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3 June 1952

To: SR/WC
From: SR/W 2
Subject: Political Matters Discussed by Mr. Mykola LEBED on
23 May 1952
Present: Mr. LEBED, CASSOWARY 15, [] and
[] [] []

The meeting with LEBED previously reported in an operational report produced a brief political discussion unsolicited by the Case Officers.

1. ZChOUN

a. LEBED has never recognized, does not recognize and will never recognize the ZChOUN as presently set up because he is of the opinion that in the Western countries no political party need be clandestine, as he says ZChOUN is. He bases this statement on the fact that there are individuals in the organization who are "leaders", but this is not known to the general public. He maintains that he did not learn of the ZChOUN Providnyk for the U. S. until the man died and it was announced in the ZChOUN press that he had been a leader. Until such a time that the ZChOUN becomes a completely overt organization, LEBED will not recognize it.

b. When LEBED was queried as to whether he would attend a conference with the BANDERA group once he got his freedom of movement he grinned and said "Which ZChOUN - yours or the other one?" It is apparent that he believes that the present friction in the ZChOUN has been caused by the U. S. Since LEBED is an extremely diplomatic man and does not blurt out statements for which he is later sorry, it becomes evident that he is thoroughly convinced that the U. S. is the dark power which manipulates emigre politics from behind the scenes.

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2. ABN

a. On the subject of ABN, LEBED stated that this organization is composed of "Hungarian intelligentsia and Ukrainian peasants". The other members are members in name only and the representatives of other nations represent very small groups or no groups at all.

b. LEBED stated that he had heard from an undisclosed source (he is very careful about mentioning names) that in 1947 the MGB allegedly issued a directive to the effect that the Hungarian section of the ABN will be penetrated by Soviet agents and these agents will attempt to bring about a split in the ABN by inciting friction among the Hungarians, Czechs and Slovaks over who will eventually own the Carpathian oblast. The Ukrainians, who are most concerned with the question, will not participate in this argument.

3. Ukrainian Congress Committee (UCC)

LEBED maintains that this year there will be a split in the Ukrainian Congress Committee along the lines which he called "DOBRIANSKY" and "MARGOLIN". By this he meant that the UCC will split into the two predominant Ukrainian camps: The revolutionary and the social-democratic. There has been some confirming evidence of this forthcoming split. (Comment: The revolutionary camp (ZChOUN and ZPUHVR) maintains that the fight against the Communist regime can be kept up in the homeland, whereas the social-democratic camp maintains that this is counter to reality since the Soviet regime is so strict that revolutionary activity is impossible).



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