

SECRET

13 April 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Contact with AECASSOWARY/2 and 29, 3 April 1962

1. Subject meeting held in the SR/CA safehouse in Washington for the purpose of discussing with A/29 his experiences during his TDY in Brussels, was attended by [redacted] (as [redacted]), [redacted] (as [redacted]), [redacted] (no name used) and [redacted]. [redacted] was waiting in the safe apartment when Subjects arrived at 10:30. The following was discussed before the ^{were} above-named gentlemen shortly after 11 o'clock.

2. A/3 sent word from Munich that Daria Rebet (wife of Dr. Lev Rebet) reported she is being constantly followed these days. A friend of hers claims she also has noticed people following Daria, that the surveillants were purposely being obvious and that it appeared an effort was being made to frighten Daria to the extent which might induce a heart attack. A/2 suspects someone is trying to get rid of Daria before the Stashinsky trial begins. Daria Rebet has not made a report to the German police because she feels they won't do anything about it anyway. According to A/2, the Germans have not informed her about Stashinsky's confession. It was recommended to A/2 that the surveillance be reported to the German police.

3. [redacted] (SR/2) recently requested from A/2 some specific details regarding the circumstances of Lev Rebet's death in 1948. A/2 read to the undersigned a letter dated 30 March which he received from Evhen Stakhiv containing details as he (Stakhiv) knew them. Additional information is expected from A/6. Stakhiv reported as follows:

Stakhiv talked to the female janitor of the building where SUCHASNA offices are located, Karlsplats 8, a day or so before the writing of his letter to A/2. The janitor stated that Rebet died 10:45 or perhaps 11 a.m. Her kitchen door leads to the stairway landing of the fourth floor. The building has four European floors. The janitor was cooking in her kitchen when she heard a cry which she said still rings in her ears. She walked out to the landing of the stairs and noticed a body lying on the second floor. Returning to her apartment, she telephoned the owner of the building and then ran down the stairs to where the body lay. Recognizing the body as that of a co-worker whose name she did not know (she was a charwoman in the SUCHASNA offices) she returned to the third floor, rang the doorbell to the editorial offices of SUCHASNA and reported what she had seen. According to her, Lev Rebet was already dead when she reached him, or at least

SECRET

SECRET

he was not moving. There was blood on his lips. He was wearing a dark beret on his head. She was beside him when Dr. Preuss (dentist) and his nurse arrived. Dr. Preuss' office is on the second floor of the same building. The nurse of Dr. Kupfender (M.D.) arrived and gave Rebet a hypodermic. A Mrs. Straubelberger brought down a pillow to put under Rebet's head and Dr. Preuss covered the body with his white coat. The janitor had not seen anyone on the steps when she first came out of her apartment. She repeated that it was the second floor where she found Rebet. Stakhiv questioned Dr. Kupfender's nurse again (during last week of March 1962 - the exact date not given in his letter) and she verified the fact that she had administered the hypodermic to Rebet, although she and Stakhiv could find no record of it in the doctor's register. Dr. Preuss was not available when Stakhiv talked to his nurse, but Stakhiv had an appointment to see him on Monday, 2 April, and promised to forward whatever additional information he obtains.

4. When [] and [] arrived and introductions were made, A/29 was asked to talk about what he had learned during his TDY in Brussels and what he thought the operational potential was in the area.

5. According to A/29, although the prospects for operational potential among Ukrainian emigres in Belgium are not vast, it is considerable in comparison to other European countries. There is a total of approximately 4500 Russians and Ukrainians in Belgium, 2500 of which are Ukrainians and, in addition, about 2000 Ukrainian women married to Belgians. Some of these women hold Belgian citizenship. The women are between the ages of 35-40 and were all born in the Soviet Union. The majority of the women married to Belgians become members of the Society of Soviet Citizens in Belgium and comply with Soviet demands, insofar as attending Soviet sponsored lectures, films, etc. are concerned, and perhaps even report to the Soviet Embassy on each other and on other emigres. This is not the result of their personal convictions or sympathies but rather a means to protect their families in the Soviet Union and to obtain personal favors for themselves (such as visas to visit their families in the villages of the USSR) from Communist authorities. Most of the women are anxious to visit with their families in the Soviet Union and many of them have already traveled there for extended visits of a month or more. A/29 believes the prospects for getting the cooperation of their Belgian husbands is even greater than among the wives.

6. There are at present no students of Ukrainian extraction in Brussels, but there are nine in Louvain and A/29 has access to them. He is considering one of them for a REDSKIN assignment. The children of the

SECRET

new Ukrainian emigres will be of college age in another year or two which will increase the potential operational field considerably. Contact with Soviet tourists in Belgium is also quite promising, and A/29 has potential access, via a student in Louvain, to a travel agency in Brussels.

7. The Ukrainian community in Holland is very small, and there are only sixty Ukrainians living in Luxembourg. In Antwerp, A/29 has established contacts with Ukrainian residents there who can contact crew members of Soviet ships which visit there.

8. The Ukrainian community in France, about 30,000 (old and new emigres) is much larger than in Belgium. Approximately 5-6000 of these Ukrainians are active in organizational and political work. The emigration has been in France over a longer period of years than that in Belgium and there are more young men and women of potential operational calibre. A large number of the youth belongs to the Ukrainian students organization to which A/29 has access via some of its members. The various political and religious factions publish several Ukrainian-language newspapers and other periodicals.

