

MAGAZINE

# RAZVEDCHIK

We search for knowledge not for glory's sake — But to learn the truth for the good of our State! N° 1 DECEMBER 2022



«SPECIAL PEOPLE, OF  
SPECIAL QUALITY,  
WITH SPECIAL BELIEFS.  
THESE ARE PEOPLE OF  
A SPECIAL MOULD»

V. Putin

INTELLIGENCE  
AND THE WORLD

POLAND'S DREAMS OF THE  
«EASTERN BORDERLANDS»

THE LAST INTERVIEW  
WITH GEORGE BLAKE



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IT IS MOST OFTEN BORN IN A DISPUTE —  
NOT FOR NOTHING IN RUSSIA THEY SAY, "LOOK INTO THE ROOT!"  
OUR RUSSIAN PEOPLE WITH THEIR INQUISITIVE MIND  
WILL LEAD OTHERS THROUGH LIFE LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND!  
WE SEARCH FOR KNOWLEDGE NOT FOR GLORY'S SAKE —  
BUT TO LEARN THE TRUTH FOR THE GOOD OF OUR STATE!



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Mikhail Pogudin, chairman of the Veterans council of the SVR of Russia, chairman of the board of the "Soglasie" charitable foundation

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## Dear readers, colleagues, friends!

**I**n the current special conditions, when a large-scale hybrid war is actually being waged against our country and the Western centers of information and psychological operations daily pour out a flood of lies, sometimes quite skillfully fabricated and carefully disguised as truthful information, on each and every one of us, it is extremely important to have reliable reference points to help us not to drown in this ocean of misinformation, to sift out everything unnecessary and to quickly understand the essence of events.

For this reason, I was happy to support the initiative born in the veteran circles of the Foreign Intelligence Service to publish the magazine «Razvedchik». I consider it extremely important and timely. I am sure that with its publication our difficult profession, as well as the work of the Service as a whole, will become more understandable to the Russian society.

One of the most important missions of the publication is to popularize high-quality domestic analytics, including the researches of young scientists and student scientific associations looking for answers to the most burning issues of the day. The magazine is also intended to become a platform for informal discussion of strategic priorities of our country's development and the problems of modern society. I expect that among the active participants in those discussions, in addition to representatives of the journalistic and expert community and members of patriotic organizations, will be the Russian youth, who in the short term are

to build the future of our country with their own hands, defend and protect Russia's chosen course for sovereign development.

The editorial board of «Razvedchik» is open to a serious and substantive dialogue with not indifferent audience. It is your opinion, dear readers, that will largely determine what material will appear on the pages of our magazine in the future. I will say right away that we cannot reveal all the secrets - the laws of the genre require it from the Service. But there is one thing I can say for sure: declassified documents will be published here, along with exclusive reports and interviews, allowing, so to speak, to get to know about our unique operations and truly heroic people at first hand.

Thank you for your interest in the magazine and our profession.

Looking forward to new meetings with «Razvedchik»!

Sergei Naryshkin,  
Director of the Foreign Intelligence Service





# Intelligence and the World

**Our world has entered an era of large-scale changes, characterized by acceleration of the transformation of the existing balance of power on the planet, emergence of new influential players and centers of economic gravity, and decline in the importance of once powerful states.**

Text: Sergey Naryshkin, Director of the Foreign Intelligence Service of the Russian Federation

The political elites of Western countries try not to acknowledge the objective trends in the formation of an «uncomfortable» multipolar world order based on justice, respect for the interests of all peoples, respect for their right to decide their own destiny, preservation and development of historical and spiritual traditions and values. On the pretext of ensuring freedom and equality, the world is offered to surrender sovereignty and national identity, to ignore historical truth and even common sense.

With a manic commitment to the paradigm of absolute dominance and to the implementation of the model of totalitarian-liberal globalism, the United States and its allies have embarked on a course of dismantling the existing international legal and security architecture, using methods that are far from being fair. Using the slogans of freedom and democracy, the so-called collective West continues to cynically interfere in the internal affairs of sovereign states, resorting to open threats and coercive pressure, financial and political blackmail. Under the guise of combating corruption and serving the

people, the supranational elites promote partisan populists to positions of leadership in countries of interest to them, and those people, as practice shows, ultimately become gravediggers of their states' sovereignty and national identity.

The vast majority of countries in the world objectively assess the double standards and crude methods used by Washington to address key issues. Three-quarters of the planet's inhabitants are not ready to live under the «democratic» dictates of the United States; they are striving for a genuine, not pretended, sovereignty, because they are aware that maintaining the hegemony of the Anglo-Saxon elites will result in the stagnation of the development of global civilisation, the abolition of culture and history and the emergence of neo-liberal totalitarianism. Progressive peoples are placing their hopes for a just world order based on multipolarity. In this regard, a defeat of the collective West, which imposes on the rest of humanity the contours of a future that is exclusively beneficial to itself, appears inevitable.

One of the destructive scenarios developed by Washington, aimed at containing, weakening and collapsing Russia, has been implemented in Ukraine since 2014. Under the pretext of protecting Ukrainian statehood - and essentially a pro-Western, anti-Russian puppet regime - the United States and its allies launched an unprecedented campaign of total Russophobia, trying to «punish» and even «eliminate» Russia, which fundamentally violates basic democratic principles, including human rights and the inviolability of private property, which our opponents have been proud of for decades.

However, the US-provoked armed conflict in Ukraine has changed the course of modern geopolitical processes customary to the Anglo-Saxon world, challenging the maintenance of unconditional dominance of Washington and its satellites. The tectonic plates of history are shifting. The world will never be the same. It is not for nothing that in one of his speeches in July 2022, the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, emphasised the fact that «they (Western countries - editor's note) should have realised that they lost from the very beginning of our special operation, because its beginning means the start of a radical collapse of the American-style world order. This is the beginning of the transition from liberal-globalist American egocentrism to a truly multipolar world... And we must understand that this process cannot be stopped. The course of history is inexorable».

Yet one should not count on the United States and its allies to voluntarily admit defeat and enter into a constructive dialogue on the future world order on an equal footing. On the contrary, it is expected that the collective West will intensify the development of the latest weapons systems and accelerate research into the creation of biological, genetic and other weapons. At the same time, attempts to destabilise Central Asia and Transcaucasia will continue as part of the White House's well-known policy of creating a belt of instability along Russia's external borders. In addition, Washington will continue to «shake up» the domestic political situation in the People's Republic of China, provoke increasing tensions in the Taiwan Strait and

on the Korean peninsula, seek to weaken and replace the governments of Cuba, Iran and Venezuela, which are undesirable to the West, and make new attempts to forcibly impose «democracy» in other countries, playing its usual role of global power broker.

In light of these considerations, the security of the Russian Federation has become one of the most pressing strategic concerns. Its successful solution requires timely receipt of classified information and its qualified processing by competent structures in order to proactively respond to emerging challenges and threats. As you understand, we are talking about foreign intelligence.

The concept of «intelligence» exists in all languages of the world, although it sounds different. The Poles, for example, use the term wywiad, the Czechs - vyžvědět, the Germans - aufklärung, the French - renseignement, in the English-speaking world the word intelligence is used. In Russian, the concept of intelligence comes from the verb «vedat'», which means «to know, to recognise, to acquire knowledge».

Intelligence is inseparable from the state and will be in demand as long as national boundaries and interests exist. Its main functions remain unchanged under any political system.

The word «mir (мир)», on the other hand - and this is a peculiarity of our language - is polysemic, meaning either «peace» or «world». It means not only the absence of war («peace»), but also a community of people who perceive themselves as a unified entity, bound together by historical traditions and a shared system of values. That is why the Russian title of this article includes the word «mir» (society, people, universe) in its old-style spelling (миръ), because the role of intelligence is undoubtedly broader than just preventing military action.

At the same time, intelligence is inseparable from the state and will be in demand as long as national borders and interests exist. Its



fundamental functions remain the same in any political system and consist in providing the country's leaders with reliable and up-to-date information and making forecasts based on this information. When intelligence officers and diplomats fail, the army steps in. It is for this reason that in medieval Europe the Latin inscription *Ultima ratio regum*, which translates as «The Last Argument of Kings», was cast on cannons.

Despite certain commonalities of the tasks to be solved, all intelligence services in the world have national specificities, which manifest themselves in the forms and methods of their activities. For example, the intelligence services

the necessary information from ambassadors, merchants, wanderers, defectors and foreigners. Thus, Boyar Zakhary Tyutchev, who was on a diplomatic mission in the Mongol capital of Karakorum, on the eve of the Battle of Kulikovo warned the Russian prince Dmitry Donskoy of Mamai's impending offensive and his alliance with the Lithuanian and Ryazan princes.

The creation of the Posolsky Prikaz (Ambassadorial Office) in 1549 on the initiative of Ivan IV - the first independent structure in the Russian state responsible for foreign policy issues - became an important milestone in the development of domestic intelligence. The most educated people of the time with knowledge of foreign languages were involved in the work of the prikaz: those were interpreters, also able to evaluate and systematize information received from abroad. In 1654, under Alexei Mikhailovich, the Prikaz taynykh del (Secret Police) was created, whose officials performed functions similar to modern intelligence and counter-intelligence activities. The Posolsky prikaz continued to play a key role in obtaining information from abroad. At the same time, in the middle of the 17th century, ciphers were used for the first time for confidential correspondence with ambassadors.

Peter the Great can rightly be considered the founder of domestic scientific and technical intelligence. Suffice it to recall the Great Embassy of 1697-1698, during which valuable data were collected that made it possible to begin the modernization of the Russian state, and more than a thousand foreign engineers, shipbuilders and military specialists were invited to Moscow, whose knowledge and experience contributed to accelerating the implementation of reforms.

It was only at the beginning of the 19th century that the authorities of the Russian Empire began to think about creating an independent structure for professional and systematic foreign intelligence, when they were faced with serious pressure from European states and the need to proactively identify their plans. In 1810, in a number of Russian embassies abroad, military agents appeared whose task was to collect secret information. In 1856, Alexander II

Peter the Great can rightly be considered the founder of domestic scientific and technical intelligence. Suffice it to recall the Great Embassy of 1697-1698, during which valuable data were collected that made it possible to begin the modernization of the Russian state.

of only some of the modern states have enough experience to organize themselves and work successfully from illegal positions. As you know, Russia is one of them. Deep cover intelligence officers can, without exaggeration, be called heroes, who for many years, even decades, carry out their duties under a false name and in a hostile environment. As the legendary Russian intelligence officer Dmitri Bystroletov rightly remarked, «a deep cover agent is the quintessence of an intelligence officer, moving towards his intended target along the edge of a sharpened knife».

The first mentions of domestic intelligence date back to the formation of the Russian state. In those distant times, «finding out» the enemy's plans, or in modern terms, obtaining intelligence information, was the task of princes and voivodes. Defending their lands against nomadic raids or involved in internal feuds, the princely troops watched the enemy, sent spies into his camp and obtained



issued special instructions for them to study foreign experience in warfare and obtain military-technical information.

In the same years, political intelligence was established as a separate branch of the Third Department of His Imperial Majesty's Own Chancellery (1826-1880) and the Police Department of the Ministry of the Interior (1880-1917), which had an extensive intelligence apparatus abroad. Among its creators was the Pole Adam Sagtynski, who gathered information on a wide range of issues, from the political and security situation in certain countries to military reforms and technical innovations. The poet Yakov Tolstoy can also be considered a brilliant professional and an outstanding Russian intelligence officer of that time, who managed to establish close contacts with the Parisian press in order to carry out, in modern terms, information and propaganda operations.

The history of the Foreign Intelligence Service begins on 20 December 1920, when the Chairman of the All-Russian Extraordinary Commission, Felix Dzerzhinsky, signed Order No. 169 on the creation of a Foreign Intelligence Department - INO - within the structure of the Cheka. His statement is well known: «Only serious, properly conducted reconnaissance will save us from random, blind moves». Later, on June 28, 1922, under the conditions of strict international isolation of the Soviet Russia, an independent department was created within the structure of the INO to work abroad from illegal positions - the future Directorate «S», the 100th anniversary of which was solemnly celebrated in June 2022.

Among the intelligence officers of the «revolutionary conscription» were many former emigré officers with excellent knowledge of foreign languages. Thanks largely to their dedication and experience,





the INO almost immediately became the main channel for obtaining information about the policies of European governments and began to play a leading role in the Soviet intelligence community of the time, which also included the People's Commissariat for Foreign Affairs, the Comintern apparatus and military intelligence structures. With the help of the INO, the tasks of promoting the accelerated industrialization of the USSR were also successfully solved. In particular, European technologies and models of advanced developments of importance to the defense industry, which had been acquired in the pre-war years, largely enabled not only the launch of new production, but also the rapid development of the country, breaking the Western monopoly on key know-how.

The most important stage in the formation of Soviet intelligence and the professional development of its personnel was the period of struggle against Nazi Germany. It was during those hard for our people years that invaluable experience was gained, which later enabled the Russian special services to achieve significant successes on the fronts of the Cold War. Declassified intelligence materials on the Third Reich's military-strategic plans, the behind-the-scenes maneuvers of the USSR's Western allies, and the receipt of technical documentation for the US nuclear project are well known. I would just like to quote the words of the former CIA director Allen Dulles, who admitted that «the information obtained by Moscow during the World War II was the dream of every intelligence agency in the world».

We must not forget the contribution of the domestic secret service to the guerilla movement. According to historians, about one third of the guerilla detachments (more than a million people) operated under its direct leadership. Many intelligence officers were awarded military orders and medals for fulfilling special missions behind the frontline, and nine were awarded the high title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

The victorious May of 1945 set new priority tasks for the structures of domestic foreign intelligence, including identifying the aggressive intentions of Western states and their blocs towards the USSR, promoting the strengthening of defense capabilities and the development of industry in our country. Among the achievements of the Foreign Intelligence Service in the post-war period are the obtaining of documentary materials on NATO plans for preventive nuclear strikes on the USSR, successful and effective participation in the settlement of the Suez and Cuban Missile crises, ensuring the course of international détente pursued by the Soviet leadership, exposing the plans of Washington and its satellites for economic «suffocation» of the Soviet Union.

After the collapse of the USSR in the early 1990s, the domestic intelligence services had to quickly rebuild and adapt to new conditions. However, even during this difficult for our country period of political and economic turbulence, the Foreign Intelligence Service, the successor to the KGB's PGU, managed not only to maintain human potential and a valuable intelligence apparatus, but also to significantly increase its functionality, learning to respond adequately to new international challenges and threats. A great deal of credit undoubtedly goes to the first head of the SVR, Yevgeny Maksimovich Primakov, a man of the highest erudition and talent, whose authority and deep understanding of the intelligence services' tasks enabled the service to take its rightful place in the system of state bodies in modern Russia.

Speaking of the activities of the domestic intelligence services in the 20th and early 21st centuries, we can confidently say that

the hundred years that have passed since the creation of the Cheka's Foreign Department have become the «golden age» of foreign intelligence. Its officers made an invaluable contribution to the security, economic, scientific and technological development of our country, selflessly, and sometimes at the risk of their lives, solving the most difficult problems. The names of Yakov Serebryansky and Naum Eitingon, Dmitry Bystroletov and Joseph Grigulevich, Pavel Fitin and Nikolai Kuznetsov, Kim Philby and Alexey Botyan, Conon Molody and George Blake, William Fisher (Rudolf Abel) and Alexey Kozlov, the Vartanyan couple, Yuri Shevchenko and the other heroes of the invisible front are forever inscribed in the annals of Russian intelligence and serve as examples of the highest professionalism, patriotism and personal courage. I am convinced that the next generations of officers of the service will work just as worthily and effectively for the benefit of the Fatherland, defending Russia's interests in the areas they are responsible for.

The hundred years that have passed since the creation of the Cheka's foreign department have become the «golden age» of foreign intelligence. Its officers made an invaluable contribution to ensuring the security, economic, scientific and technical development of our country.

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize once again that the coordinated and effective activities of the domestic foreign intelligence services aimed at safeguarding Russia's vital interests have been and will continue to be of the utmost importance. It is the key to preserving our country's thousand-year-old unique culture, sustainable development and prosperity of our multinational motherland. The century-long history of the foreign department of the Cheka - the first main directorate of the KGB - SVR allows us to rightly consider the domestic foreign intelligence service as the third «loyal ally of Russia» along with the army and the navy.





Dear readers!

