

## WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

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The item identified below has been withdrawn from this file:

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Document Date: 03-16-1981

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Special Media:

From: SAC, Cleveland

To: Director, FBI

Subject: Possible KGB utilization of misinformation in U.S.  
judicial process

In the review of this file this item was removed because access to it is restricted. Restrictions on records in the National Archives are stated in general and specific record group restriction statements which are available for examination.

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FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

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## PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate  
☐ Priority  
☐ Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET  
☒ SECRET  
☐ CONFIDENTIAL  
☐ UNCLAS E F T O  
☐ UNCLAS

Date 3/16/81

SECRET

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (s)

FROM: SAC, CLEVELAND (s)

RE: POSSIBLE KGB UTILIZATION OF  
 MISINFORMATION IN U. S. JUDICIAL  
 PROCESS - TRIAL OF JOHN DEMJANJUK,  
 CLEVELAND, OHIO, 1981  
 [ FCI - R ]

DROB 4-3-20 DUB MACHARENZI, UKRAINE

John Demjanjuk, a 60-year old Ukrainian, born and naturalized U. S. citizen, stood trial for denaturalization in the U. S. Northern District Court of Ohio. The trial has just ended, however, the judicial decision will not be handed down for approximately another month. U. S. Government attorneys sought to have Demjanjuk's citizenship revoked. They alleged he concealed and misrepresented certain facts on his U. S. citizenship applications. The government further alleges that Demjanjuk falsified the application because he collaborated with the Nazis during World War II, and because he feared being returned to the USSR as he now alleges. (U)

The trial resulted, and continues to do so, in national publicity, and has been particularly divisive in the local Ukrainian and Jewish communities. Media coverage has been intensive. (U)

In the March 5, 1981 edition of the Cleveland Plain Dealer newspaper, an article appeared setting forth the results of a reporter's interview of Valentyn Moroz, a Ukrainian dissident who stated he spent 14 years in a Soviet prison because of his activities in the Ukrainian national movement.

SECRET 184

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY 8618  
 REASON FOR EXTENSION FCIM, II, 1-2, 4, 2, (2) (3)  
 DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 3/16/81

2 - Bureau (RM)  
 1 - Cleveland

NAZI WAR CRIMES

TB:kry  
 (3)

64 APR 16 1981

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 DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 4, 6

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SECRET

CV [105H-New] (S)(u)

Moroz asserted the Americans should not allow the Soviet Union to provide evidence for trials in the U. S. He was referring to the U. S. government's use of Soviet evidence in the aforementioned trial. Moroz maintained the Demjanjuk trial is political, and throughout the trial Ukrainians have complained about Soviet evidence being used in U. S. courts. Moroz said, "The Soviets don't need (to get) Demjanjuk. He is not a political force. But what they are looking for is a precedent. If it works, they will try it again and again and again." He contended the Soviet Union cannot be trusted because it faked evidence and has forged documents in the past. He said he and many others have been victimized. (U)

He explained the Soviets enjoy having the Demjanjuk trial take place because it takes attention away from atrocities in the Soviet Union, and may drive a wedge between Jews and Ukrainians who are strong allies in the human rights campaign there. He said, "What is taking place is a Soviet trial in an American court. The Soviets are doing their work with American hands. Why doesn't the American government spend their money looking for Soviet spies in the U.S.?" (U)

During the course of this trial, similar and even stronger allegations have been made by the Ukrainian community, which have appeared in various local media, to the effect that the KGB is furnishing fake evidence in the form of fake documents in the Demjanjuk trial. One particular former asset of the Cleveland Office whose reliability has been established regarding ~~OTHER~~ types of information, but whose information concerning the Demjanjuk trial cannot be substantiated at the present time, advised the Soviets have kept track of the Ukrainian community in Cleveland including Demjanjuk with the assistance of two Cleveland attorneys. The source advised that these attorneys have traveled to the USSR and have had dealings with Soviet Embassy in Washington D.C. in the past, and appear to have taken much more than a routine interest in the Demjanjuk trial. (S)(u)

The Cleveland Ukrainian community has made numerous allegations of Soviet, even KGB interference in its affairs. These and similar allegations, have become more strident during the course of the Demjanjuk trial. (S)(u)

Cleveland feels now would be a propitious time to put forth a significant effort to initiate as many contacts as possible among the Cleveland area Ukrainians. The most beneficial results of such efforts would be to determine if there is any genuine substance to the aforementioned Ukrainian allegations. [REDACTED]

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CV [105H-New] (S)(u)

[REDACTED] (S)

Cleveland plans to take the following steps: A thorough review of press coverage of the Demjanjuk trial in order to obtain, first an over-all and then a detailed picture of precisely what the Ukrainians are claiming not only in relation to Demjanjuk and his denaturalization trial, but also the alleged nature and extent of Soviet (KGB) penetration of local and national Ukrainian affairs. Names of spokesmen for the Ukrainian community who have been quoted in newspaper articles will be further considered for specific interviews, UACB. (S)(u)

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REFER TO [REDACTED] EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE