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13 May 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Contact with AECASSOWARY-2 on 10-11 April 1958

1. A meeting with AECASSOWARY-2 was held from 2030 to 2230 hours 10 April 1958, in a safehouse in Washington, D. C., supplied by SR/10. The meeting was attended by AECASSOWARY-2, [] [] and [] [] Contact again was made with AECASSOWARY-2 approximately 1000 hours 11 April 1958 in the home of AECASSOWARY-15. Present at the meeting were AECASSOWARY-2, AECASSOWARY-15, [] [] [] of SR/DOB, and [] [] The following subjects were discussed.

a. Nationalism in the Soviet Union. (para. 2) Soviet propaganda now aimed at pointing up the contradictory and often anti-minority policies of the West (especially the United States). More liberal attitude being taken toward Byelorussians and Ukrainians to prove that their salvation lies with Russia.

b. Possible Soviet Provocation. (para. 3) HUNGARIAN CATHOLIC SUNDAY reported an alleged underground station, VIL'NIY KIEV, in early 1958 predicted revolt within 6 months.

c. Ukrainians in Poland. (para. 4) Ukrainians in Poland reportedly shifting to former homes in Eastern Poland. Krushchev not in favor of having potentially dangerous Ukrainian elements on border. Ukrainian clerics permitted direct travel to Lviw from Poland. Polish postal authorities prohibiting mailing of Soviet publications to the West from Poland.

d. Information on Soviet Ukraine (para. 5)

e. J. Stetsko Trip to United States. (para. 6)

f. Brussels Fair. (para. 7)

2. Nationalism in the Soviet Union. According to AECASSOWARY-2, Krushchev is very much aware of the nationality issue in the Soviet Union. By a more liberal attitude toward nationality groups such as Ukrainians and Byelorussians, and by a skillful use of propaganda aimed at showing up the contradictory and often anti-minority policies of the West (especially the United States), he is beginning to win these potentially dangerous

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nationalistic minorities toward his side by effectively proving that their future lies with Russia. He is being aided in this by the American policy of working overtly or semi-overtly with such federalist organizations as the American Committee and such openly anti-Ukrainian groups as the NTS and others.

Instead of recognizing the tremendous PP potential of the minority issue in the Soviet Union and putting the Communists on the defensive as far as their colonialism in these countries is concerned, the U. S. Government policy seems to waver when the slightest mention is made that 40 million Ukrainians or 15 million Byelorussians should be masters of their own fate. The attitude is not to antagonize the Russians. Conversely, this policy antagonizes the non-Russian minorities, who are a majority in the Soviet Union, and who are the strongest anti-Communists because they know first hand what Communist oppression really means.

AECASSOWARY-2 further stated that the Soviets now are starting an extensive campaign to discredit the Ukrainian nationalist emigres and to sow dissention and confusion among Ukrainian and other emigres. This is being accomplished by various means; i.e., the Michailov Committee activities, visits to the Soviet Union by pro-Communist emigres who return with glowing accounts of their trips, attacks on anti-Communist emigres and Western leaders who participate or support their activities, and widespread propagation of the supposedly difficult conditions of emigre life in the West, with alleged widespread discrimination against Ukrainians and other national groups by employers and native populations.

AECASSOWARY-2 was asked to prepare a more detailed memorandum regarding this problem. [] told AECASSOWARY-2 that he was not in a policy making position but that these problems would be brought to the attention of those concerned with policy matters regarding the emigre groups.

3. Possible Soviet Provocation. SHLAKH PEREMOHI, 6 April 1958, reported a possible new provocation. It carried an article stating that the CATHOLIC HUNGARIAN SUNDAY reported a Ukrainian language broadcast, "Vilniy Kiev", picked up in Vienna on 18 January 1958 by a ham operator. "Vilniy Kiev", supposedly heard on 3 occasions, reported preparations for underground activities and revolt was predicted within 6 months. (AECASSOWARY-15 has been asked to determine date of the CATHOLIC HUNGARIAN SUNDAY issue in which this was reported. The Hungarian desk was checked but they could not supply this publication. [] PP Radio, is endeavoring to verify the foregoing report.)