Russia and the Russian world are once again, as it has happened many times in our thousand-year history, faced with serious, without exaggeration, existential threats caused by the profound transformation of the global political, financial and economic world order going on before our eyes.

Comprehension of these complex geopolitical processes of our time, understanding their secret springs and mechanisms has made us, veterans of the Foreign Intelligence Service, think about creating an independent socio-political magazine, on whose pages we could share our knowledge with a wide audience. Moreover, according to our point of view, authors of this magazine could be not only retired employees of the Service, but also major Russian scientists, leading Russian analysts and experts, public and political figures, whose professional and life experience, enlightened patriotism, open-minded and unbiased view of global events will contribute to the formation among readers of an objective picture of the world, will serve as intellectual support for the work of state and social institutions of Russia.

At the same time, the range of interests of the creators of "Razvedchik" goes far beyond the socio-political sphere. The pages of the magazine will contain educational materials on a wide range of topical issues: from science and technology to culture and art. This will allow our readers to understand better the essence of what is happening in Russia and in the world, provide new knowledge and the opportunity to look beyond the horizon of current global processes. Our plans also include the publication of unique archival documents of the SVR, which unbiasedly and in detail describe fateful

historical events, as well as the disclosure of previously unknown facts about the activities of the world's leading intelligence services. This work will undoubtedly be supported by the powerful intellectual resource of the Service's employees, current and former, who have extensive experience in operational and analytical work, broad regional knowledge, and skills in systematic studying of world problems.

And of course, the magazine will tell in detail about our outstanding intelligence officers, for whom the motto "Fatherland, Valor, Honor" became the purpose of their whole life. We certainly have much more to share remembering these amazing people, their incredible destinies and heroic deeds. In our turn, we – retired intelligence officers, compassionate people with an active life position – will tell you about affairs of the veteran organization of the Service.

Sincerely yours, Mikhail Pogudin

1  
January  
1912

Harold Adrian Russell Kim Philby, intelligence officer, member of the Cambridge Five, was born in the city of Ambala in India. He began collaborating with Soviet intelligence in 1934 on an ideological basis. In 1940, on instructions from the Center, he enlisted in the British Secret Intelligence Service. Since 1944, he was the head of the department involved in the study of Soviet and communist activities in Great Britain. In 1949–1951 he headed the liaison mission in Washington between British intelligence and the CIA. Due to the threat of failure, in 1963 he was illegally taken out to the USSR. He worked in Soviet foreign intelligence as an adviser on Western intelligence services, training future intelligence officers. He was awarded the Order of the Patriotic War, 1st degree, the Order of Friendship of Peoples, many medals, and the badge "Honorary State Security Officer."



17  
January  
1922

Konon Molody, undercover Soviet intelligence agent, was born in Moscow. From 1932 to 1939, with the permission of the Soviet leadership, he lived with his relatives in the USA. He attended high school in Berkeley. During the Great Patriotic War, he served in divisional intelligence. Since 1951 he worked in foreign intelligence. Under the cover name of Canadian businessman Gordon Lonsdale, he worked illegally in England since 1954. In 1961, as a result of betrayal, he was arrested. In 1964 he was exchanged for a British intelligence agent. He was awarded the Orders of the Patriotic War, 1st and 2nd degrees, the Red Star, the Red Banner of Labor, and the badge "Honorary State Security Officer."

24  
January  
1942

Start of the "Monastir" operation aimed at disinformation of the German intelligence services and suppression of their subversive activities on the territory of the USSR. Subsequently, it grew into an operational radio game to promote disinformation of military and political nature to the enemy. The main participant in the operation was an employee of the Fourth Directorate of the NKVD of the USSR, Alexander Demyanov, pseudonym "Heine". Operation «Monastir» is considered one of the largest and most effective radio games carried out during the Great Patriotic War.



27  
February  
1932

Yevgeny Kim, illegal intelligence agent, was born in the Gochang Country, in Korea. He was enlisted in the special reserve of the First Main Directorate of the KGB of the USSR in 1960, and six years later he was transferred abroad. In 1987 he was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union. He was awarded the Order of Merit for the Fatherland, 4th degree, Orders of Lenin, Red Banner, Red Star, many medals, badges "Honorary State Security Officer" and "For Service in Intelligence". Tragically died as a result of a car accident in November 1998.

24  
June  
1912

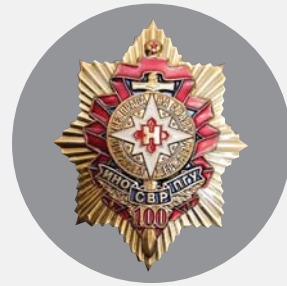
Ivan Kudrya, foreign intelligence officer, was born. Since 1934 he served in the border troops. After completing the NKVD courses, he was hired by the central apparatus of foreign intelligence. In March 1941, he was sent on a special mission to the territory of Ukraine and was involved in the development of a nationalist underground. At the beginning of the war, he was left in Kyiv to lead an underground sabotage and reconnaissance group. July 5, 1942, as a result of betrayal, he was captured by the Gestapo and executed. In 1965 he was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.



# 28

June  
1922

Soviet illegal foreign intelligence was formed.



# 1

July  
1992

The regulations on the Veterans Council of the Foreign Intelligence Service of the Russian Federation were approved. Currently, the chairman of the Council of Veterans of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service is the retired Lieutenant General Mikhail Pogudin.



# 7

July  
1907

Pavel Sudoplatov, one of the heads of foreign intelligence, was born in Melitopol. After finishing the courses for political workers, he served in the Zhitomir-Volyn and Kharkiv departments of the GPU. Since April 1933 he served in the foreign intelligence service. In 1935–1938 he worked as illegal foreign agent in Germany and Finland. Since May 1939 was Deputy Chief of Foreign Intelligence. He was awarded three Orders of the Red Banner, the Order of Suvorov 2nd degree, two Orders of the Red Star, the "Honored Worker of the NKVD" badge and medals. In August 1953 he was arrested and sentenced to 15 years in prison. He was rehabilitated in February 1992.



# 11

August  
1992

Russia adopted the Federal Law "On Foreign Intelligence," according to which "foreign intelligence is an integral part of the security forces of the Russian Federation, designed to protect the security of individuals, society and the state from external threats using forces and means determined by law."



# 5

September  
1922

Vadim Kirpichenko, first deputy chief of foreign intelligence, was born in Kursk. With the beginning of the Great Patriotic War, he volunteered at the front. Participated in the battles for the capture of Vienna. In 1952 he was sent to work in foreign intelligence. He was head of stations in Tunisia and Egypt. Upon returning from missions, he was appointed head of illegal intelligence. From 1974 to 1991 he held the positions of Deputy, first Deputy of the KGB PGU. He was awarded Soviet and Russian orders, medals, foreign orders, and the badges "Honorary State Security Officer" and "For Service in Intelligence."

# 11

September  
1877

Felix Dzerzhinsky, party worker and statesman, first head of state security agencies, was born. On December 20, 1920, he signed order No. 169 to create a Foreign Affairs Department (INO) of the Cheka, the foreign intelligence.



# 11

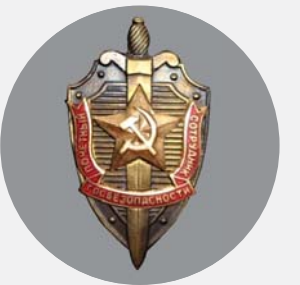
November  
1922

George Blake, a Soviet intelligence officer, was born in Rotterdam. During the World War II he was an active participant in the Resistance movement. In 1942 he moved to England and served as a volunteer in the navy. Since August 1944 he was British intelligence officer. In October 1948, he was appointed Deputy Resident of Secret Intelligence Service in Seoul. In the spring of 1951, he established contact with Soviet foreign intelligence. In 1953 he returned to London to the central intelligence apparatus. In the spring of 1961, as a result of betrayal, he was arrested. Four years later he escaped. Since 1965, he lived in Moscow and worked as a foreign intelligence consultant. He was awarded the Order of Lenin, the Red Banner, the Order of the Patriotic War, 1st degree, "For Personal Courage", many medals, the badges "Honorary State Security Officer" and "For Service in Intelligence" with the serial number 1.

# 6

December  
1957

For particularly distinguished employees of state security agencies, the badge "Honorary State Security Officer" was established. The awarding of this badge continued until 1991.



# 20

December  
1917

By decree of the Council of People's Commissars, the All-Russian Extraordinary Commission (VChK) was created to combat counter-revolution and sabotage; VChK was headed by Felix Dzerzhinsky.

# 28

December  
1907

Pavel Fitin, head of foreign intelligence from 1939 to 1946, was born. Following the party recruitment, he was sent to the NKVD. In 1939 he headed Soviet foreign intelligence. Since 1946, he was Deputy Commissioner of the Ministry of State Security (MGB) in Germany. Then he became Deputy Head of the MGB department for the Sverdlovsk region and head of the MGB of the Kazakh SSR. He was awarded two Orders of the Red Banner, the Order of the Red Star, many medals, and the badge "Honored Worker of the NKVD."







## To the head of the Foreign Intelligence Service of the Russian Federation, the Chairman of the Russian Historical Society S.E. Narishkin

### Dear Sergey Evgenyevich!

Greeting to you and dear readers of the new magazine called «Razvedchik» (intelligence officer)! Its first publication is undoubtedly quite a great event in Russian literature and journalism. I am sure that many people will agree with me: we lack a serious and thoughtful approach to analyzing and comprehending both history and modernity. First of all, we are talking about the opinions of experts, reflections of both experienced and young scholars. Of course, there is a need to publish documentary materials and testimonies, both those that were known and new ones that have recently been declassified. All this allows us to go deeply into the complex processes of international politics and to understand the real reasons for what is happening.

At the same time, I consider it a real gift for our contemporaries to be able to know about the activities of the foreign intelligence. Due to its specific nature, it is at the

forefront of events. For well-known and understandable reasons intelligence avoids publicity. However, this magazine gives us a unique opportunity to get acquainted with what is covered and incomprehensible to an average person.

Intelligence activity itself always attracts attention because of its mystique, and personalities in intelligence history attract attention by their courage. Proof of this is the fact that articles about intelligence and its legendary heroes, which appeared on the pages of “Moskovsky Komsomolets”, one of the country’s largest federal newspapers, have always been the most read and resonated with the audience.

I have no doubt that the new magazine will be in demand and will occupy its niche. Good luck, “Razvedchik”.

[Pavel Gusev](#),  
Editor-in-Chief of MK, Chairman of the Moscow Union of Journalists



## To the head of the Foreign Intelligence Service of the Russian Federation, the Chairman of the Russian Historical Society S.E. Narishkin

### Dear Sergei Evgenyevich!

We welcome an addition to the ranks of the printed press. We sincerely congratulate you and look forward to the publication of the first issue of the independent socio-political magazine «Razvedchik» (intelligence officer). The name alone speaks about the main theme of the magazine. The timing of the publication is extremely precise. Our great country is successfully resisting the attacks of the West, defending its independence and sovereignty. And, as always in difficult moments of the Russian history, a huge role in this battle is played by foreign intelligence. Mostly it was thanks to its heroic efforts that nuclear parity was achieved. Throughout the post-war decades, foreign intelligence constantly prevented all threats to the security of the Motherland coming from our constant opponents.

We are sure that the magazine «Razvedchik» will help to learn about the heroes of the Service, to get acquainted with the biographies of those of its representatives, who by the will of circumstances are only coming out of the shadows, to read previously classified materials. And what

a glorious history has the Russian intelligence agency that celebrated its 100th anniversary! We can imagine how many new pages in this chronicle will be opened.

The creative team of the editorial office, highly professional in every sense of the word, has a real opportunity to become a popular and favorite publication among the widest range of readers. Not only do we wish this to our colleague, and if I may say so, to our friend «Razvedchik», but we are also ready to send the best journalistic and writing feathers of Rossiyskaya Gazeta to «literary intelligence». After all, «RG» pays considerable attention to this topic. We are proud that it was on our pages that you, Sergey Evgenyevich, told our readers in detail about Pavel Mikhailovich Fitin, the chief of the intelligence service during the war years. Thanks to you the newspaper’s readers had an opportunity to learn the names of the leading representatives of this unique profession. Looking forward to new discoveries and wishing you good luck in your creative work!

[Vladislav Fronin](#),  
Editor-in-Chief of “Rossiyskaya Gazeta”

# Meeting of CIS intelligence chiefs



**On September 29, 2022, delegations from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan arrived in Moscow to participate in a meeting of the heads of security and intelligence agencies of the CIS countries.**

Events in this format have been held since 1992, when an agreement was signed in Alma-Ata «on the basic principles of cooperation between the intelligence services of the state security agencies of the CIS member states». Since the early 2000s, communication at the level of heads of agencies has become systematic. In 2022, the eighteenth meeting of the heads of intelligence agencies was held.

In his welcoming address to the participants of the meeting, Russian President Vladimir Putin noted that such meetings are an important element and a mechanism for strengthening collective security, and said that stability in the post-Soviet space remains a constant priority for all members of the Commonwealth. «Joining of the efforts of your structures expands their capabilities, makes it possible to achieve better results, to use

available resources more rationally. That is why it is necessary to actively develop cooperation in future: from information exchange to joint special operations and personnel training», the Russian leader emphasized, having recalled the rich experience of cooperation between the special services of the Commonwealth, which are at the cutting edge of the fight against the most dangerous threats.

The results of the meeting showed that the CIS partners not only share Russia's view of the current situation in the world, have similar assessments and approaches to the main external challenges, including in the information sphere and cyberspace, but also advocate stepping up joint efforts to counter emerging threats. In particular, the memorandum adopted at the meeting states the intention of the partner intelligence services

to expand the forms and areas of practical cooperation, deepen information exchange, and develop the legal framework for bilateral and multilateral cooperation. It is planned to pay special attention to ensuring the economic security of the CIS member states, countering the Western sanctions policy, which threatens the interests of all members of the Commonwealth, and ensuring reliable protection of the Commonwealth's information space and critical infrastructure.

It seems that the deepening of partnership cooperation in such a sensitive area as foreign intelligence will have a positive impact on the general level of mutual trust, contributing to the further development of integration processes in the CIS space in the interests of stability and prosperity of our states.





# Eurasian integration is the answer to the Western globalization model

**Globalization as a process of forming a single market for goods, services, capital, labor and information remains a key factor in the global development. The outdated Western model with undisputed US dominance is being replaced with a multipolar structure in which Eurasian integration plays a leading role.**

Text by: Mikhail Krotov, professor of Lomonosov Moscow State University and Saint-Petersburg State University, Doctor of Sciences in Economics

January 1, 2023 marks eight years since the launch of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), the main integration project in the post-Soviet space, designed to promote the dynamic and sustainable development of the member states, to increase their competitiveness and overall weight on the global stage.

I should say at once that this initiative, as well as its predecessor the EurAsEC, has never progressed smoothly. The USA and its allies, interested in the further fragmentation of the former USSR territory, have constantly opposed Moscow's attempts at reintegration within the CIS, while simultaneously launching their own projects aimed at isolating Russia and separating its closest neighbors from it. However, the year 2022 indeed became a challenge for the members of the union. The unprecedentedly tough sanctions imposed on Moscow and its allies have undermined the entire logic of ties within the EAEU and cast a cloud over the prospects for expanding international contacts.

It is all the more gratifying to see that our project is not only alive, but is dynamically developing despite external pressure. The meeting of the Supreme Eurasian Economic Council, the Eurasian Economic Forum and other events, held already in new circumstances, showed the readiness of the bloc members to make quick decisions in order to minimize damage from sanctions and to accelerate integration.

I am convinced that the success of the EAEU will be a strong incentive in favor of the Eurasian choice for the “undecided” members of the CIS – Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and other countries, as well as for states from other regions that hope to boost their economic development through participation in the Russian project. Tellingly, to date Vietnam, Iran, Serbia and Singapore have free trade agreements with the EAEU, seven countries – Egypt, Israel, India, Indonesia, China, Mongolia and Thailand – are at the negotiation stage, and about ten more,



including South Korea and Japan, have shown interest in cooperation with the bloc.

I believe that for a number of former USSR countries the negative results of the pro-Western and anti-Russian choice of Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine will play an important role in making a decision on the membership in the EAEU. Their “European” experience shows that, firstly, they have lost a significant share of the Eurasian market without making up for these losses in the EU. Secondly, as a result of breaking industrial ties with Russia, the process of deindustrialization has accelerated in the former Soviet republics. In addition, their failed transition to European technical regulations and standards deprived them of the opportunity to cooperate with the Western high-tech sector. Thirdly, economic recession forced the working population of these countries to leave the country to work abroad, including in Russia, and a considerable part of them chose not to return. In this context, the financial aid provided by

Brussels is of a “palliative” nature, supporting the survival of these states, but not their development.

