Approved For Release 2005/01/31 : NLC-6-81-1-46-5

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INR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS OF DEVELOPMENTS IN HUMAN RIGHTS

No. 105, May 11, 1979

SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPE

Soviet Union

Two Ukrainian Nationalists. INR Review and Analysis. The two extremes, of the Ukrainian nationalist movement are now represented in the Ukrainian community abroad by ex-Soviet general Piotr Grigorenko and by Valentyn Moroz, who was recently released in the exchange of five Soviet dissidents for two Soviet spies.

Moroz is a Ukrainian nationalist of such extreme and uncompromising views that he was ostracized in labor camp by his fellow political prisoners. A report smuggled out of the Mordovian labor camp by a committee of political prisoners (published in the samizdat Chronicle of Current Events, No. 47, November 1977) accused Moroz of "inflaming national hatreds (especially toward Russians and Jews) and lacking respect for the views of his fellow prisoners and comrades. He refuses to sign any collective letters and declarations addressed either to Soviet authorities or abroad or to participate in collective hunger strikes.... Therefore the committee demands that inmates Moroz and Gel'[another extremist Ukrainian] be subjected to ostracism and their names not mentioned in samizdat documents or other materials.... All Ukrainian political prisoners with the exception of Gel' have joined in the condemnation of Moroz." The three members of the committee who signed the document included Eduard Kuznetsov, another member of the five who were exchanged.

Tensions between some members of the group persisted after release and were evident in the difficulty they had in drafting a joint statement for their press conference and in the plea of Moroz to journalists that he be considered a Ukrainian dissident, not a Russian one.

Grigorenko, on the other hand, is a Ukrainian nationalist of moderate views who regards independence for the Ukraine at best a distant goal. For the present, he calls upon Ukrainians to cooperate with other human rights activists in seeking to liberalize the Soviet system and giving reality to national rights within the framework of a foderal state, as set forth in the Soviet Constitution.

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State Department review completed

During a recent speaking engagement in Washington, Grigorenko addressed a mixed audience of Ukrainians and Russians. Speaking alternately in Ukrainian and Russian, he called for cooperation between the two national groups and described himself as equally at home among Russians and Ukrainians. Such an approach would have been repugnant inconceivable for Moroz. (CONFIDENTIAL)

Soviet Writer Vladimov Under Pressure. Recent threats and other harassments against prominent Soviet writer and chairman of Amnesty International's Soviet Section Georgiy Vladimov have the apparent aim of driving him into exile. According to the French PEN Club (Vladimov is an associate member), the harassments were followed by a pointed hint: he received an exit visa for Israel, even though he had never applied for one. (UNCLASSIFIED, Le Figaro, April 24)

Poland

Accreditation Fee Requirement Dropped. Warsaw announced on May 5 that payment of a \$350 "accreditation fee" would not be mandatory for Western journalists wishing to cover the papal visit to Poland in early June. Under the new ruling, Western correspondents will have the option of either purchasing, as before, a "package of services" at \$350, or paying only for services actually received according to a detailed fee schedule. (UNCLASSIFIED, Reuter, May 3 and PAP, May 5)

INR Comment: Warsaw's decision evidently reflects both its sensitivity to Western charges that the fee violates the CSCE provisions on free flow of information, as well as its concern over possible loss of revenue due to cancellations by newsmen protesting the fee. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

China

Beijing's Political Prisons. In recent days several accounts of conditions in China's little known political prisons have appeared. One account is based on a twenty-page wall poster written in early March by dissident. Wei Jingsheng who has since been arrested. It chronicles conditions of detention in Qin Cheng Number 1, a prison for high level political figures in the Beijing suburbs. The notorious "Gang of Four" is said to be held in Qin Cheng, and in the past it housed such VIP's as the widow of former PRC

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