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MCK-W -11813

6 December 1951

Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

Attn: CSOB

Chief, Foreign Division S

Chief, Foreign Division M

REDSOX/Operational

BROADWAY Messages from the Ukrainian Underground in Poland.

The following verbatim letter was passed by BROADWAY and forwarded to us as WELA-7182:

Letter dated 18.7.51:

This letter (delayed in transmission) from the leader of a party of three couriers infiltrated across the Bavarian-Czechoslovak frontier at the end of June describes their journey overland:

'I have to report that we have all three arrived safely. The journey went off magnificently. We travelled the whole way by train. It is quite impossible just now on foot because of the dew, high grass and short nights. We were not observed by anybody. The Stens and miniature receiving set had to be left buried.

'On 8th July we all arrived in Prague, but we failed to meet anyone. I do not know what has become of them.

(Washington Comment: It would be interesting to know if these couriers are still using the old enemy - controlled support facilities of 1947 such as Olga JAROSH'S apartment. We will query the British on this and give them what information we have on the old comprised support points).

'During the night of 9/10th July we crossed the Czech-Polish frontier near SCHUMBURG and on the 14th July we made our first contact, reaching our objective on the 15th in the evening.

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'At first we had some difficulty because X's parents did not recognize him as he had grown so much; they only established his identity from personal distinguishing marks. I am writing to the Commander of the Ukrainian underground in Poland at the same time as writing this to you.

(Washington Comment: Presumably ZENON is the leader referred to in Poland).

'So far there has been no mail from the Ukraine. We must assume that there has been a security sweep.

'Sweeps have been carried out not only in the JAROSLAW area, but also near PRZEMYSL and SANOK. During these sweeps through the woods the soldiers combed the ground marching in close order only five metres distance apart. These sweeps occurred in the middle of May. There have been rumours of American aircraft.

Letter dated 10.8.51:

From the Commander of the Ukrainian Underground in Poland gives the following useful list of commodity prices:

- 'a) Dollars: 40-44 zlotys per dollar.  
Notes of 20, 50 and 100 fetch higher prices.
- b) Watches of reputable makes such as Gyna, Dixa, Tissort fetch up to 2,000 zlotys if made of steel and up to 3,000 or 4,000 if of gold. Other watches are cheaper. Good American fountain pens like Parker and Waterman are easy to sell and at a good price.
- c) All-wool suits - over 2,000 zlotys. Suits made of 60% wool up to 1,800 zlotys. Gold bracelets - 2,000 to 20,000 zlotys. It is not economical to bring Polish currency from Germany as anything can be sold here.

(Washington Comment: FDN believes these values to be correct. There are, however, no 100% wool suits manufactured in Poland today, they say.)

Letter dated 18.8.51:

This letter is from the leader of the party launched overland in June and states:

'I have had the opportunity of meeting the Commander of the Ukrainian underground in Poland. As a person he made a good impression on me, but of course that does not mean anything.

'As far as the parachute operation of the Opposition is concerned my theory is as follows: their couriers came from KHRIN from the area of SAMBOR. The Opposition must have carried out the operation in Poland

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itself (ZAKERSONIA area) because there were very widespread searches there. On landing they must have gone to KHRIN and then beyond.

'It is very important to give us ammunition for Stens and pistols; weapons, too.

'The best form of currency is dollars, nylon stockings (180 zlotys a pair), fountain pens, gold ladies' watches, watches of good makes, You must send us some of these.

'The Commander and I are planning to send you back some men in October.

(Washington Comment: A subsequent S/W letter states that two men from this team left Poland for Germany on 24 October 1951).

Letter dated 10.9.51:

From the Commander of the Ukrainian Underground in Poland described the despatch of three couriers to the Ukraine and their return to the HQ of the Commander of the Ukrainian Underground in Poland.

This letter states that the couriers did not make any contacts because they arrived at their destination too late and found the liaison interrupted owing to the transfer of the population. They reported nearly every village containing MVD troops who appeared to be supervising the evacuation of the normal inhabitants. These are being sent as far east as STALINSK, while party members are being evacuated to the DROGOBYCH area. The Commander of the Podrayon (sub-area) of SAMBOR and the C.E. chief there have been killed. The others with whom the couriers were to have contacted were found to have moved East because of their area was being ceded to Poland and a second frontier line (i.e. further East) is already in existence.

(Washington Comment: We have never heard of a "Podraion" before. Possibly a garble for nadraion. This is another possible hint that Galicia may be cut off from the rest of the Ukraine by a new set of border controls along the old Polish border).

Letter dated 9.10.51:

This letter was from the leader of a party infiltrated into Poland by the overland route at the end of September (please see our letter of 2nd October) (see Para 2, LOND 0463). It confirms the party's safe arrival on the Polish side of the Czechoslovak-Polish border and states that it crossed Czechoslovakia by train and bus. There had been an uneventful inspection of documents near PRAGUE, otherwise no incidents. At the time of writing the party was staying in the safe house of a Polish well-wisher but was expecting to move on and make contact with the Headquarters of the Commander of the Ukrainian Underground in Poland.

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Letter dated 13.10.51:

This emanated from the same party and was addressed to a post box in the U. K. It briefly confirmed the party's arrival in Poland.

(Washington Comment: No indication as of 5 December that this team contacted the underground leader in Poland. A subsequent letter, however, states that one member of the team was scheduled to leave overland for Germany on 5 November 1951).

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