9. Operational potential, according to A/29, is better outside Paris, as for example in Lyons or Strasbourg, although activity-wise the greatest concentration of Ukrainians in France is in Paris.

10. A/29 would like to be able to travel to France, Sweden, Germany and other European countries to explore and take advantage of opportunities which arise during periods when things get slow in Belgium. He said he could not manufacture opportunities at times when they did not exist and that he would probably reach a point of diminishing returns if he is to be confined to Belgium (or any other one area) alone.

11. In discussing the desirability of A/29 returning to Brussels at this time, A/2 was of the opinion that all possibilities in Belgium and other parts of Europe should be exhausted at this particular time. Now is the time to establish contacts with the youth in the Ukrainian emigration and to stimulate their interest and their sympathies.

12. A/29 mentioned Manko, the young man from Canada presently studying in Paris, who is interested in being an exchange student in a Soviet Ukrainian university. If this can be arranged, he is willing to cooperate with A/29. (A/29 has already obtained sufficient biographical information for clearance purposes and has administered a Wechler Bellevue test which is presently being evaluated by TSD.) A/2 is very anxious to get students into Soviet universities, not necessarily for the purpose of accomplishing an immediate task but rather to give them an opportunity for an on-the-spot study of the situation and the people so that they can help determine how best to approach and reach the Soviet youth. []

SECRET

SECRET

cautioned A/2 on the care with which suitable students must be selected and the danger of their becoming emotionally involved with members of the opposite sex.

13. A/2 wants A/29 to go to Rome, if he returns to Brussels, to talk with the Salesian Order Ukrainian priests, and candidates for the priesthood, from Poland now studying in a Salesian seminary in Rome. Several of these priests reportedly recently visited Poland and maintain contact with Ukrainians in Poland and the USSR. These men hold valid Polish passports.

14. Documentation. A/29 has three types of travel documentation, a German Reisepasse, a Belgian Titre de Voyage and an American Affidavit in Lieu of Passport. Although these have served him well to date, he would like documentation (probably German) in alias for those operational trips when he would prefer not to use his true identity. This should be done in the field when A/29 returns.

15. The meeting adjourned for lunch at this point of the discussion. Only [] returned with the AECASSOWARYs after lunch at which time the following was discussed.

16. DS-960, according to A/2, had a complete reversal of personality one evening last week when A/2 presented him to a group of about twelve Ukrainians in New York. DS-960 readily agreed to A/2's proposal that this meeting take place. He arrived at the ABEEHIVE offices at the appointed hour and actually seemed to enjoy the question-answer session which developed after his introduction to the group. A/2 is of the opinion DS-960 has finally realized that his complete isolation is detrimental to his efforts to establish himself in the United States. A/2 told of an episode which took place between DS-960 and a young Ukrainian who lives in the same rooming house. One evening DS-960 told the young man he was quite disillusioned with life here, that everyone was against him and that he was considering returning to the Soviet Union. His young colleague told him he thought it was a good idea because all DS-960 ever did was sit in his room and read IZVESTIA and PRAVDA (which he purchased daily), he refused to meet with anyone and, therefore, whether or not he remained in the U.S. was of little consequence to anyone. He also offered him \$20 "to help pay for his return voyage", and told DS-960 that if he would let him know exactly when he planned to leave, he would come to help DS-960 pack his bags. DS-960 was surprised and offended by his friend's response, but he has continued to be friendly toward him and has made no further comments about returning to the USSR.

DS-960 asked A/2 to get in touch with the Washington Government representatives with whom the former had contact and request a loan of \$2000.00 to permit him to obtain his degree at an American university. The undersigned suggested that A/2 tell DS-960 that we inquired what he was ready to do in return for us. A/2 commented he was going to try to

SECRET

SECRET

to get such financial help for DS-960, because he feels DS-960 will eventually decide to work with the Ukrainian emigres and A/2 would like to keep him on their side. On second thought, there might be some merit in our lending the money to DS-960 through A/2 to keep him indebted to A/2.

17. Olga HANETSKA nee LUSTIG, born 1910 in Austria-Hungary of Ukrainian parents, (permanent address RINN b. INNSBRUCK, Wiesenhoefe, Tirol, Austria) has been visiting in the United States since May 1961. She is returning to Austria in the near future and plans to visit the Soviet Union this summer. A/2 would like to have her contact a friend of his who A/2 believes still has good contacts with Soviet officials, although he left the Communist Party in late 1930. A/29 plans to talk with her prior to her departure for Austria to definitely establish whether it would be worth his while to get in touch with her in Europe when he returns. (Headquarters and field traces on HANETSKA in late 1961 produced no derogatory information.)

18. Yuriy KOSSACH [] , via Vasile Barka, has requested a meeting with A/2. A/2 has learned that KOSSACH is planning to visit the USSR this summer at which time it is expected he will be honored by the Union of Soviet Writers for two of his works which have been (or are expected to be) published in the Soviet Union this year. A/2 is not sure what KOSSACH's motive is for requesting this meeting (he speculated on many reasons), but plans to have the meeting take place. He will insist on Barka coming along with him to serve as witness to the conversations and he will also insist that the talks be held in a public bar or restaurant.

19. The remainder of the day was spent going over A/29's five months' accounting. He did an exceptionally good job of trying to keep his accounting in order. The undersigned complimented and thanked him for his efforts. The meeting ended at 5:30. A/2 and A/29 were planning to catch a plane for New York at 7 p.m.

[]

SECRET