO, Byelorussian, 45, draftsman, 656 Hopkinson Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Antoni SHUKILOVICH, Byelorussian, 40, worker, 312 East 10th Street, New York City, N. Y.

Dr. Vitaut TUMASH, Byelorussian, physician, 376 East 138th Street, New York City, N. Y.

V. RECAPITULATION

A. Present Address:

197 Roebling Street, Brooklyn, New York.

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B. Occupation:

Accountant and Bookkeeper

C. Religion:

Russian Orthodox

D. Education:

1927 - 1935	Six years grammar school in DZIETOMLA, graduated
1935 - 1937	Two years agricultural school in NOVOGRODEK, graduated
1937 - 1939	Two years course at Agriculture and Commerce College in NALEMCHUV, near LUBLIN, graduated
1940 (April - October)	Six month special accountant and financial inspector course with the Soviet State Bank in BIALYSTOK, graduated

E. Employment History:

1939 - February to December	Accountant, and later director of the cooperative Zwiazek Gospodarski in NOVOGRODEK, Poland
1940 - January and February	Accountant with the Soviet Insurance Agency in BARANOVICHE
October 1940 - June 1941	Senior credit inspector and vice-director with the Soviet State Bank (Gosbank) at KOROLICHE, Byelorussia, salary 600 Rbl per month
November 1941 - June 1942	Welfare worker and clerk with Byelorussian organization Samopomoch in NOVOGRODEK, Byelorussia.
November 1942 - November 1943	Mayor of three villages of the NOVOGRODEK district, Byelorussia

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December 1946 - February 1947	Clerk with the Association of Polish engineers in Britain, Italy Branch, Via Remuria 2a, Rome, 10,000 lire per month
May 1947 - September 1947	Shop supervisor with Mediterranean Distributors Comp. Ltd, Rome Branch, Via Vittoria Colonna 1, Rome, 12,000 lire per month
January 1948	Assistant porter at the City Hotel, Buenos Aires, Argentina
February 1948 - January 1954	Accountant and bookkeeper with the shipping company "Compania Maritima Holandesa SAO, 66 Maipu, Buenos Aires, Last salary 2,500 peso per month
August 1954 - Present (1957)	Accountant with the Holland-America Line, 29 Broadway, New York City. Salary \$4,400 per annum.

F. Languages:

Byelorussian	Writes, reads and speaks fluently
Polish	Writes, reads and speaks fluently
English	Writes, reads and speaks well to fair
Spanish	Writes, reads and speaks well to fair
Russian	Writes, reads and speaks well to fair
Italian, German, French	- Fair

G. Travel:

During his residence in the United States Subject traveled to TORONTO, Canada, in September 1956 to attend a Byelorussian meeting, and in July 1957 to LONDON, ~~and~~ Canada in line with BNR affairs.

During his residence in the United States Subject visited the following towns: Wilmington, Del., Chicago, Ill., South River, N. J., Cleveland, Ohio.

*was in WDC & DC for security*

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H. Military Service:

June 1942 - September 1942	Member of the Byelorussian forces Samakhova, one month officers training course, graduated and given the rank of sergenat. Afterwards served as supply and administrative sergeant in LIDA, Byelorussia.
November 1943 - July 1944	Sergeant, since March 1944 Lieutenant and supply officer of the Byelorussian Cavalry Batallion No. 60.

I. Past Membership in Organizations:

1948 - 1954	Member of the Maritime Trade Union in Buenos Aires
1948 - 1954	Member of the "Byelorussian Association in Argentina"
Since 1948	Member of the Byelorussian National Council (BNR)
Since 1954	Member of the Byelorussian Veterans Organization.
Since 1954	Member of the Byelorussian-American Association

J. Hobbies and skills:

Bridge and poker, Subject plays chessboard fairly well. Subject drives an automobile and a motorcycle, but has not had a license since 1948.

K. Documents:

Subject's documents covering the period until 1944 were deposited in 1944 with an Austrian family in VIENNA and have been missing since that time.

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Subject has in his possession at the present time the following documents:

Alien Registration Card A 8715949 dated 29 July 1954  
Social Security Card 084-30-4165  
Stateless Passport of Argentina #11560, issued 1 July 1953  
by the Ministry of Interior of Argentina, valid until 1 May  
1954  
Stateless Passport of the International Red Cross #16622  
issued by the International Red Cross in Rome, valid until  
31 December 1948 (issued on 5 November 1946)  
Italian Passport Substitute, issued in 1947 in Rome, valid for  
one year (not produced)  
Lithuanian Passport substitute, issued by the Lithuanian  
Legation in Rome in 1947, valid for one year (not produced)  
Italian Identity Card, issued by the City of Rome (not produced)  
Argentina Identity Card issued by the Federal Police in Buenos  
Aires, still valid (not produced)

L. Court Record:

None

M. Trusted Friends:

Boris RAGULA, 37, Physician, 756 Adelaide Street, London,  
Ont, Canada

Vasil YURTSEVICH, 40, demolition worker, Landlord of  
Subject, 197 Roebling Street, Brooklyn, New York, N.Y.

Alexander STAKHANOVICH, 65, 17 Guilden Street, New  
Brunswick, N.J.

N. Physical Description:

Age: 37	Apparent age: 40
Height: 5'8"	Weight: 185 lbs.
Complexion: Fair	Sex: Male
Posture: Erect	Hair: Blond
Build: Heavy	Eyes: Grey
Face: Round	Scars: Scar from operation on left leg.

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## VI. SHORT HISTORY OF THE BYELORUSSIAN NATIONAL COUNCIL

The following account was given by Subject as supporting information for his political background and creeds, and the data supplied represent his subjective and personal viewpoint.

On 17 December 1917 a congress took place in MINSK, Byelorussia, at which approximately 1,800 delegates of the Byelorussian nation participated. It was composed of representatives of organizations and of individual delegates. The congress elected the Byelorussian National Council (Byelorusskaya Narodnaya Rada (BNR) consisting of 70 members. The council was identical with a parliament.

On 25 March 1918 the BNR declared independence of the "Byelorussian Democratic Republic" and determined MINSK as capital of the state. The BNR elected KRECHEVSKI as president of the Republic (died in Czechoslovakia) who formed the first minister cabinet, which included among others Prime Minister Josep VORONKO (died in 1952 in Chicago), Minister of Foreign Affairs John ZMAHAR-CHERAPUK (resides at Route 2, Box 48, Munston, Wisc.). The BNR was represented at the peace conference at Versailles and at the League of Nations. Colonel YESAVITOV attempted to organize Byelorussian National Armed Forces. As a consequence of the military developments the Byelorussian National Council was evacuated in 1919 to KAUNAS, Lithuania, and later to PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia.

The Byelorussian National Republic was officially liquidated by the Treaty of Riga in March 1921, concluded between the Soviet Union and the Polish Government.

When President KRECHEVSKI died, Vice-President Vasil ZAKHARKA automatically became President. In 1943 the Germans wanted ZAKHARKA to collaborate with them, but he refused. Before ZAKHARKA died (in 1943 in PRAGUE)

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he transferred his political powers by his last will to Mikola ABRAMCHIK. ABRAMCHIK is an engineer, graduated from the Prague University, and resides at the present time in Paris.

After ZAKHARKA had refused to cooperate with the Germans, they assigned OSTROVSKI the last Consul of the BNR to Turkey, as President of the new Byelorussian national representation - the Byelorussian Central Council (BCR).

After World War II OSTROVSKI dissolved the BCR, but ABRAMCHIK reactivated the Byelorussian National Council in Exile.

In November 1948 Subject was made member of the BNR and became representative of the Government in Exile in Argentina. At that time Prime Minister of the "Government in Exile" was Eugen KOKHANOVSKI (at the present time resides in Cleveland, Ohio).

In August 1956 President ABRAMCHIK came to the United States, and over the weekends from September to December 1956 sessions of the BNR took place in New York. During these sessions a new "Government in Exile" with the new designation "Secretariat of the BNR" was organized. The Secretariat is now composed of the following members:

President	Mikola ABRAMCHIK
First V-Pres	Alexander STAKHANOVICH
Second V-Pres	Antoni ADAMOVICH
Secretary of Information	Antoni SHUKELAITS
Secretary of Internal Affairs and Organization	Subject
Secretary of Foreign Affairs	Mikel TULEIKO
Secretary Gen.	Natalia KUSHEL
Treasurer	Vitali KAZHAN

At the present time the BNR consists of 108 members residing in various countries of the Free World. Approximately 80 various Byelorussian organizations are represented in the BNR. Subject estimates that approximately 20,000 Byelorussians living in the Free World adhere to the authority of the BNR.

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**SUBJECT: Assessor's Report**

Subject appeared at the interview well prepared with an outline of his biography at hand. In questions pertaining to his activities in the Byelorussian national field Subject was very cooperative, but he became slightly impatient when being asked questions which obviously were not included in the biography prepared by him. Subject became apparently nervous while discussing the period September 1939 to June 1941, and stated that this true story had been disclosed by him for the first time.

Subject is an ambitious and conceited person and tries to make impressions by flat statements. During the interview and occasional discussions the interviewer had the impression that in some situations of Subject's life the Byelorussian national issue may have served him as a convenient platform for his personal ambitions.

Subject is a patriotic Byelorussian. Asked about the problems of Subject's political work in the United States, Subject stated that some US Government sponsored agencies apply the general US Government policy of "nonpredetermination of the fate of the people of the USSR" to the Byelorussian problem. This is allegedly unjustified and wrong. The Byelorussian nation had allegedly determined its independence in 1917 and this question should not be a subject for argument any longer. In addition to that the US has already in principle recognized the independence of Byelorussia by recognizing the Soviet Byelorussian delegation to the United Nations.

The interview was conducted in English despite the fact that Subject's knowledge of the English language is not fluent. Subject stated that his knowledge of Russian is not as good, and he obviously avoided speaking in Russian. By the way Subject pronounced some Russian sentences it may be assumed that his Russian is better than he stated.

SECRET