

S E C R E T

20 November 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: SB/X/DO

SUBJECT : Victor BATYUK, First Secretary, Ukrainian Mission at the United Nations (201-824047)

REFERENCE : Memorandum for Record, same subject, dated 6 November 1969

SOURCE OF INFORMATION: AECASSOWARY/29 from AECASSOWARY/57

1. In accordance with arrangements made by telephone, Victor BATYUK and AECASSOWARY/57 met in New York on 12 November. Since A/57 arrived at the meeting site (corner of 57th Street and Lexington Avenue) earlier than scheduled he stopped off at a local bar, where quite unexpectedly he saw BATYUK sitting with Andriy KULYK*, a young Ukrainian emigre. KULYK greeted A/57 and asked him to join him and BATYUK. BATYUK showed no disturbance by this seemingly unexpected turn, and appeared to be in jovial mood. At one point when BATYUK left to go to the men's room, KULYK told A/57 that BATYUK had telephoned him earlier the same day (12 November) and asked KULYK to meet with him. BATYUK and A/57 stayed behind to continue their conversation when KULYK departed at 8 p.m.

2. BATYUK "confided" to A/57 that a group of Soviet Ukrainian tourists, headed by Vira DMYTRUK (Chairman of the Ukrainian Society for Cultural Ties with Foreign Countries), was expected to arrive in New York on 17 or 18 November. He asked whether A/57 thought the "Round Table," an emigre discussion club, would be inclined to arrange a meeting with the Soviet tourist group. A/57 said he was acquainted with members of the "Round Table" and would sound them out on this point. (C/O note: On 18 November, A/29 told me that the

*KULYK, Andriy, 45 Market Street, New York, N.Y. dob ca. 1948. Student. Has been in contact with members of the Ukrainian U.N. mission for approximately one year.

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*I read on Carl's
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"Round Table" is not going to waste time meeting with the Soviet group at this time, since there is little if anything to be gained, considering the current political atmosphere in the Ukraine.)

3. Discussing the letter from Ukrainian emigre students to Ukrainian Party Secretary Shelest, in which the students express their disapproval of the Soviet campaign against Ivan Dzyuba, BATYUK told A/57 that he had read a copy of the letter and that he agreed with the emigre students point of view. He said that, according to his latest information, Dzyuba is still free, but that indications are that he will be expelled from the Ukrainian Writers Union.

4. BATYUK readily accepted from A/57 a copy of New Directions, an emigre student publication, but was shocked when he was asked whether he could obtain in exchange some Soviet "underground" publication. BATYUK was appalled. He said it was impossible for him to do this and that he had no way to obtain such literature.

5. The subject of the Vietnam War came up during the evening. A/57 asked BATYUK that if he felt it was wrong for America to be in Vietnam how could he justify Soviet tanks in Prague. BATYUK yielded to A/57 on this point, stating he personally felt Soviet intervention in Czechoslovakia was unjustified.

6. In answer to a question BATYUK claimed not to have any knowledge about former Canadian Prime Minister Diefenbaker's recent proposal for a Canadian consulate in Kiev. He said that it would be legal, and that in fact there already are certain foreign consulates in Kiev, such as the Polish, Hungarian and Bulgarian consulates. He was not willing to speculate on the probabilities of Ukrainian diplomatic exchanges with the United States or Canada.

SB/PO/M

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1 74-124-29/3 ✓
1 A/57

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