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4. Ukrainians in Poland. AECASSOWARY-2 stated that reports from Ukrainian contacts in Poland reveal that Gomulka is allowing more and more Ukrainians to return to the Eastern part of Poland where they formerly resided. This is opposed by Krushchev because he does not want to have potentially dangerous Ukrainians on the border of the Soviet Ukraine.

A man in Canada has managed to bring his mother from Peremyshl to Canada. Another man received documents and permission to bring his parents to Canada. However, they recently received permission to go to their former home in Eastern Poland and now are undecided whether to come to Canada or not.

The City of Komancha in Poland was not depopulated as were most other Ukrainian cities on the border. There was no one resettled from this area, not even the village priest.

AECASSOWARY-2 feels the fact that Ukrainian priests from Warsaw are permitted direct travel to Lwiw is significant of a plan Krushchev may have regarding the Catholic church. The Ukrainian Catholic priests are permitted to travel to Lwiw to administer to the spiritual needs of the Ukrainians in Lwiw.

Mailing of Soviet publications from Poland to the West is prohibited by Polish postal authorities.

5. Information on Soviet Ukraine. After 25 years of imprisonment in Vorkuta, ~~fnu~~ KOTIV (phonetic), a Ukrainian Catholic priest known by a number of priests in the United States and a friend of AECASSOWARY-2, has been released. He has requested aid via correspondence to a priest in Canada. He presently resides in Lwiw. Father Kotiv's mail is forwarded via his sister who is employed in a hospital in Lwiw. He has expressed a desire to go to Poland and then to the West.

~~General~~ Tchuprinka's wife returned to Lwiw in January/February. His son is expected to be released in August.

~~Reverend~~ Krayevsky of Canada told AECASSOWARY-2 that 2 priests (Ukrainian Catholic Redemptorist Order) are supposed to go to Rome from Ukraine and Poland. It is rumored they are to come via Peremyshl on visa. Also, 3 Basilian Order priests are expected in Rome from Ukraine and Poland for 2-3 months' visit.

Letters received in Ukraine from the West are not delivered directly. The addressee receives notification and is requested to report to the post

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office where he is given the letter while the envelope remains with the postal authorities. He merely is shown the envelope and given the address.

Via correspondence with a teacher in Drohobitch, AECASSOWARY-2 was told that 80% of the people were Russian and only 20% Ukrainian. He said it was not clear to him whether this reference was to students and faculty or the population of the city. There is a new building surge of tall buildings going on in Drohobitch.

Correspondence received in the West indicates that the Ukrainian youth does not want to stay and work on the kolhosps. They all go to school so that they can become educated and move to the cities. Villages have greatly changed, most of them now featuring movie houses, theaters and other places of amusement.

A telegram was received by an acquaintance of AECASSOWARY-2 in Chicago from Siberia in which the addressor inquired whether a letter he mailed was received by the addressee. A similar telegram was received by the same individual the following day.

An individual in Edmonton, Canada, tried to telephone a relative in Ukraine. The operator informed him that she could connect him with only larger cities such as Lwiw, Kharkiw and Kiev. The cost would be approximately \$23.00 for 3 minutes.

In a letter from a woman in Drohobitch, she writes that there are areas in the Ukraine where so many Russians live that if they left the Ukraine, there would be many almost completely depopulated areas. (Translation of this letter was requested.)

AECASSOWARY-2 delivered 6 talks during his recent visit to Canada regarding the situation in Ukraine, the present political, social and economic problems. He was very much disturbed about the obvious ignorance regarding present conditions in the Soviet Ukraine revealed during the question and answer sessions he conducted. The growing success of Soviet propaganda among emigres was very apparent.