At the same time, it is possible that as Russia's conflict with the West intensifies, certain politicians from a number of EAEU member states may have growing doubts about the advisability of staying in the same association with Moscow. First of all, we are talking about Kazakhstan, where this topic is actively pushed by local “patriots” and partisan media. Considering the solid legal foundation and extremely favorable conditions for Astana in the EAEU, it is difficult to imagine what consequences leaving the bloc may have. For example, the EU's direct losses from its own sanctions alone are estimated at more than \$400 billion per year. Obviously, sanction compliance would be disastrous for the economies of most CIS countries. And how can you cut off the flow of prohibited goods across the 7000-km-long Russian-Kazakh border without customs clearance?!

The Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin with the heads of delegations of the EAEU Intergovernmental Council in Yerevan. 2022. RIA Novosti



The Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin at a meeting with the heads of delegations of the EAEU member states in Minsk. 2022. RIA Novosti

The topic of a possible withdrawal from the EAEU is being discussed in Kyrgyzstan as well, though such a step also contradicts its national interests. The first to suffer will be migrant workers who number up to one million in Russia. If at least a quarter of them return home, this will pave the way for anti-government protests. Other negative consequences include: cut in financial aid from Russia, renegotiation of customs agreements with other members, and closed access to the single market. These would be followed by a drop in revenue for local businesses and rising social tension.

In this regard, I believe that we must not repeat our mistakes and must stop turning a blind eye to the fact that the bloc members participate in anti-Eurasian projects. For instance, it is obvious that after the EAEU Treaty was signed

in 2014, Armenia and Belarus should have withdrawn from the Eastern Partnership with the European Union. However, currently Minsk has only suspended its membership, and even then it was in response to Brussels' sanctions in 2021. At the same time, "the EU–Armenia Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement", signed in 2017, came into force – a simplified version of the association with Europe. Yerevan made this step without consultation with the Eurasian Economic Commission, stating that the agreement does not contradict the EAEU membership, but even a glimpse of the document suggests the opposite. The current Armenian authorities should finally make a decision and solve this problem within a reasonable period of time.

Speedy development and launch of joint import-substitution programs, implementation

of projects for the "West – East" and "North – South" transport corridors, formation of a common digital space, single oil and gas and financial markets are urgent tasks for all members of the association. Moreover, in relations between business structures of the EAEU member countries, it is necessary to completely exclude the English law with its practice of adjudicating disputes between business entities in London, Stockholm and other Western arbitrations. The current situation calls for speedy development of our own supranational independent system of courts and arbitrations at all levels. And this system must be spelled out in all agreements signed in the EAEU territory in addition to another important condition – a transition to national currencies in mutual settlements, which will fully conform to the nature of Russia's economic relations with partners in the region.

As several national banks of the neighboring countries, being afraid of so-called secondary sanctions, have refused to service cards of the Russian "Mir" payment system, it is necessary, in our peoples' interests, to more actively develop a network of Sberbank, VTB and other Russian banks' branch offices in the EAEU and CIS countries.

I am also convinced that it is time to go beyond the economic boundaries and resume the process of deeper integration. One of the first steps on this path could be creation of the Eurasian Interparliamentary Assembly. Let us recall that such a suggestion was put forward back in 2012 by then the Chairman of the State Duma, now the Head of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service (SVR), Sergey Naryshkin, but at that time the initiative was not supported. Meanwhile, the absence of such a structure makes it difficult to unify and harmonize national legislations and bring them into conformity with the Eurasian law. Besides, without a parliamentary body approving the EAEU budget, it is impossible to delegate taxing, financial and other powers to the Eurasian Economic Commission, as is the case, for example, in the EU.

Perhaps, promoting humanitarian integration and creating a single information space of

the EAEU are even more important tasks. They are the key to preserving the Eurasian civilizational identity. There will be no success in the economy without the peoples of Eurasia understanding the common fundamental values and preserving the collective historical memory, without common purposes and common language of communication. I hope that the ideas voiced in May 2022 at the forum in Bishkek about creating the Eurasian Confederation of Journalists, establishing the EAEU film academy and film award will be implemented in the very near future.

In 2021, the volume of mutual trade between the EAEU member states exceeded \$73 billion, which is almost 33% more than in 2020. This is the maximum figure ever recorded in the association. A slight increase of 4-4.5% is expected by the end of 2022. The Russian ruble remains the main currency for trade settlements within the union and is used to make about 72% of payments.

In general, it is necessary to increase comprehensive cooperation in the post-Soviet space, as well as to promote interaction with other like-minded states and integration structures. By joining efforts, we will speed up the formation of a new world order, which will be based on equality, trust, openness, respect for the rights and legitimate interests of each other.



# Poland's dreams of the «Eastern Borderlands»

Since the beginning of the special military operation in Ukraine, the issue of the fate of the so-called «Eastern Borderlands» - the territories in western Ukraine, as well as in Byelorussia and Lithuania, formerly part of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth (Rzeczpospolita) - has been voiced with renewed vigor in the ruling circles of the Republic of Poland. As shown by the actions of the Polish authorities, the issue of returning these lands is by no means closed, and many in Warsaw regard the recent developments in Ukraine as a favorable opportunity to take historical «revenge» and expand their possessions in the east.

As the Armed Forces of Ukraine (AFU) are suffering military setbacks, the Polish elites have started quickly to “forget” about the ideological heritage of Roman Dmowski, Jerzy Giedroyc and other theorists of national patriotism, who warned against being carried away by the dream of a Polish-Ukrainian union and attempts to return the “Eastern Kresy” (Polish: kresy, boundaries). The Polish authorities once again turned their attention to the seemingly forgotten Jagiellonian idea and the behests of Józef Piłsudski, who promoted the Polish “civilizing mission” in the east and annexed part of Ukrainian lands to the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth.

In the spring of 2022, almost from the very beginning of the special operation, Poland's claims for Western Ukraine became obvious. In close contact with Washington, Warsaw began to develop plans to establish tight military-political control over its “historic domain.” It was assumed that the first stage of “reunification” would be sending Polish troops to the western regions of Ukraine under the slogan of protecting them from “Russian aggression.”

Text: Nikolay Yefimov,  
editor-in-chief,  
«Krasnaya zvezda»  
newspaper, PhD

The Polish “peacekeeping mission” was to take place without NATO mandate, but with the participation of “willing states”. The contingent was to be deployed where the threat of confrontation with the Russian Armed Forces was minimal. The priority task of Polish units was to take control over strategic facilities in the occupied regions from Ukrainian National Guard. At the same time, the Polish special services were supposed to come into contact with the «negotiable» Ukrainian elite in order to form a Warsaw-oriented local «democratic» counterweight to the Ukrainian nationalists.

According to the Polish authorities' outlook, such activities should have resulted in a split of Ukraine, so that the occupied lands would naturally be ceded to Warsaw. In fact, the Poles wanted to repeat the historical deal of the First World War, when the West, represented by the Entente, recognized Poland's right first to occupy part of Ukraine to protect it from the «Bolshevik threat», and then to include these territories in the Polish state. At the same time, however, it appears that in the spring of that year Warsaw did not receive consent for carrying out a «peacekeeping operation» from either London or Washington.



Józef Piłsudski  
(in the middle)  
with his associates

After the May 1926 coup in Poland, General Józef Piłsudski came to power. He was the founder and first prime minister of the Polish Republic, also known as the Second Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth (1918-1939). An ardent supporter of the Jagiellonian idea, named after the Polish Jagiellonian dynasty ruling in Central and Eastern Europe in the 14th-16th centuries, which implied the «civilisational» development of the eastern lands, bringing them into the «bosom» of European culture and tough confrontation with Moscow. After the First World War Józef Piłsudski put forward the idea of Intermarium - a broad confederation consisting of Poland, Belarus, Latvia, Lithuania, Ukraine and other Eastern European countries. The borders of the

Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth were to stretch from the Adriatic, Aegean and Black Seas to the Baltic. The publicist Roman Dmowski created an organization of the national movement «The Camp of Greater Poland». His concept was based on the postulate that Poles should live on the lands of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, as well as peoples who, in his opinion, would yield to the process of polonization. Under the leadership of Józef Piłsudski, the Poles managed to annex Western Ukraine, Western Belarus and part of Lithuania with military force.





By mid-summer 2022, an analysis of the situation on the Ukrainian fronts made the Polish authorities realize the painful fact that the AFU was unable to stop the advance of the Russian troops, which were successfully solving all the tasks they were facing in the framework of the special military operation. In this regard, Warsaw assessed the prospects for survival of the Vladimir Zelensky regime as disappointing and began to work out scenarios for a de facto partition of Ukraine. Given the current critical circumstances, Warsaw began to lean toward the need to go beyond the previously planned deployment of a Polish «peacekeeping contingent» in western Ukraine. The Polish authorities started working through the option of creating a proxy state in the «Eastern Borderlands», which would be under Poland's control and the protection of the Polish armed forces. At the same time, a project to form a buffer

Boundaries of the Polish State before 1939 (marked in red)

zone in the central regions of Ukraine was under consideration, which, according to Warsaw's plan, would make it possible to avoid a highly undesirable direct military clash with Russia.

While hatching this plan, the Polish authorities were sure that the U.S. and Great Britain would be forced to support them. Warsaw believed that as Russian troops advanced deeper into the Ukrainian territory, Washington and London would have no choice but to show full solidarity with an ally ready to defend Western interests in Ukraine resolutely. Warsaw expected that, given the tense confrontation, neither Kiev, London, Washington, nor Moscow would pay attention to its preparation for the seizure of Ukrainian lands. The Polish ruling circles hoped that when the conflict in Ukraine entered the phase of diplomatic settlement, all parties would be forced to recognize «Polish expansion» as a fait accompli.

At the same time, Warsaw does not seem to notice that its ambitions and complexes have for many years been the cause of ridicule and irritation for its «patrons». In the declassified archives of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service there is, by the way, a very eloquent description of Polish foreign policy, given in 1935 by the head of the British Foreign Office John Simon: «The Polish government is pursuing an infantile policy of prestige, which interferes with the consolidation of peace in Europe and does not correspond to either political or military, nor financial position of Poland.» This assessment also applies to the policies of President Andrzej Duda, Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki and the chairman of the ruling party Law and Justice of Jaroslav Kaczynski.

There are many other facts indicating Warsaw's expansionist intentions towards its neighbor on its southeastern borders. The Polish authorities are trying to translate in «small steps» their dreams of returning the «Eastern Borderlands» into specific actions. In June 2022, it became known that Warsaw

was actively pushing Vladimir Zelensky's regime to transfer de facto control over the most important state functions and institutions to the Polish authorities. With Kyiv's consent, the Poles started particularly hosting the backup data processing centre of the State Tax Service of Ukraine (STSU). The Polish side informed the Ukrainian leadership that this would allegedly improve the efficiency of the agency's activities.

The main tasks of installing STSU equipment in Poland were taken over by the technology company Siltec, affiliated with local intelligence services. Representatives of American digital giants Dell, IBM and Cisco are providing methodological support and assistance to the ongoing activities. In other words, Kyiv is deliberately giving the Polish-American tandem access to information of national importance, including information about taxpayers and, consequently, the real financial situation in Ukraine. In this case, it is positively clear that the Kyiv authorities have actually agreed to the creeping annexation of Ukraine by Poland and are gradually voluntarily surrendering state

Polish President  
Andrzej Duda  
(in the middle)  
on election day.  
July 2020.  
RIA Novosti







sovereignty to Polish authorities. This also includes the transfer of important components of the Ukrainian military-industrial complex and providing Warsaw with access to military-technological secrets inherited by the Kyiv regime from the USSR.

Polish footsteps are being heard more and more clearly not only in the corridors of Ukrainian state institutions, but also under the church vaults. According to media reports, the Polish Bishops' Conference, the central governing body of the Catholic Church in Poland, is seriously discussing the issue of absorbing the Lvov archdiocese of the Roman Catholic Church in Ukraine. In practical terms, for this purpose it is proposed to edit the provisions of the concordat concluded between Warsaw and the Vatican in 1993 and ratified by the Polish Sejm in 1998. It is planned particularly to amend Article 6 in order to lift the ban on the Polish Catholics' activities outside Poland. The Archbishop of Lvov, in turn, will be given a seat in the Polish Bishops' Conference.

The fundamental point for the Polish authorities and clergy is to erase from the concordat any hints of Poland's recognition of the eastern borders established after World War II. These «unfair boundaries», noted in Warsaw, cannot serve as an obstacle to the return of «historical

lands» to the fold of the mother church. The Polish Bishops' Conference expects that the Roman Curia will support this version of church «integration» and, in fact, church annexation.

Among all NATO members, Poland today is probably the most proactive in the Ukrainian direction. This is not only about the British influence on Polish political circles, but also about Warsaw concerns about a possible change of Zelensky's regime and the pro-Russian forces potential coming to power in Kyiv. Besides the idea of conducting a «peacekeeping» mission, Polish leaders also threatened to introduce a no-fly zone over western Ukraine. Warsaw obviously hoped that its NATO partners would support this step, because without reinforcement by American SAMS - I would like to remind you that in early March 2022 the United States deployed two batteries of Patriot anti-aircraft missile systems at the Rzeszow-Jasionka airport in southwestern Poland - the outdated Polish air defense system is unable to provide an anti-aircraft «umbrella» even over Ivano-Frankovsk, Lutsk and Lvov.

Despite its modest military and financial potential compared to the leading NATO countries, Poland is also more active in providing Ukraine with arms and ammunition. Polish supplies include about 230 T-72 tanks, BWP-1 infantry fighting vehicles, «Gvozdika» self-propelled howitzers, and «Grad» multiple launch rocket systems. Kyiv also received Fly Eye reconnaissance drones and Warmate barrage munitions from Warsaw. As early as April 2022, Poland ranked second after the United States in terms of the volume of supplies, and by the end of the summer the Armed Forces of Ukraine received weapons worth more than €1.8 billion.

In addition, the Polish authorities do not prevent their volunteers from leaving for the combat zone. According to the Russian Ministry of Defense, Poland is an absolute leader among European countries in terms of both the number of mercenaries arrived and killed - 1,835 and 544 people respectively. Moreover, among them there are quite a few employees of private military companies and members of special forces who speak Russian and Ukrainian. Vladimir Zelensky's promise to adopt a law on the special status of citizens of the Republic of Poland in Ukraine can be considered an attempt to legalize Polish «soldiers of fortune» without involving Poland and NATO directly in the war with Russia.

At the same time, it should be noted that Warsaw's foreign policy ambitions and expansionist aspirations are severely limited by its military capabilities, as the Polish authorities began to actively build up the capacity of their armed forces only in 2015. Without NATO allies' support, its army is incapable of launching a major offensive on its own. Thus, the transfer of tanks to the AFU has reduced the Polish fleet of combat vehicles by almost a third, and this loss has yet to be compensated for by the purchase of modern Abrams from the United States. At the same time, the modernization program of the Polish armed forces is set through the year 2035. That's why the bulk of the equipment, and besides the tanks it includes HIMARS multiple rocket launchers, F-35 fighter jets, and medium- and short-range surface-to-air missile systems, will arrive only by the end of the 2020s. The plan announced by Andrzej Duda in March

2020 to double the size of the Polish armed forces from the current 150,000 to 300,000 will only be implemented under favorable financial conditions.

There is reason to believe that Warsaw is generally aware of the risks of a direct military clash with Russia in Ukraine. However, some Polish politicians still hope for a «soft» occupation of a number of Ukrainian regions in case of further defeats of the AFU and exhaustion of its technical resources. The expectation, apparently, is that the weakened Kyiv and demoralized nationalists will not offer serious resistance to the Poles, and that they will be able to reach some kind of behind-the-scenes agreement with Moscow through the mediation of NATO allies.

Poland's future policy towards Ukraine will depend not only on the ambitions of local elites and the outcome of the Sejm elections scheduled for autumn 2023, but also on the situation in the economy, which may be in a deep crisis due to the influx of Ukrainian refugees and a record rise in energy prices. It is obvious that the outcome of the struggle between the two leading conservative political forces - the Law and Justice and Civic Platform parties - will not lead to radical changes in Warsaw's eastern policy, but economic and financial difficulties may force Polish politicians to moderate their «Ukrainian appetite».

However, such factor as adventurism also should not be dismissed. At the behest of London, which shows high activity in Eastern Europe, the Polish authorities, in order to shift the attention of the population from economic problems to Ukraine and to raise their ratings on the eve of the parliamentary elections, may escalate Polish involvement in the conflict, as well as engage in provocations toward the Kaliningrad region. I hope that Warsaw understands that in the event of threats to Russia's security, the Poles will receive an adequate response.

# A new model of economic development

Text: Alexander Nekipelov, Director of Moscow School of Economics (faculty) of M.V. Lomonosov Moscow State University, Economics Doctor, member of the Academy of Sciences of Russia



**T**he unprecedented sanctions that the Western world has imposed on our country in connection with the special military operation in Ukraine have generated a complex set of negative processes. Against this background, short-term tasks are coming to the fore. On the one hand they consist in preventing economic disorganisation caused by the disruption of established technology chains and on the other hand in maintaining the necessary financial stability and preventing inflation risks.

It must be said that quite recently Russia already faced a similar situation - during the pandemic. We can confidently state that the experience of those days had its effect. It is already obvious that Western calculations that the Russian economy would collapse under the pressure of sanctions have failed.

The inflation peak in March, 2022 - when consumer price growth was 7.6 per cent (hereinafter in comparison to the previous month) - quickly faded away (1.6 per cent in April, 0.1 per cent in May) and even changed into slight decrease in June and July (by 0.4 per cent in each month). It is important that despite the increase in the general price level caused

by the sanctions, we managed to prevent a significant decline in the living standards of the population: in the third quarter of 2022 its real disposable income was only 3.4 per cent lower than a year earlier. As for the production, here too, the situation is far from what the initiators of the restrictions expected. And while GDP growth rates will obviously go negative by the end of 2022 - due to post-Covid-19 dynamics - a collapse of our economy is certainly out of the question.

Most of the credit, of course, belongs to the government. Its intense work on import substitution, restructuring of foreign economic relations including the deployment of parallel



imports and the implementation of prudent fiscal and monetary policy yielded the required results. In connection with this a question comes up: is it realistic to expect that the well-proven set of measures along with market mechanisms would provide an optimal solution to all the problems of the Russian economy?

Strictly speaking, the negative response stems from experience gained long before the sanctions. The attempt to build a liberal economic model in Russia has shown that given our economy's abundance of natural resources, the application of market forces alone inevitably leads to simplification of production, hollowing-out of high-tech sectors, and increasing external shocks vulnerability. It should be emphasized that such a risk was identified by the Russian authorities some considerable time ago, and they have been searching for ways to curb it.

As a result, the choice was made in favour of protecting the non-resource sector from external competition through artificially undervaluing the ruble exchange rate against its purchasing power parity. The implementation of well-known mechanisms

to reduce the amount of excess money and to vest the Russian Ministry of Finance with some functions of a monetary regulator made it possible to solve this problem.

In the context of the current crisis which is likely to be protracted the perception of the Russian economy's restructuring task has fundamentally changed. Strategic decision making requires us now to consider not only market risks, but also geopolitical risks. Economic development plans should consider the uncertainty of the duration of the sanctions already imposed as well as the possibility of new non-market restrictions emerging. That is why the reforms should be aimed not just at modernisation, but also at ensuring a high-level technological independence.

Of course, we are not talking about transition to a self-sufficient development model, although a general reduction of the role of external relations is obviously inevitable. The goal is to master - including through partnerships with friendly countries - key technologies, make qualitative changes in the institutional framework of our economy and adjust the general economic course.

First of all, the very raising of a large-scale restructuring issue implies forming an image of the future economy. Moreover, we are not talking about an abstract form or hypothetical structure, but about a mathematically sound, resourced project considering inter alia real capabilities of external relations.

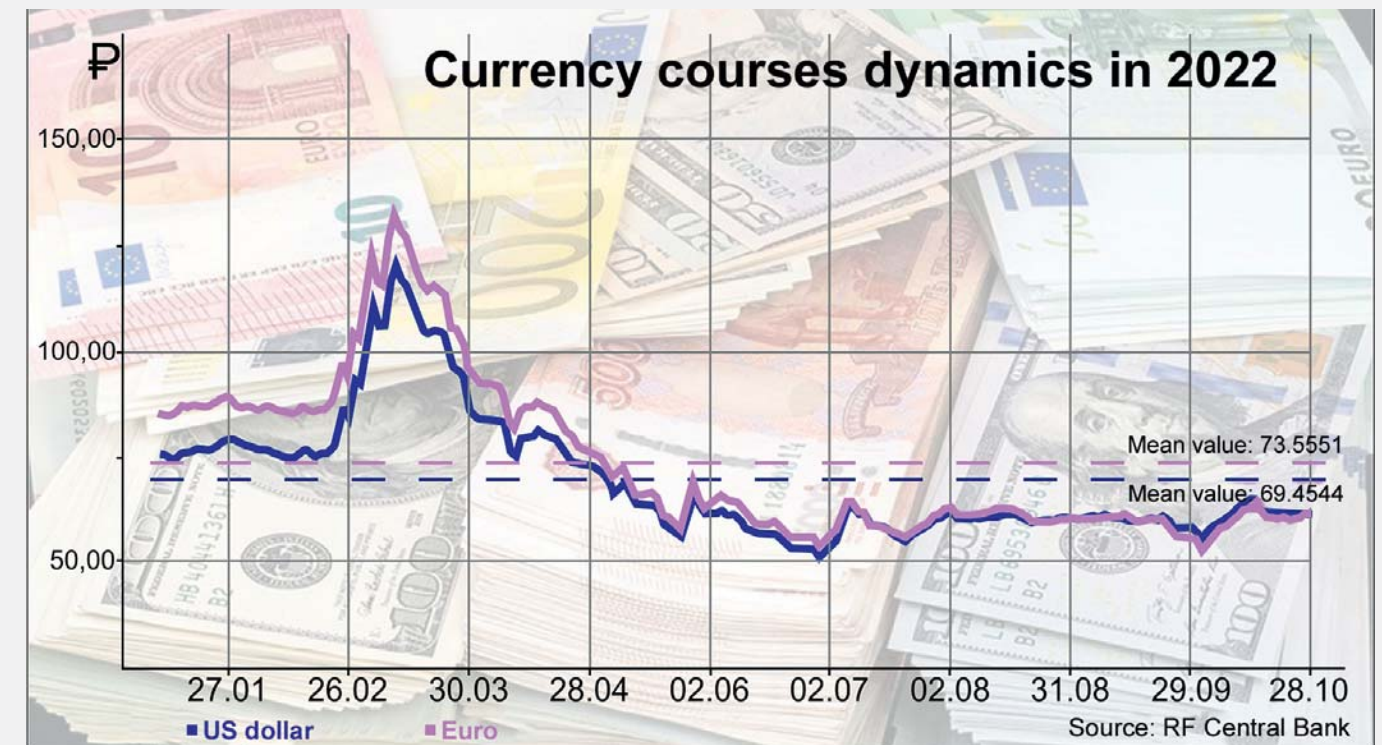
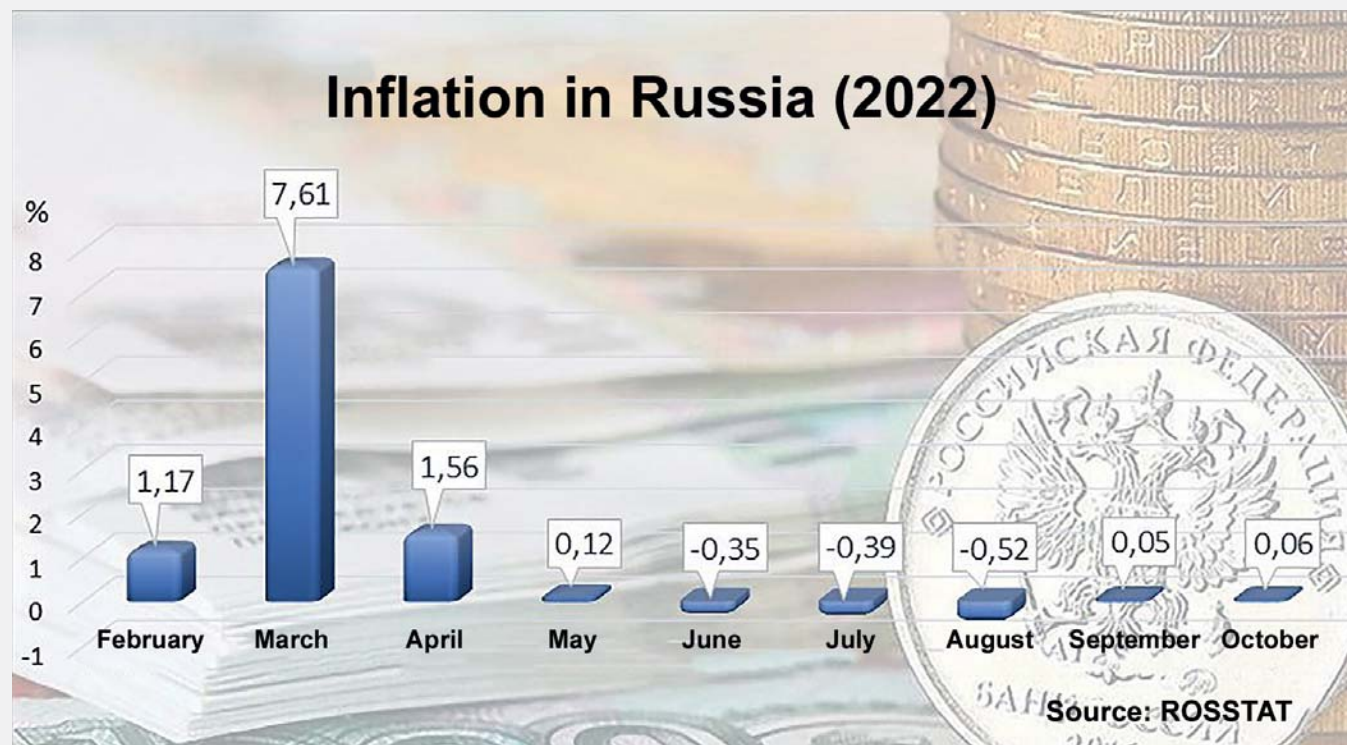
The seriousness of tasks implies an active use of indicative planning tools based on interaction between the authorities and key economic structures. Taking into account the existing domestic and world experience, it is reasonable to form a supervisory authorised body - a modern analogue of Supreme council of national economy. Its conclusions would be mandatory in further development of economic policy specific areas.

Another key factor that will largely determine the success of the restructuring is our ability to focus our resources on key areas. In some cases, it can and should be addressed by creating market conditions that facilitate the flow of private capital into priority areas. In this respect, it is important to make necessary changes in tax and customs policies in a timely manner, as well as to apply incentives

such as subsidizing of interest rates. But these measures are clearly not enough.

In this case, obviously, it is impossible to proceed without active use of the state's financial resources. On the one hand, we are talking about our own funds: tax revenues and state assets incomes, on the other hand, we cannot ignore the opportunities associated with raising funds on the domestic borrowing market. In this case, borrowed funds can be seen as an effective tool for shifting resources to priority areas.

Optimization of the management system of state assets that are currently owned by the executive - i.e. the government - is also reasonable. There may be a conflict of interest, since the latter simultaneously acts as a regulator of the economy. With this in mind the Russian expert community has long been dominated by the thesis of the desirableness of the state getting rid of «ballast» as soon as possible, and undertaking the widest possible privatization. However, experience has shown that things are not that simple, and the privatisation process has often stalled.





An integrated approach seems reasonable. It makes sense to leave a narrow group of strategic enterprises - that play a key role in ensuring the security and defense capabilities of our state - under the state management. The government may also assume the role of an owner in respect of structures created for the implementation of major projects to restructure the Russian economy, with the government's direct participation. Accordingly, the projects may be privatised upon completion. In other cases, it is advisable to manage state assets through state holding structures outside of the direct supervision of the executive branch.

We would also like to draw attention to a number of points with respect to the matter of the overdue adjustment of monetary policy. The first one is related to fundamental changes in the conditions of international settlements and cross-border movement of capital between Russia and the outside world. Western restrictions on the use of classical reserve currencies - the US dollar and the euro - have forced us to accelerate the transition to settlements with interested states in national currencies.

In addition, the withdrawal of foreign players from our financial market and the barriers for Russian companies and individuals to trade on foreign exchanges erected by the West have significantly reduced the role of short-term speculative capital movements between Russia and the rest of the world. As a result, the most important changes took place in the Russian ruble exchange rate mechanism: at this juncture, it became substantially more oriented to the ratio of prices of traded goods. It is no coincidence that the initial collapse of the exchange rate was followed by a powerful rebound, and today the ruble looks much stronger than it did before our special operation in Ukraine.

Normally, it should have been followed by a significant reduction in the outflow of resources from the country, but things have turned just the opposite way: the current transactions surpluses of the Russian Federation's balance of payment in January-September of 2022 was \$198.4 bn, which is 2.6 times higher than a year earlier. This means that at present

the demand for currency is determined not only by its purchasing power, but also by the fact that it is considered by many economic agents as a store of value. Apparently, though our exporters whose incomes have noticeably increased due to the global price increase were unable to get the full amount of necessary products abroad, however they did not dump excess foreign exchange either. Such dealing is probably due to the prevailing perception among them that the current import difficulties are temporary.

At this stage, the increase in exports of goods and services on the one hand indicates that Russian suppliers retain external markets, on the other hand it allows to maintain employment and output thereby providing the resilience to the structural shocks. Hopefully, as Russian enterprises adapt to the new conditions, the necessity for such savings will naturally dissipate over time.

However, it should be noted that a strong ruble does not suit everyone. It is no coincidence that recently the idea of the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation to resume currency intervention practicing and allocate the amounts of currency purchased on the open market (now in the currencies of friendly countries, though) to the National Welfare Fund has gained noticeable support. It is stated that this will facilitate the activity of energy exporters and primary goods exporters and ensure a steady flow of funds to the budget. Meanwhile, the problems of domestic producers are not related to the overstrengthened ruble, but to artificial constraints on the sale of their products on the global market. Nor the government has many financial difficulties at the moment. The lobbied solution appears to further increase the scale of Russia's interest-free lending to the rest of the world and make some of the resources required for restructuring purposes unavailable to us.

The second point to be taken into account during monetary policy fine-tuning is that it should mitigate, not exacerbate, the problems accompanying long-term and large-scale reforms in the economy. First of all, we are talking about a change in the balance

of supply and demand for various goods, entailing an adjustment in their equilibrium cost relationship. At the same time, downward stickiness of prices has long been noticed: it is much more difficult for manufacturers to come to accept a drop in their product's cost than an increase in prices for raw materials and other components that are used in manufacture. That is why the attempts of the Central Bank and the Ministry of Finance to carry out an unreasonably tight monetary policy during the period of restructuring are fraught with an economic recession and production disorganization.

It is clear that moderate inflation is able to facilitate structural reforms. At the same time, the capacity of the economy in a high inflation environment should not be exaggerated. It is known that the higher is the average growth rate of prices, the higher is their volatility. This, in turn, adds to the uncertainty factor and complicates decision-making, particularly pertaining to investments. A logical conclusion inevitably comes to mind: to exercise reasonable caution and not to overuse the «anaesthetic» properties of inflation, whose

specific parameters can be learned by trial and error.

But there is another way based on implementation of the derivative contracts indexing system into economic environment. It was quite successfully tested in the 1960s and 70s in a number of foreign countries where the annual inflation rate exceeded 30–40 per cent. The idea was to automatically adjust the economic agents' obligations taking into account the price index that was regularly registered by the authorized state body which made economic entities insensitive to nominal value fluctuations.

Finally, the last point. The Russian economy restructuring endeavor places special demands on the quality of the social policy pursued in the country.

The reform success will directly depend on whether it will be possible to ensure the consolidation of our country's population, on the basis of high employment, dynamic growth of real incomes and their equitable distribution.





# Andrey Kovalchuk: “Intelligence officers are unique people”



Andrey Kovalchuk, sculptor, teacher, People's Artist of Russia, Academician of the Russian Academy of Arts, Chairman of the Board of the Union of Artists of Russia, laureate of the State Prize for the creation of significant patriotic sculptures, of the State Prize named after Marshal Zhukov for the monument to soldiers of the Great Patriotic War, erected in Magadan, laureate of the Prize of the Foreign Intelligence Service of the Russian Federation. The magazine «Razvedchik» interviewed the master. Andrey Kovalchuk told us about personalities embodied in the composition for the 100th anniversary of the Foreign Intelligence Service and what he is currently working on.

**Andrey Nikolayevich, first of all we would like to thank you for giving our editorial staff this unique opportunity to look into your creative workshop and touch art. Please tell us what you are working on at the moment.**

I began to create a memorial plaque in honor of the famous married couple of illegal intelligence officers, Heroes of the Soviet Union Morris and Leontine Cohen. 11 January 2023 will be the 110th anniversary of the birth of Leontyne Cohen, the first female intelligence officer to be awarded the Gold Star of the Hero of Russia. To mark this anniversary, it was decided to eternize the memory of these outstanding people by placing a memorial plaque on the house where they lived. And

I am very glad that it was me to whom the Russian Historical Society, which the initiator of this project was, turned.

**This will be your fifth work of art concerning intelligence. Can we say that intelligence has a special place in your creative work?**

This is true. I created three portrait sculptures and one large composition dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the Foreign Intelligence Service, so, of course, this subject has become a special one in my work. By the way, it is always in demand in art and is very interesting for creative people. A lot of exciting novels and movies are devoted to intelligence services. Even as a schoolboy,





Andrey Kovalchuk  
working in his creative  
workshop

I loved watching movies about Soviet intelligence officers and often put myself in their shoes. So, in a way, intelligence has been with me since my childhood.

**Could you tell us more about the creation of the sculptural composition for the 100th anniversary of the Foreign Intelligence Service? What was your task and did you succeed?**

The task was not easy, because over the past 100 years the Foreign Intelligence Service has come a long way, full of various significant events for our country. Even its name changed several times during this time. At first it was the Foreign Department of the Cheka, then the First Chief Directorate of the KGB, and only in the 1990s the Foreign Intelligence Service appeared. Therefore, the monument dedicated to the 100th anniversary could be different. There were lengthy preliminary discussions on this subject; the issue was

discussed with the leadership of the Service on several occasions, first and foremost with its Director Sergey Yevgenyevich Naryshkin, who delved into all the details and gave very precise advice.

I have already mentioned my impressions of literary works and movies about intelligence. They create a certain emotional atmosphere, which is very important when you are working. My first steps in creating a composition were aimed at reviving the ideas I already had about the life and activities of intelligence officers. I re-watched some movies, re-read some books, and searched the Internet.

Moreover, during the work on the monument, regular consultations were held with representatives of the Service and members of its veteran organization, which provided me with new ideas and valuable tips, for example, plots for reliefs. During these conversations, I

sometimes had to communicate with amazing people that you don't meet in everyday life. They have a special way of thinking, and it was extremely interesting for me, as a sculptor, to hear their opinion about my work. They saw some nuances from a new, completely different, unexpected for me angle and their points of view on the nascent monument were unusual and very original.

As a result, it was agreed that the composition could be based on the story of a young couple who, after graduating from a Special school, goes abroad for the first time to do operational work. Holding hands, they pass through a certain portal, symbolizing the gate to a new life. At the same time, the young people look at the relief scenes of the portal, which depict the most striking episodes and images of the last century in the history of Russian foreign intelligence. On the reverse side of these symbolic gates there are scenes associated with the capitals of large countries, where this family of intelligence officers may work. These megacities are represented by their famous architectural objects — the Eiffel Tower, Big Ben and so on. The images of the cities seem to be draped, united by fabric, symbolizing the network of agents that operate around the world. This is such a sculptural image of foreign intelligence activities. The composition is crowned by the bronze emblem of the Service, and next to the monument, on a granite pedestal, the SVR motto is carved — “Fatherland, Valour, Honour”.

While working on the project, I thought a lot about what a young couple might experience and feel as they enter a new and dangerous world. The understanding of how to depict this in a plastic way developed gradually. In the end, it seems to me, the composition turned out to be multifaceted: it is a story about the unique history of the SVR, as well as about the difficult profession of an intelligence officer; it is also a hint at the broad spectrum of intelligence activities, and at the same time the appeal to new generations of officers through historical images and permanent symbols of the Service that they can understand.

**What do you remember about the opening ceremony of the monument?**

The special solemnity of the ceremony stuck in my mind. Besides the leadership, many veterans of the Service and legendary personalities were present. Of course, I don't know most of them personally, but from the atmosphere of the event I immediately felt their importance and special fortitude.

**Our honored veterans are truly special people, many of them are living examples of selfless and heroic service to the Fatherland. But nevertheless they are the past of intelligence. In your opinion, are there many people in our country today who are ready to be worthy successors to the glorious traditions of the Service, and what personal qualities do you think a future intelligence officer need to develop?**

Without studying the epoch, the historical context of events, the biographies of certain personalities, it is impossible to create a truly profound work and achieve accuracy and expressiveness of images.

Intelligence officers, especially deep cover agents, are unique people, extraordinary, well-rounded and multitasking. Because of the specifics of their profession, they must have deep knowledge in many, often very different areas of life. Their abilities, skills, or, as we say today, competences should extend to a number of related professions, including, by the way, acting and directing. At the same time, they must be selflessly devoted to the interests of the Motherland and true to the motto of the Foreign Intelligence Service. That is why they are the elite of the elites. I can add to this that a life filled with every minute responsibility for every step, word or gesture is, of course, a heroic life, regardless of the scale of particular officer's contribution to the common cause.

**You are not only a sculptor, but also a teacher — the head of the department of the Moscow State Academy of Arts and Industry**



**named after S. G. Stroganov. In this capacity, you have the opportunity to observe the work of young artists and sculptors. In your opinion, is modern youth interested in classical Russian art and are there many people now who want to develop a national art school, despite the trends that are being imposed on us – globalism, universality and maximum simplification?**

Among our youth there are indeed many people who highly value Russian culture and see themselves as carrying on national traditions. From my long-term observations, it seems that the Russian classics are the most popular among academy students. They also have the most powerful impact on the majority of art connoisseurs in Russia. This is confirmed by the long queues at exhibitions of paintings by Aivazovsky, Repin, Serov and other Russian artists held in Moscow in recent years. They turned out to be extremely popular among both young people and the older generation.

At the same time, of course, there is great interest in world art and its main trends. However, when you start to delve deeply into the subject in conversation with students, techniques and images from Russian classics are, as a rule, more convincing for them.

**What can you say about the audience abroad? How much has it changed in recent years, especially now, against the backdrop of persistent attempts by Western politicians to “cancel” Russia, to ban everything Russian, including culture and art?**

I am strongly convinced that it is impossible to “cancel” or ban Russian art. It is totally absurd. Cultural connections between Russia and the rest of the world are so strong and pervasive that no policy can destroy them. As far as foreign audiences are concerned, I feel that they have not changed much and are very receptive to our art, especially the classics, which are close and understandable to them.



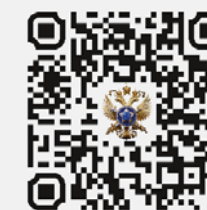
I will give an example from personal experience. When in the early 2000s the idea arose to erect a monument to Tyutchev in Munich and we approached the local authorities with this question, they initially reacted very coolly to this idea. Only after we showed our sketches, and the Bavarians saw that we were talking about classical sculpture, and not abstract installations that were trendy at that time, the project was given the green light. Now this place, which is called, by the way, the Garden of Poets, is

very popular among Munich citizens, and no one touches the monument. Similar stories took place in other European countries where I had the good luck to install my compositions.

What do I mean by this? We have the same mentality as Europeans, we have common cultural code. At the same time, we understand the peoples of the East very well too. We also have a sufficiently intense cultural exchange with them. I can tell you this again from my

own experience. I have already implemented more than one project in China, and I see great interest on the part of the Chinese in Russian art.

This is the unique feature of our state, our great and infinitely wise civilization, which has embodied both the East and the West. And that, I am convinced, is our strength.



Interviewed by  
Vladislav Ilyin.



# An effective agency of the Republic of Belarus

The State Security Committee of the Republic of Belarus is linked to the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service not only by its Soviet history and their common roots, but also by their close and fruitful cooperation that has not been interrupted over the last years.



The building of the KGB of RB in Minsk.  
RIA Novosti

The modern history of the agency dates back to September 1991, when the State Security Committee of the Byelorussian SSR was renamed the KGB of the Republic of Belarus as part of the Inter-Republican Security Service of the USSR. On October 23, 1991, it became subordinate to the Supreme Council of the Republic and began to function as an independent structure. On December 3, 1997 the Law No. 102-3 "On State Security Bodies of the Republic of Belarus" was

adopted which outlined the main goals and objectives of the Belarusian KGB, including "the organization and conduct of foreign intelligence within its commission," and established its direct subordination to the President of the Republic. The main structural divisions of the KGB of the Republic of Belarus are:

- Main Directorate of Counterintelligence;
- Main Directorate of Foreign Intelligence;
- Main Directorate for Combating Corruption and Organized Crime;
- Main Directorate for Combating Terrorism and Extremism;
- Department of International Cooperation;
- Territorial Divisions (six Regional Divisions).

**The total number of employees of the KGB of the Republic of Belarus does not exceed 10,000 people. Since 1947, the permanent headquarters of the Belarusian Cheka officers has been a building in the classical style on Prospect Nezavisimosti (Independence Avenue), building 17, in Minsk.**

Since September 2020, the Committee has been chaired by Lieutenant General Ivan

Tertel. Born in 1964, he graduated from the Ryazan Higher Airborne School, then the Institute of National Security of the Republic of Belarus and the Yanka Kupala State University of Grodno. Having joined the State Border Committee of the Republic of Belarus in 1993, he worked his way up from an ordinary Cheka officer to the head of the department. In 2008, he was appointed Deputy Chairman of the KGB of the Republic of Belarus in charge of economic security and the fight against crime.

In the professional environment, the State Security Committee of the Republic of Belarus has earned a reputation as an effective agency whose employees successfully perform the assigned tasks and achieve good results in countering the destructive aspirations of Western states. As part of international cooperation, Belarusian security officers exchange information on the issues of international terrorism and organized crime with a wide range of partners - from its CIS neighbors to the USA, Great Britain and China. Moreover, the foreign ties of the KGB of the Republic of Belarus are constantly expanding: at the beginning of 2022, the Committee maintained contacts with 46 foreign intelligence services.

Interaction with the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service is based on a bilateral intergovernmental agreement and a number of departmental protocols. The intelligence services have established close coordination of work in important areas such as detection and suppression of subversive activities of the West, information security and fight against hybrid threats. In addition, personnel training for the Belarusian intelligence services is underway at the Foreign Intelligence Academy of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service. The annual joint meeting of the boards of the SVR of Russia and the KGB of the Republic of Belarus at the level of leadership of the two agencies is the main dialogue mechanism for regular reconciliation of working time. On July 7, 2022, the twenty-first meeting took place in Moscow with the participation of the Director of the Foreign Intelligence



Service of the Russian Federation Sergey Naryshkin and his Belarusian colleague Ivan Tertel.

Head of the State Security Committee of the Republic of Belarus Ivan Tertel (on the left) and Director of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service Sergey Naryshkin in Minsk.  
RIA Novosti

It should be noted that communication with partners from Belarus has a high degree of trust, it is not limited to a formal framework, but is maintained even between veteran organizations of the two countries. Thus, in September 2022, on the invitation of the KGB of the Republic of Belarus, a delegation of SVR employees and veterans visited Minsk to organize the exhibition "Invisible Front: Foreign Intelligence during the Great Patriotic War," which evoked a keen response from visitors.

Given the accumulated positive experience of bilateral interaction, it is safe to say that in the future, working relationship between the Foreign Intelligence Service of Russia and the KGB of the Republic of Belarus will expand, contributing to the strengthening of the Union State, which fully meets the interests of the safe and sustainable development of Russia and Belarus.



# Viktor Kulebakin – the creator of the aircraft electrification system

Ekaterina Kryuchkova, journalist, writer, head of the federal project "Scientific Regiment" of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of Russia



In 1930, when astronomers discovered Pluto, and the first electric traffic light in Leningrad started working at the intersection of Nevsky and Liteyny Avenues, an iconic object appeared on the educational map of the Soviet Union - Moscow Power Engineering Institute. Today this university is a source of personnel for leading energy companies and a participant in the federal program "Priority 2030" of the national project "Science and Universities." Dozens of outstanding people worked within the walls of the National Research University "Moscow Power Engineering Institute", who left a noticeable mark not only in the energy sector, but also in politics, sports and arts. But the name of one of them stands on a special scientific pedestal. When the control panel in the cockpit of an airplane turns on or the "Fasten your seat belts" light comes on, it is worth remembering that the founder of aircraft electrical engineering was an outstanding Russian scientist Viktor Kulebakin.



## He was taught by Zhukovsky

The dry facts take your breath away when you reread the biography of the Honoured Worker of Science and Technology of the RSFSR, Major General of the Aviation Engineering Service Viktor Kulebakin: he was taught flying by the father of Russian aviation, Nikolai Zhukovsky. And now pre-revolutionary Moscow with its merchant measuredness, and the hundred-year-old mansion that adorns Prospekt Mira today - the Nabilkov Commercial School, from which our hero graduated with a gold medal, - rises before the eyes.

In 1909, Viktor Kulebakin entered the Moscow Higher Technical School (MVTU). He specialized in internal combustion engines and electrical engineering: a new and promising direction for those years. During his studies, the

young researcher had another dream - aviation. This dream was so serious that he took courses from Professor Nikolai Zhukovsky. And this communication with Nikolai Egorovich played an important role not only in the scientific life, but also in the life in general of the young researcher. After graduating with honours from the Moscow Higher Technical School in 1914, Viktor Sergeevich was recommended for professorship. Meanwhile, the events that would register in history as the World War I were getting closer and closer...

During the World War I, Viktor Kulebakin was sent to the front, where he served in aviation units. In 1916, at the invitation of Nikolai Zhukovsky, he began teaching aircraft engine courses at the Moscow Higher Technical School, and then electrical engineering courses. This invitation marked the beginning of the educational and scientific activities of Viktor Kulebakin.

## 100 years ago

Three years after starting to work at the Moscow Higher Technical University, the young scientist was elected - by competition - professor at the Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Institute named after M.V. Lomonosov. With the direct participation of Viktor Kulebakin, in 1921 the State Experimental Institute was created, later renamed the All-Union Electrotechnical Institute (VEI), where for a number of years he worked as the head of the measuring and hardware departments, the chief scientific director and deputy director of the institute.

Viktor Sergeevich was 39. Now it is difficult to imagine a young

scientist in his 30s or 40s (modern Russian science considers scientists under 39 to be young) setting up an experimental institute at the federal level. And then... Then it was a time of bold experiments, great scientific discoveries and of that very technological breakthrough that ensured the development of the country.

In 1926, Viktor Kulebakin became head of the new Department and Laboratory of electrical equipment engineering that he had created at the Moscow Higher Technical School, which later became part of Moscow Power Engineering Institute. From 1932 to 1934, Kulebakin worked as deputy director of Moscow Power Engineering Institute for scientific and educational work. In 1933 he was elected corresponding member, and in 1939 - full member of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

The laboratory carried out educational and research work on automatic regulators, motor-starting devices and control devices. In 1937, at the All-Union Competition of Higher Educational Institutions, the department received the first prize for the best set-up of work.

## Textbook named after Kulebakin

Academician Kulebakin carried out important theoretical studies on transient processes in synchronous machines, on the kinetics of excitation of electric machines, developed the theory of capacitor asynchronous motors and proposed an alternating current system for electric mine locomotives, for the implementation of which he was





awarded the State Prize in 1950. His books “Testing Electrical Machines and Transformers” and “Automatic Regulation of Electrical Machines” became the main textbooks of that time for training specialists in the field.

The work of Viktor Kulebakin in the field of electrical devices is of great theoretical and practical value. He developed the theory and methods of calculating motor-starting devices and wrote the textbook “Motor-starting devices,” he also created the theory of operation of oscillating controllers and carbonpile voltage regulators and developed methods of selecting the main parameters of electrical automatic regulators.

Viktor Sergeevich worked out the theory of operation of rotary amplifiers and substantiated the possibility of their use in circuits

of automatic tracking systems and aviation. His fundamental works contributed to the development of aircraft electrification. Together with his students, he summarized his studies in the book “Electrification of aircrafts.” It became a textbook for students and a guide for engineers designing new systems of automatic and electrical equipment for aircrafts. Until now, this is the only major work in this area both in Russia and abroad. Some call this monograph the “encyclopaedia of an aeronautical engineer.”

## First of all, engineers!

On the initiative of Viktor Sergeevich, the Institute of Automation and Telematics of the Academy of Sciences of the

USSR AS was created in 1939 (now the Institute of Control Sciences V. A. Trapeznikov RAS). In 1940, Viktor Sergeevich was appointed member of the Board of Technical and Economic Examination of the USSR State Planning Committee.

Since the beginning of the Great Patriotic War in 1941, he was assigned to work in the Commission of the USSR AS on Mobilization of Resources of the Urals. Viktor Sergeevich led the work at the USSR Academy of Sciences on providing scientific and technical assistance to the front and industry. During the Great Patriotic War, he went to the front to provide direct on-site assistance to aviation units on aircraft electrical equipment. Taking into account the academician’s special achievements in strengthening the defense capability of our country, in 1942 he was promoted to the

rank of “Major General of the Aviation Engineering Service.”

In 1944, Major General Kulebakin once again returned to Moscow Power Engineering Institute. He organized and headed a military department for training reserve military engineers for aviation. Since 1951, he took an active part in the work of the USSR Academy of Sciences on providing scientific support and promoting the construction of large hydroelectric power plants, leading a team of scientists at the Stalingrad hydroelectric complex. For his scientific achievements, in 1961 Viktor Kulebakin was awarded the honorary title of Honoured Worker of Science and Technology of the RSFSR. For many years he was a member of the Higher Attestation Commission.

The achievements of academician Kulebakin were highly appreciated by the government. He was awarded two Orders of Lenin, the Order of the Red Banner, the Order of the Labour Red Banner, three Orders of the Red Star, the Order of the Badge of Honour and medals.

## Stake on import substitution

Today, scientists from the National Research University «Moscow Power Engineering Institute» continue the scientific traditions established by Viktor Kulebakin, and in difficult sanctions environment create an alternative to imported technologies. Thus, together with an industrial partner, the Systemic Approach company, they began to carry out experimental research and to

determine the optimal operating range of domestic ORVO steam humidifiers. Currently, the vast majority of steam humidifiers that are used in air conditioning systems of administrative and industrial buildings are devices manufactured in Europe. After the necessary tests and certification of products, our own mass production will be launched in Russia.

Central air conditioning systems are used to provide air with the required parameters in a wide range of facilities, such as shopping centers, concert halls, museums and sports facilities. Due to the imposed sanctions and the breakdown of logistics chains, supplies of such equipment to the Russian market were practically cut off. According to Andrey Garyaev, Head of the Department of Heat and Mass Transfer Processes and Installations of the National Research University «Moscow Power Engineering Institute», the department’s staff has already begun preparations for the certification of the ORVO steam humidifier. “The developed isothermal humidifier, which can clearly meet the temperature and humidity requirements, will be in demand on the Russian climate equipment market,” Andrey Garyaev assessed the prospects of the future product on the Russian steam humidifier market.

Another significant direction of activity of the first power engineering university is the “virtual engineer” for computer-aided design of digital substations. The program generates technical solutions that provide protection and control functions for power facilities. In terms of its level of perfection, this digital solution has no analogues in the world.



Academician Kulebakin is not just a part of history of the National Research University “Moscow Power Engineering Institute”. He is called the father of aviation power engineering. Without the scientific work and research, personally supervised by Viktor Sergeevich, that great technological breakthrough, which later sent the man into space and gave digital control to the airplane, could not have happened. During his long professional life, he published over 200 scientific works - books and articles. Therefore, when we talk about the contribution of domestic scientists to science during the Great Patriotic War and the post-war years, we proudly recall the contribution of Viktor Sergeevich Kulebakin.

Nikolay Rogalev, Rector of the National Research University «Moscow Power Engineering Institute».





Manual design of structural and functional schemes of relay protection and automation for digital substations is a complex, time-consuming and expensive process. Using the tools of a new software system developed by the staff of the National Research University «Moscow Power Engineering Institute», due to automation, not only reduces the time required for design, but also simplifies the process itself. A specialist only needs to specify the main scheme of the substation, and the system automatically synthesizes the architecture of the substation digital protection, automation and control complex, taking into account the requirements for functionality, reliability and cost set out in the program.

The development implemented within the framework of «Priority 2030» of the national project «Science and Universities» allows to reduce the working hours, raise the level of automation and provide the necessary degree of reliability during the technical solution development to ensure uninterrupted operation of power facilities and critical infrastructure of the Russian Federation.

«The developed technologies form a new class of computer-aided design systems (CAD) in which artificial intelligence methods complement human capabilities. The human forms the rules and requirements for the protection and automation system of a power facility, while the CAD system independently generates

the optimal solution that ensures the required reliability and cost-effectiveness,» comments Alexander Voloshin, Director of the NTI Competence Centre at the National Research University «Moscow Power Engineering Institute».

The software products comply with the IEC 61850 universal international standard, and the project results are already being used by the NTI Competence Centre at the National Research University «Moscow Power Engineering Institute» in collaboration with energy companies of «Rosseti» State Corporation and leading engineering organizations in Russia.

# Looking beyond the horizon. Competition to support student science

Text: Nikolay Yudin, deputy editor-in-chief of the scientific journal "Bulletin of Moscow University. Series XXV. International Relations and World Politics", Candidate of History

International relations have definitely and irrevocably entered the period of fundamental transformation. The systemic crisis, which had its roots in the depths of the globalised world economy, has erupted, revealing the exhaustion of the existing neoliberal models of socio-economic development and raising the question of the need for a radical revision of the powercenter-oriented configuration of the modern world politics. The true scale, historical significance and consequences of the dramatic events unfolding before our eyes can hardly be assessed today, not only by the expert community, but also by those who directly make the key military and political decisions.

In such circumstances, the ability and willingness of experts to look at contemporary international relations with a fresh eye, free from the heavy load of established clichés and stereotypes, is of particular importance. In this case, we are not talking about fantasies and projections detached from reality. Actually, it seems reasonable to consider already well-known problems and issues from a new, non-standard angle, while respecting the principle of scientific approach to their study. Student science can provide such a unique symbiosis of



courage in setting research problems and choosing ways to solve them, on the one hand, and commitment to a scientific approach, on the other.

Student scientific societies, which unite the most talented and motivated students of higher education, offer a unique opportunity for creative self-realization, development of skills and abilities that are difficult to practice within the framework of traditional forms of educational process, but at the same time are extremely important for any specialist in international affairs. First and foremost, it is the ability to conduct an independent scientific research, to critically analyze different sources, to navigate freely in a stream of often biased, emotionally charged and unreliable assessments, and to

confidently separate truly significant facts from information noise. Such skills can only be acquired through systematic, regular and consistent practice.

Scientific student societies are active in many Russian universities, but there is still much to be done in this area. In this context, a significant impulse for their development as a unique platform for the training of profile specialists could be the holding of an all-Russian competition of student works on international political issues under the aegis of leading national research centers. Such a competition, focused on team participation and free scientific research, could not only become a creative challenge for specific scientific student societies, but also stimulate the establishment of professional dialogue and exchange of experience between them. If such an initiative is proposed by the editorial board of «Razvedchik», the Scientific Student Society of the Faculty of World Politics of the Lomonosov Moscow State University is ready to support it and to take the most active part in the preparation of student research papers.



# How to cope with stress

Text: Irina Mirova, Natalya Vasilevskaya

**No event is stressful by itself, it only becomes so due to our reaction to it.**

*Pratima Raichur.  
Absolute beauty*

You will be surprised, but stress is not a bad thing! It helps to live through various situations, better adapt to changing conditions, strengthen character, and train endurance. Moderate stress makes us stronger, increases work efficiency, enhances concentration and memory. However, constant, uncontrolled stress condition can be harmful.

Stress immunity can be cultivated. To do this, you need to know that it consists of the ability to make predictions and to take into account your own experience, the skill of working in conditions of task concurrence and prolonged uncertainty, and of healthy self-assessment.



part of the lungs is filled. Slow and deep breathing, with the participation of the abdominal muscles, reduces the excitability of the nerve centers and contributes to muscle relaxation, that is, calming. This is why lower breathing is the most productive one. It is practiced when it is necessary to overcome excessive excitement, to cope with anxiety and stress, and to relax at most.

How to understand what kind of breathing we usually employ? Place your hands on your chest and stomach. Breathe as usual. Which of your hands raises higher? If the one above, it means that your breathing is pectoral and shallow. If the one below, it is abdominal. If both hands are involved, then your breathing is deep enough and correct.

## Methods of breathing

**Abdominal breathing.** While sitting or standing, try to relax the body muscles and focus on your breathing. On the count of “one, two, three, four,” take a slow, deep breath. In this case, the stomach protrudes, and the chest doesn’t move. Hold your breath for the next four counts (“one, two, three, four”). Then, on the count of “one, two, three, four, five, six,” breathe out smoothly (simultaneously pull the abdominal muscles towards the spine). On the count of “one, two, three, four,” hold your breath again before the next inhalation.

Breathing to the count of “seven - eleven.” Breathe very slowly and deeply, so that the entire breathing cycle would last about twenty seconds. You may find it difficult at first, but don’t strain. Count to seven as you breathe in, and to eleven as you breathe out. Within a few minutes, you will notice that your condition has become noticeably more calm and balanced.

## Techniques of breathing

We suggest you to master two types of breathing: lower (abdominal) and upper (clavicular, upper pectoral). Most people in everyday life use only shallow, or upper pectoral, breathing, when only the upper

Upper (clavicular) breathing. It is used in cases when you need to cheer up after a monotonous work, to relieve fatigue, or to prepare for a vigorous activity. How to perform it? Take an energetic deep breath



through your nose, raising your shoulders, and breathe out sharply through your mouth. In this case, make no pauses between breathing in and out. After just a few cycles of such breathing, you will have a feeling of freshness and a surge of vigor. But don't overdo. The best is the enemy of the good.

#### IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER

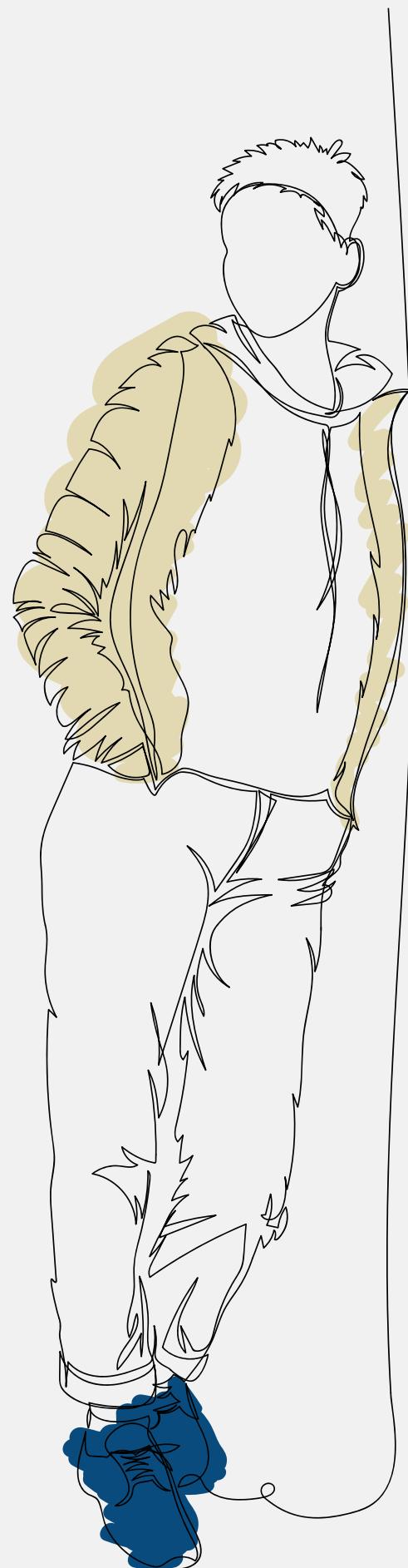
1. Abdominal breathing consists of four stages and is accompanied by internal counting in order to facilitate learning. You should breathe only through your nose, and very smoothly. Imagine that a piece of fluff is hanging in front of you, at a distance of several centimeters, and it should not move.
2. The formula "4-4-6-4": the length of the exhalation is always bigger than the length of the inhalation. At first they may be equal, but later gradually extend the time of breathing out. In case of a long-term training, the formula slightly changes. But we won't reveal all the secrets yet.

## Exercise "Five"

This exercise can be performed either as a whole or in parts. The required time is from ten to thirty seconds, you will agree for sure that it is not so much. Take a break from work. Look around you. Find five objects of five different colors. Remember them. Then concentrate and listen up. What five sounds do you hear? Also note five body senses that you are experiencing at the moment: the feeling of clothes on your shoulders, the contact of your back with a chair, etc.

#### IMPORTANT!

If your attention starts to slip, just notice this moment and return to doing the task. If various thoughts come to mind, say mentally to yourself: "Thank you, I've heard you," and return to doing the task again. This exercise helps you to concentrate on the present moment and to relieve excessive emotional tension.



## Exercise "Simple Statements"

Repeating short phrases helps to cope with emotional tension. Here are some examples:

- I'm feeling better now.
- I can completely relax and then quickly concentrate.
- I can control my inner sensations.
- I will cope with the tension any moment I want to.

Mentally repeat similar phrases several times.

## Exercise "Take a Step"

Often anxiety is provoked by some real or possible events that give rise to self-doubt. Mentally ask yourself: "What should be done in the first place in order to overcome this situation?"

If you find it difficult to answer right away, study the list of proposed positive actions:

- write down all your thoughts regarding this problem;
- gradually reduce them to two or three;
- start with the most urgent problem;
- tackle the easiest and most pleasant part of the problem;
- ask for a piece of advice from someone who is able to assess the situation objectively.

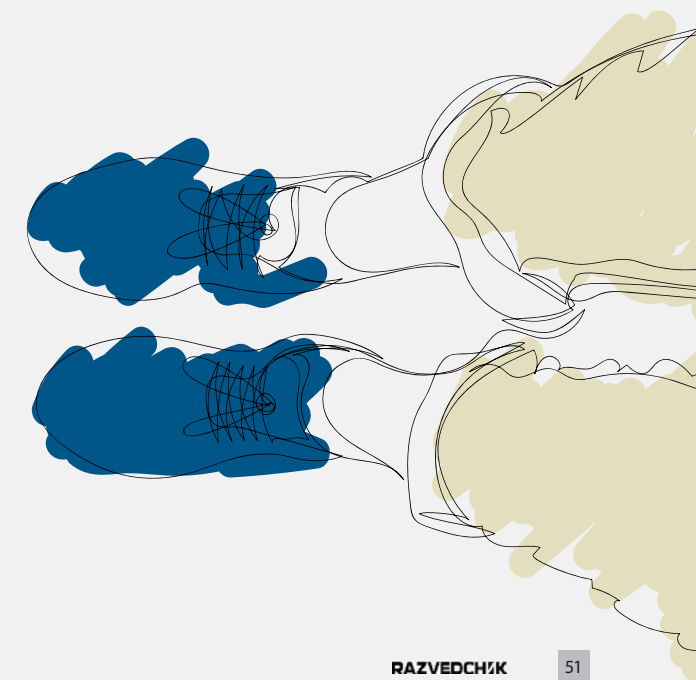
## Method "Questioning yourself"

When you feel like you are exaggerating the importance of a problem, mentally ask yourself a few questions:

- Is it really that important?
- Am I risking anything significant for me?
- Will this be of the same importance for me in a week, or in a month?
- Could anything be worse than this?

## Conclusion

To overcome stress, Foreign Intelligence Service officers use, among other things, autogenic trainings, visualization, neuromuscular relaxation, techniques for reducing pre-launch anxiety, autosuggestion, meditation, and methods of neuro-linguistic programming. In order to master each of these methods, time and efforts are required. Intelligence officer plans to talk about them in our future issues.





# Virtuoso

Text: Yevgeny Dolgushin



**The fate of illegal intelligence officer Dmitry Bystroletov is unique. His name is inscribed in gold letters on a memorial plaque at the headquarters of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service in Yasenevo . Colleagues deservedly called him a virtuoso and a recruiter with a capital letter, and the phenomenal operations he carried out still evoke the admiration of professionals. However, the vicissitudes of fate did not bypass him: arrested as a result of a denunciation in 1938, he spent 16 years in prison, but thanks to his unbending will he was able to survive, start a new life, and become established as an artist, writer, and a highly qualified specialist in the field of medicine.**

## Count of the Tolstoy family

Dmitry Bystroletov was born on January 4, 1901 in Crimea near Yevpatoria to an unmarried teacher Klavdiya Dmitrievna Bystroletova . In the birth certificate his patronymic was recorded as Aleksandrovich, and it was clear that his father was not from the lower class and not local. In 1904–1913, the boy grew up

in St. Petersburg in two aristocratic families, where he received a classical home education.

In 1913, the mother took her son from the greenhouse conditions and enrolled him in midshipman courses in Anapa. A year later, he continued his studies in the cadet corps of the Sevastopol Naval School. With the outbreak of World War I, as part of the Second Crew of the Black Sea Fleet, he participated in landing raids on the

Turkish coast. After one of them, in memory of this heroic episode in the history of the Russian fleet, he painted several watercolors, in which an extraordinary artistic talent was already visible.

In early November 1917, the mother received news from St. Petersburg that the Imperial Heraldic Commission recognized Dmitry as the son of Count Alexander Tolstoy (the elder brother of the future writer Alexei Tolstoy) and elevated

him to the dignity of count. But the revolution abolished all titles, and Dmitry Bystroletov remained Count for only a few days.

Since 1919, he served as a sailor on the logistics ships of Denikin's Volunteer Army, then, disillusioned with the White movement, deserted and fled to Turkey. In 1920, he returned to Russia, but fearing for his fate after the end of the Civil War in the country, he again moved to Turkey. A difficult period of ordeal and humiliation began... He took on any job: he was a courier, a dishwasher, a loader, a watchman, a cleaner of public toilets. But even in dire need, he purposefully worked at self-improvement. He entered the college for Christian Europeans in Constantinople and passed this first stage of his European education with honors. In 1922, having saved some money, he moved to Czechoslovakia, where he entered first the medical and then the law faculty of Charles University in Prague. At that time, this city was one of the centers of White emigration.

While abroad, Dmitry Bystroletov lived with the hope of returning to his homeland, Russia. He took an active life position, became one of the initiators of the creation of the Union of Students - Citizens of the USSR in Czechoslovakia, and later he would be elected secretary of the Union, the third one in the short history of this organization. His predecessors died at the hands of aggressive ideological opponents, and he miraculously escaped death during one of the attempts on his life.

In 1923, his application for Soviet citizenship was granted, and he got a job as a translator at the USSR trade mission in Prague. During this period Dmitry Bystroletov renewed

acquaintance with the adviser to the trade mission, Golst, who was in fact the head of station of the Foreign Department of the OGPU, Nikolai Samsonov. They had first crossed paths in 1920 in Crimea and now resumed contact. In the future, Nikolai Samsonov would play an important role in the operational fate of Dmitry Bystroletov. The head of station began to give his protégé some assignments, which he successfully completed. At the same time, he showed his analytical and linguistic abilities. He sifted through a ton of foreign press, catching bits of information on issues of interest. By 1925, Dmitry Bystroletov became head of the information department.

In April 1925, the First All-Union Congress of Proletarian Students took place in Moscow. The USSR Embassy in Prague sent Dmitry Bystroletov to it. Before departure, Nikolai Samsonov warned him that an "important person" would

abilities, Dmitry Bystroletov would be able to work with the elite of the Western society.

At the end of the conversation, Artur Artuzov asked him where he himself would like to work. Dmitry Bystroletov rapped out proudly, "Where it's more dangerous." Arthur Artuzov explained: the most dangerous thing is to recruit a friend in the enemy camp. Having no idea about this work, Dmitry Bystroletov boldly declared, "Well, I would like to be a recruiter." As they say, it was as though he saw it in a crystal ball. Later, in all his questionnaires, he indicated that his work in intelligence had begun with this meeting. He was twenty-four years old.

The blessing was received. Upon arrival in Prague, Dmitry Bystroletov, under the operational pseudonym "Count," began to carry out tasks from the station leadership, and each time they

My successes were great. It turned out that within a few months an internal revolution took place - the transformation of a shy, withdrawn and sickly youth into a cheerful and viable man, confident in himself and in what he was doing.

*Dmitry Bystroletov*

speak to him in Moscow. He turned out to be the head of the counterintelligence department of the OGPU, Artur Artuzov, an experienced security officer and a longtime acquaintance of Nikolai Samsonov. He liked the young man, especially his impressive aristocratic appearance, personal charm captivating with some kind of boyish charisma, and at the same time a deep knowledge of life. He immediately realized that with his

were increasingly difficult. His transformation was literally visible.

One of his first steps in the operational field was the cultivation of a stoker for the German embassy named Kurt. According to information available in the station, in addition to his direct duties, he was involved in burning secret documents. "Count" followed Kurt for a month before working out a legend of meeting him. Having



found out that he was a Sudeten German, he addressed him in a pub in Czech with a clear German accent. The «countrymen» became friends. Soon they together found a way for Kurt not to burn documents that were subject to destruction, but to pass them to the intelligence officer for a small fee.

Among those recruited by Dmitry Bystroletov was also a designer of the Skoda plant, which produced cars, tanks and other military products. With the help of this source, the Center received the technology for hardening large-caliber aircraft gun barrels. Through the son of one of the advisers to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Czechoslovakia, “Count” obtained minutes of meetings of the board of the ministry. He also passed information about a training center for Western intelligence officers who were to be sent to the USSR. Among the students of the center there were officers from England, France, Italy and Sweden. “Count” obtained students lists and even their fingerprints.

FROM THE CERTIFICATION OF THE AGENT “COUNT”:

“Smart, erudite, well-read. Has a rich imagination and imaginative artistic thinking. Self-confident and arrogant. Shows persistence in achieving goals. Controls his actions completely, style of action is fast and energetic. Prone to acting and impersonation. Acting skills are successfully used in everyday life and when carrying out our assignments. In argumentation, convincing, eloquent, and able to impose his point of view on his opponent. Has an unconditional orientation towards success in his behavior, also is inventive and enterprising in choosing the means to achieve it. Enjoys unconditional success among women, regardless of their age and social status. Outwardly very attractive.»

CERTIFICATION CONCLUSION:

“Quite reliable. Selflessly loves his homeland. Devoted to the cause of Lenin-Stalin and the state security agencies. Can be used as a recruiting agent.»

It is difficult to imagine how this busy young man, an employee of a trade mission and an intelligence officer, had the strength and time to improve as a person. Dmitry Bystroletov took paid lessons in graphics and painting, and ardently studied foreign languages. The passion for knowledge did not disappear over the years; by the end of his career, he had mastered to varying degrees - just imagine - Esperanto, 19 European languages, Chinese and Japanese. He used almost a dozen of them almost like his native one. At the same time, which was unexpected for an intelligence officer, in 1928 he defended his doctoral dissertation at the University of Prague on the topic “The main problems of law in the coverage of dialectical and historical materialism.” Later, in 1936, he defended at the Zurich University another dissertation, becoming a Doctor of Medicine.

Despite being young, he managed to get along with people much older than him. Women were just crazy about him. His charisma dominated, his persuasiveness

prevailed over his interlocutors, he was strong in polemics, and hypnotized with his charm. His superiors and instructors appreciated his recruiting skills and abilities.

To Berlin

In 1930, Nikolai Samsonov, by that time the station chief of the Soviet foreign intelligence in Berlin, secured the transfer of “Count” to Germany for use along the illegal line with involvement in the most promising and complex recruitment operations. The center agreed. Thus, in the illegal station in Berlin, a new employee appeared, under the pseudonym “Andrey”. Now they had to work out a permanent legend and to obtain real documents.

First of all, “Andrey” went to the free city of Danzig to the Consul General of Greece, who, according to the station’s information, was deep in crime. An attempt to give a bribe for a Greek passport, issued upon oral statement and without any confirmation, was unsuccessful. The cunning and cautious consul did not agree to such a suspicious action and even expressed indignation at such unceremoniousness. It was necessary to change tactics urgently.

Within a few seconds, our hero was transformed: he threw a pack of American cigarettes on a chair, brazenly took out and lit one in the room, right in front of the consul. Now at table there was an unceremonious and confident of his impunity American gangster, who had recently shot a colonel of the English police in Singapore. Newspapers of that time were

Having become a Greek merchant, I made a tour of Greek shops where the owners sold carpets, wine and olives, carefully studied their manners and appearance and for myself created a kind of synthetic image of a Berlin Greek. As a foreign tourist, I visited the Greek consulate and a travel agency. I found a Greek community of Berlin students. I started frequenting a Greek restaurant. I met the rector of the church and made a contribution for the poor. I subscribed to three Athenian newspapers and one magazine, and periodically brought new Greek books. At the head of the bed I hung an icon that I had ordered from the Athos Monastery. On my desk there was a portrait of the king with a patriotic ribbon. There were always bottles of ouzo and Greek wines in the cabinet. On the walls there hung photographs of my “hometown” Thessaloniki and tiny dolls in Greek national costumes. I gave small gifts to those around me, also Greek ones - I gave beautiful handkerchiefs with Greek inscriptions to women, cigarette cases with the figure of an Evzone - to men. Sometimes I treated everyone to playing records of Greek folk songs. At the same time, I tirelessly told everyone that I grew up in other countries, that my main language is not Greek, but English, and that I am Greek only in my soul, because every decent person should have a homeland that



he loves. All my Greek acquaintances - students, traders - sent me letters, and this correspondence created for the Germans an illusion of my participation in the life of the Greek colony.

Dmitry Bystroletov

flooded with headlines featuring the incident. The gangster needed a passport, just for one day, to join his accomplices in Geneva.

The consul preferred not to risk his life, made out the requested document in the name of Alexander Gallas, and even gave away from his own room the portrait of the Greek President wound around with a band in national colours. “Andrey” made use of the cover story of a Greek merchant for several years in Berlin, changing the passport from time to time as it quickly got overfilled with records of his trips abroad.

Dmitry Bystroletov’s debut as a “hunter for cryptographers” took place back in 1927 when he became a key player in cultivating a female

employee of the French embassy in Prague who was in charge for classified record-keeping. Recruited under the pseudonym “Laroche”, she handed over the personal code and reports of the French ambassador.

Here we should make an important digression. Cryptographers of embassies, diplomatic services and intelligence stations, being bearers of the most protected secrets, are always kept under the tightest control of the local security services. These secrets bearers are obliged to notify the police and counterintelligence of all the suspicious contacts, and even more so of offers of any forms of cooperation. By making contact with this category of persons under cultivation, any

intelligence officer exposes himself to enormous risk. With one wrong action, he himself will turn from a hunter into a victim.

Therefore, intelligence officers prepare and develop their legends with special care; the results of their work and often their lives largely depend on this. For each cover story there is a painstaking process of getting accustomed to the new personality. They work out every operational task thoroughly, consider all possible options for action, and think out everything down to the smallest detail. After all, recruitment operations are always about exclusive, non-standard solutions: it is necessary not only to decide under what conditions the person being recruited will cooperate, but also



to create the appropriate situation and artistically play your role, while at the same time thinking about how to work with him further.

You need to maintain full concentration and self-control for years... But at home, in the presence of only those closest to you, you can relax for a minute.

In the 1930s, recruiting most of the residents of Western Europe was an impossible mission for employees of legal stations due to the negative attitude of Europeans towards the Soviet Russia. Our illegal intelligence officers, not only Dmitry Bystroletov, could only act “under a false flag,” that is, on behalf of representatives of some Western country, but not the USSR. “Andrey” carried out his operations

Dmitry Bystroletov’s recruiting operations are the classics of professionalism. “Merlin”, a female employee of an intelligence center that conducted military-economic intelligence against the USSR and was disguised as a technical bureau at a large industrial concern in Germany; «Arno», head of the cipher department of the British Foreign Office, a specialist in development of ciphers and decryption; “Magician”, a cryptographer of the same diplomatic department; «Rossi», a Swiss intermediary who traded in codes for the Italian Foreign Ministry - all this is a treasure trove of intelligence art.

Soviet foreign intelligence stations, where “Andrey” worked, supplied the country’s leadership with secrets of diplomatic missions and

However, as historians of the special services rightly assume, many agents who were in touch with Dmitry Bystroletov, even if long dead, will not be declassified for a long time, because they can affect the families of the highest aristocracy and even the most august persons of Western Europe.

## Years of hard times

At the end of 1936, after many years abroad, the intelligence officer returned to Moscow. The management prepared him, together with his wife and comrade-in-arms, Czech Milena Iolanta Shelmatova, for a new responsible task.

The intelligence officer was even introduced to People’s Commissar of Internal Affairs Nikolai Yezhov. He confirmed the report of intelligence chief Abram Slutsky on the new assignment and said that the proposal to confer on Dmitry Bystroletov the rank of senior lieutenant of state security had been approved. A recommendation for joining the CPSU(b) was given by senior comrades with whom he worked: Boris Bazarov, Theodore Mally, Ignace Poretsky. The Bystroletov family viewed the future with optimism.

However, for inexplicable reasons, everything started to ruin quickly. Abram Slutsky, Boris Bazarov, Theodore Mally and other good friends and colleagues were repressed. Unexpectedly, Dmitry Bystroletov was removed from work at the Center and transferred to the All-Union Chamber of Commerce. On September 18, 1938, he was arrested, tried and sentenced to 20

One day, after three years of underground living abroad, I was allowed to visit my mother for a week. And there she goes ahead and says that the day is incredibly hot. At that time I had been pretending to be a Brazilian for a long time and therefore immediately flared up: “Incredibly hot?! Eh, mom! Live in my homeland in Brazil, then you’ll know what heat is like!” I saw the old woman’s frightened eyes and came to my senses.

*Dmitry Bystroletov*

in the most unexpected roles: under the guise of a Hungarian count, a son of an English lord, a lawyer from Vienna or a Canadian engineer. He traveled extensively throughout Europe and visited, on assignments from the Center, the USA, Canada, South America, North and Equatorial Africa. During his illegal work, he changed dozens of passports and could cross borders more than a hundred times every year! And every crossing involves preparation and stress. Outstanding intensity and performance!

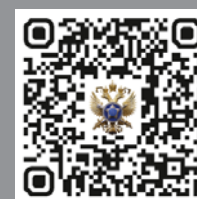
military headquarters of Austria, Great Britain, France, Italy and many other Western countries for many years. Moscow received information about the nature and volume of intelligence information about the defense capabilities of the USSR, which was owned by Western countries, while Soviet counterintelligence officers could identify the sources of leaks of our state secrets. Dmitry Bystroletov also obtained important political, economic, technical information, even samples of the latest weapons.

Unveiling of the monument to Dmitry Bystroletov in Simferopol



A man of amazing talent, an erudite. He had a tremendous ability for transformation. According to the legend and cover documents, he brilliantly played the roles of a British lord, a Hungarian count, a Greek merchant, a Russian student, and even an American gangster.

*Sergei Naryshkin,  
Director of the Foreign Intelligence  
Service of the Russian Federation*



years in forced labor camps, where he spent almost 16 years.

Dmitry Bystroletov returned from prison in 1954. In 1956, he was completely exonerated by the Military Collegium of the Supreme Court of the USSR. After long wanderings and hardships, he found a new family, worked as a scientific consultant, language editor, translator in a number of all-Union research institutes and The Abstract Journal of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

In 1968, the leadership of the KGB of the USSR was informed about one of the last surviving “Mohicans” of Soviet intelligence of the 1930s. And here was our hero in demand again - he consulted on films and literary works about intelligence activities, wrote an analytical note in which he described his operational fate for use in the educational process - some of the excerpts in this story are from

there. In 1973, based on his script, the feature film “A Man in Plain Clothes” was shot, and a year later the magazine “Our Contemporary” published his story “Parabellum”.

In his late years, Dmitry Bystroletov was seriously ill. On May 3, 1975, he passed away. The literary work of the last two decades of his life - the multi-volume “Feast of the Immortals” - was published after his death. Personal exhibitions of his paintings and drawings were a success. On October 11, 2021, in the year of the 120th anniversary of Dmitry Bystroletov, a monument in his honour was unveiled in Simferopol.



# George Blake.

## The last interview with the legend

Text: Andrey Kudrin



**G**eorge Blake's life story is well known - several films has been made and dozens of books have been written about the legendary Soviet intelligence officer. We would like to offer fragments from his lifetime interviews, including a recording of his voice, where he talks about what the intelligence service is like and gives his advice to future generations of intelligence officers.