6. J. Stetsko Trip to the United States. Walter Dushnyk told AECASSOWARY-2 that Jaroslav Stetsko, President of the ABN, wanted to see AECASSOWARY-2 during the former's current visit to the United States. AECASSOWARY-2 received word on 10 April that Stetsko had visited the SVOBODA newspaper offices in Jersey City. AECASSOWARY-2 said he thinks Stetsko received his visa to the United States with the help of the American Committee for Liberation which figured prominently in the anti-Communist

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Conference in Mexico in March. AECASSOWARY-2 stated that he would like to meet with Stetsko, but he does not wish to meet with Bandera.

7. Brussels Fair.

a. AECASSOWARY-2 stated he envisioned no real problems in connection with his visit to Brussels. However, he stated that there is the possibility of RIS provocation or attempt to assassinate him. [] expressed his doubts that the Russians would want to have any such trouble at the fair but further stated that it is completely up to AECASSOWARY-2 whether or not he wants to go to Brussels during the time he is in Europe.

b. AECASSOWARY-2 inquired about the possibility of obtaining through our channels a list of Soviet Ukrainians who would be attending the fair. This would afford the AECASSOWARIES an opportunity to learn quickly whether or not any of the people attending the fair as visitors or working at the Soviet Pavilion are known to them.

c. The AECASSOWARIES already have some facts about 3 men who will be at the fair from Poland. AECASSOWARY-2 feels they should be given some plans for "future action". He feels it would be preferable that, if contact were made with a Ukrainian from Poland or the USSR, discussions with the individual interested in "going west" not be carried on in Brussels. He feels it would be better to suggest to them to go to some point in France where they could be met for discussions. He inquired whether passports could be obtained for such use. Mr. Kapusta told AECASSOWARY-2 this could not be done by us and suggested that AECASSOWARIES discuss with the Agency representative at the fair whether permission could be obtained from Belgian authorities for such travel, in the event the need arises. AECASSOWARY-2 stated that, if there is a Ukrainian at the fair who wishes to come out, the first meetings with him are most important. The individual may change his mind if the first step seems too dangerous. At this point, AECASSOWARY-2 stated that he has never had any flaps in such matters and that he would not like to be made to look foolish now.

d. AECASSOWARY-2 will not talk with any of the Soviet Ukrainians. This will be left up to the AECASSOWARY representative at the fair.

e. Pidhainy's cousin, presently employed in a hospital in Stanislaviv, has expressed a desire to come to the West to live.

f. In a letter to a friend in Toronto, a woman from the Ukraine wrote that she would be at the fair as a clerk in a kiosk at the Soviet Pavilion and requested a meeting with her friend. This may be a Soviet provocation, but AECASSOWARY feels there must be some Ukrainians who will be there who will sincerely seek contact with Westerners.

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g. AECASSOWARY-2 viewed his doubts concerning the suitability of POPOVICH for preliminary discussions with Soviet Ukrainians at the fair. Usenko, the Soviet pavillion chief architect, has been visiting Popovich socially about once a week. He also feels that Markus is not an operational type. He does not seem to AECASSOWARY-2 to be the right person to make any contacts at the fair. He would prefer to have someone from the United States go to the fair for purposes of social contacts with Soviet Ukrainians. This point, however, was not pressed by AECASSOWARY-2 and no commitments were made.

h. AECASSOWARY-2 requested that GALLO in Munich be asked to have AECASSOWARY-6 supplied with a passport and a car, so that he can drive to Brussels, Rome, Madrid and Paris with him. (This matter has been taken care of by cable and dispatch).

i. The UUARC (United Ukrainian-American Relief Committee), in correspondence with individuals in Poland who expressed desire to visit the U.S.A., has offered to help them financially. AECASSOWARY-2 feels this can be very harmful and stated he intends to talk with ~~Dr.~~ Walter Gallan of the Committee and request that such correspondence be stopped. He stated that some of the people in Poland with whom UUARC is in contact have Communist connections, unknown to UUARC, and may report such activities.

j. AECASSOWARY-2 will notify us as soon as he has his itinerary planned, so that appropriate field offices may be posted. There was no date specified for the next meeting.

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