**What did you find attractive in the intelligence service when you were young and what do you still appreciate about it?**

Working in the intelligence is a special kind of activity. First of all, it is a very interesting job, where there is place for romance and adventure, which, especially in my youth, certainly attracted me, but that is not the main thing. The fundamental thing - I believed and still believe so - is that the intelligence is a subtle and very important tool to ensure the secure existence of states, each with its own interests. This is an inevitable reality. Perhaps it would be better if we could do without the intelligence and at the same time without police and army. But we can only dream of that. As long as humanity is what it is, I think no independent state in the world can do without the intelligence, as well as without armed forces.

Of course, the factor that always attracts people is that you are part of a closed elite? and it also plays its role. Intelligence officers are, after all, the intellectual elite, and illegals, if I may say so, are the elite within the elite and belonging to such a group of people is a sign of great trust and enormous responsibility.

**In your opinion, is the profession of intelligence officer prestigious in society nowadays?**

This profession has always been prestigious in all countries of the world. However, you have to take into account that your environment does not usually know that you are an intelligence officer. If you are, for example, a politician, a minister or a career officer everyone knows it and respects you. But if you are an intelligence officer, no one should know about it except your relatives

### WHO IS MR. BLAKE?

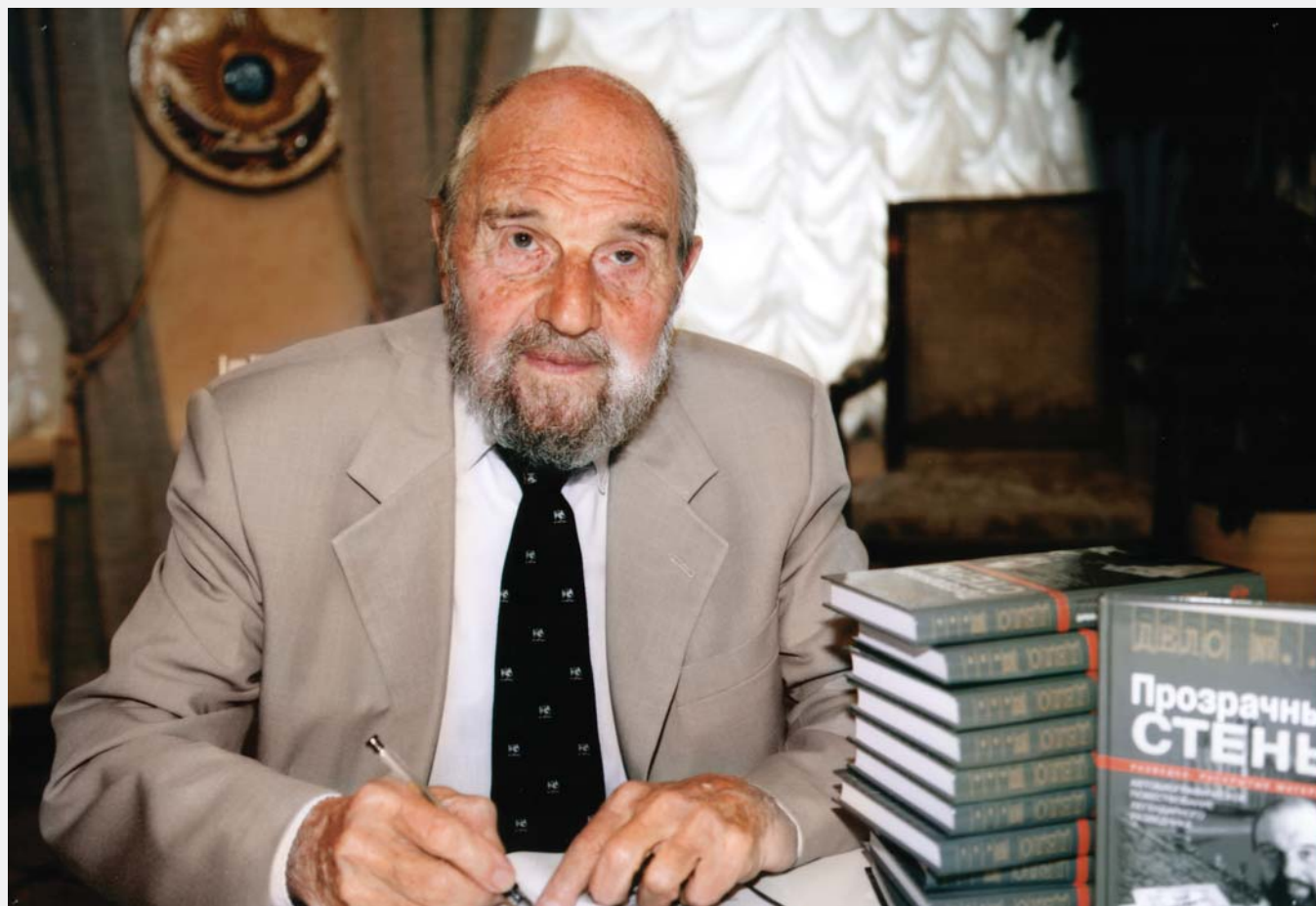


George Blake (Behar) was born in Rotterdam on November 11, 1922. His mother came from a noble Dutch family, his father was a British subject, a native of Constantinople.

In 1940 George Blake became a liaison in a group of the Dutch Resistance movement, two years later moved to England, where he trained as a special forces sailor. Soon the British secret services turned attention to the Royal Navy officer. Blake was enlisted in the MI-6 military intelligence directorate. In 1948 he was sent as a resident to Seoul. At the beginning of the Korean War Vice-Consul George Blake was taken prisoner. There he decided to connect his life with Soviet intelligence and offered his services to the USSR on an ideological basis, in a completely selfless way. For almost ten years agent «Homer» transmitted valuable to Soviet comrades information about subversive operations of Western intelligence services against Moscow. He was exposed in 1961 because of the betrayal of an intelligence officer from one of the socialist countries. The trial of George Blake made headlines all over Britain. He did not co-operate with the investigation and received a sentence of 42 years in prison. But he managed to escape from London's Wormwood Scrubs prison. His friends - an Irish rebel and activists of the pacifist movement - helped him. In December 1966, he reached the East German checkpoint safely.

George Blake was awarded orders and medals. Among them are the Order of Lenin, the Order of the Red Banner, the Order of the Patriotic War of the 1st Degree, «For Personal Courage». He is an honored Foreign Intelligence Officer of the Russian Federation.





and colleagues. This idea is well expressed in the motto of the illegal unit of the Foreign Intelligence Service: «Without the right to glory, for the glory of the state». It clearly reflects the position of an intelligence officer who is satisfied with the very fact of his involvement in the extremely important cause of ensuring the security of the Fatherland.

**What qualities should a real intelligence officer possess? What do you value most in such people?**

Firstly, great patience, ability to wait for the right moment, and cautiousness. If a person is patient and cautious, he knows that he can take risks only when it is absolutely necessary. In addition, he must make contact easily with other people, be able to win people over and inspire trust. This is very important. Naturally, an intelligence officer needs a thorough knowledge of the country where he is to

work, as well as perfect command of a foreign language, otherwise it will be difficult for him to reach other people's hearts.

Finally, he must have an excellent knowledge of his subject, specialization. If information on political, military or economic issues is to be obtained, it is necessary to have an in-depth knowledge of them in order to ask the right questions and evaluate the answers. Of course, an intelligence officer cannot be an expert in all areas of human activity, it is impossible and unnecessary. But he needs to have a solid basic education and a broad outlook in order to confidently navigate among various problems and make the right decisions.

**If there were a rating of intelligence services, where would you place the Russian SVR and who, in your opinion, would be in the top three?**

I have first-hand knowledge of Russian intelligence, its successes and brilliant operations, many of them are still much talked about. I believe that Soviet intelligence ranks among the first in the world, this is an indisputable fact. The Israeli intelligence service, Mossad, due to the special position of the state in the region, has also accumulated a great deal of experience and works very effectively. The CIA has great capabilities and is probably fairly well informed. And of course, MI-6 officers are very highly qualified.

But what is the difference, you may ask, between, for example, MI-6, the CIA and the SVR? The British have always been limited in means, they do not have the budget that the American and Russian intelligence services have. Therefore, they have to handle their money carefully and use it in a targeted manner in order to get the biggest dividends. Their work is not aimed at creating a vast network of agents, as for example the CIA does. The British try to take only what is most valuable and important to them and of course what is more accessible, so as not to waste money. But they are certainly experienced intelligence officers and work very carefully, often with great success.

I would like to emphasize once again that my long personal experience in Soviet and now Russian intelligence gives me reason to place it among the leading intelligence agencies in the world. What I particularly appreciate is the work of the illegals, because they are a special phenomenon, and there is nothing like it in other intelligence agencies, perhaps except for the Mossad. As far as I understand, illegal intelligence appeared in Russia for historical reasons. In the 1920s the USSR had no embassies abroad, and intelligence officers were deprived of the opportunity to operate from the positions of diplomatic and other missions. Hence the need to find or train people who could be sent abroad without official cover. For example, English intelligence never had such a task, because in almost all countries there were always large English communities - businessmen, preachers, journalists - who had lived there

for many years, knew the internal situation well and had extensive contacts. Out of patriotic motives they were almost always ready, if it was not directly detrimental to their business, to help English intelligence to obtain the necessary information or establish the necessary contacts.

Another crucial point. Training illegal agents requires a lot of time and it can take many years until you get from them the information you need. And since the British intelligence, as I have already said, is limited in funds, it cannot afford to invest large sums of money in an enterprise which, even in case of a







favorable development of events, can only pay off after many years.

**Your answer suggests the importance of selecting the right people for intelligence work.**

Yes, this is a very serious point. There are people who think that the necessary qualities can be acquired or developed over time, but I am sure that is not true. You can learn to play the piano, but if you aren't gifted, you won't become a great pianist. This fully applies to intelligence, which, in my opinion, is also an art. That is why it is very important to select the right candidates who are qualified for such an unusual and highly responsible job.

**What would you wish for young intelligence officers just embarking on this thorny path?**

More successes and fewer failures. One should remember that that everyone can make mistakes in any job. Never get upset, do not worry and do not give up, but just prepare more carefully for the next operations. When an intelligence officer follows all the requirements and rules of the secrecy, then he has good luck. Of course, you can't predict how things will turn out, especially when you go to meet a source. Sometimes there are completely unforeseen circumstances. That is why you need to approach everything carefully, to take into account every little thing, every detail. And you must always believe in yourself.

# GEORGE BLAKE'S ADDRESS

George Blake's address to his friends, colleagues and like-minded persons on his 95<sup>th</sup> anniversary



## DEAR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES!

On 11 November I, Russian intelligence officer, Colonel George Blake, turned 95 years old.... In the life of every person, and I am no exception here, there inevitably comes a time that can be compared to autumn, which is associated with summing up results. Remembering the past, I involuntarily ask myself how honest I was before my contemporaries and descendants. The 95th anniversary is a good reason to evaluate my long and difficult life.

My biography is well known to many people. Its peculiarity, in my opinion, is that the main stages of my life are connected with an important choice. It is a choice of my position in difficult and contradictory conditions dictated by history itself. I could have become a peaceful priest, but I became an intelligence officer. I could have calmly survived the war and the years that followed, but I chose the dangerous path of an active participant of the Resistance movement. After miraculously escaping Hitler's concentration camp, I became a British Special Forces soldier who risked his life many times.

After the end of the Second World War, as a member of the British intelligence services, I was in the front ranks of the opponents of Russia, my present homeland. A little later there was the terrible Korean War in my biography. I saw its real face, including the bodies of civilians of that long-suffering country killed by the American war machine. It was then that I realized that such conflicts were fraught with mortal danger for all mankind, and I made the most important decision of my life: I began to cooperate proactively and gratuitously with Soviet foreign intelligence in order to protect the peace all over the world.

95 years is a very long time for an individual and very little on the scale of human history. The memory of the past, which I do not regret one bit, makes me optimistic about the future. I would like to take this opportunity to address my colleagues, first of all the young officers of the Service.

Comrades! You will have a difficult and responsible mission - to save the world in a situation where the danger of nuclear war and the associated self-destruction of mankind has once again been put on the agenda by irresponsible politicians. When terrorism has raised its head and leaves its bloody traces in many corners of our planet. There is a real war between good and evil. And I believe in you, in your selfless and self-sacrificing service to our common cause, in your professionalism. I believe in the final victory over the vile enemy. This faith gives me vitality.

I would like to thank from the bottom of my heart the leadership of the Service and my colleagues in illegal intelligence for many years of loyal friendship, sensitivity, care, attention and understanding.

Compatriots! Russia has become my second homeland. There is a beautiful Russian wish: «Peace to your home». And I really want peace to be in your home or, to be exact, in our home.

Peace to your - our - home!

Clear and sunny skies above your heads!

My honour!





Text by: Andrey Kudrin

# One Hundred Years of Illegal Intelligence

June 28, 1922, Wednesday, seemed to be an ordinary weekday, indistinguishable from any other day of that week. There didn't seem to be any special, let alone fateful, event in our country that Wednesday. Except the RSFSR Council of People's Commissars (CPC) passed a new decree, this time devoted to finances, "On cessation of issuance of token money, banknotes and obligations issued before 1922." At the same time, the CPC approved an ordinary resolution "On bringing into force the Charter of the RSFSR Railways from August 1, 1922."

However, that day another outstanding event took place, which the Soviet newspapers of that time preferred to remain silent about. It was on June 28, 1922 that the Collegium of the State Political Directorate (GPU) (the GPU was created on the basis of the All-Russian Extraordinary Commission (Cheka), abolished in February) approved the "Statute on the Overseas Branch of the Foreign Department (INO) of the GPU". The subsequent events showed that as a result of what seemed to be a simple bureaucratic procedure, in fact, with a stroke of the pen, a unique phenomenon in the history of the special services had been created. As earlier in no other country in the world had

illegal intelligence – and this is what we are talking about – been organized into an independent line of work.

Archival materials indicate that it was this document that marked the beginning of one of the most secret units of the foreign intelligence agencies. It directly pointed out the need to send "certain individuals and groups with strictly defined special tasks to countries, not bound with RSFSR by any treaty and not allowing any strong, main bases for the work of our Missions". A number of sources mention that Felix Dzerzhinsky, who himself had invaluable experience of illegal work, initiated the adoption of the statute.

Already in the first months of its existence, a number of the Cheka employees were involved in illegal intelligence work outside of Russia. Thus, Aleksei Filippov, sent by Dzerzhinsky in January, 1918 under the guise of a correspondent for one of the Russian newspapers on an intelligence mission to Finland, can be considered one of the first illegal intelligence officers. In January 1919, a Cheka investigation officer George Lafar was implanted into the headquarters of the French expeditionary corps in Odessa as a





Felix Dzerzhinsky,  
head of the Cheka-GPU

translator. At the beginning of 1920, a Soviet intelligence officer Mikhail Adamovich was sent to the Crimea, to the troops of Baron Wrangel. At the same time, a twenty-year-old Red Army soldier Leonid Linitsky, who subsequently worked in illegal intelligence for many years, also operated in Wrangel's ranks.



Meier Trilisser,  
head of the INO GPU

Until June 1922, the INO agents (at that time they were career intelligence officers) were mostly illegally transferred abroad using fake documents or without any at all, making their way through the so-called green border. One of the main lines of their work was, generally, anti-Soviet emigrant organizations concentrated abroad. Now it was officially recognized that in addition to legal intelligence officers we had illegal ones, and at the same time existing foreign residencies were divided into legal and illegal. And taking into account the fact that at that time the young Republic of Soviets had diplomatic and trade relations only with a small number of states where Soviet missions operated, the main burden of obtaining secret information naturally fell on illegal intelligence officers and their spy networks.

In March 1922, the INO was headed by Meier Trilisser, an experienced underground revolutionary with extensive experience. Due to his efforts, many of his associates in this specific field joined the new unit. It was them who became the legendary first conscription of Soviet illegal intelligence officers and set an example for many generations of professionals to come.

As a result of worsening social and political contradictions with the USSR, by the end of 1925 leaders of the world's capitalist countries started to plan a military invasion of our country. Therefore, in the second half of 1926, on the personal instruction of Joseph Stalin, the leadership of the Joint State Political Directorate (OGPU), headed by Vyacheslav Menzhinsky, created a so-called "Special Group" within the INO; it was a special unit operating exclusively from illegal positions, intended to implant agents into military strategic targets of a possible enemy, to carry out very sensitive operational and sabotage tasks set by the country's top leadership. The group was classified even within the INO, and its formation was not properly documented.

The backbone of the group consisted of the most experienced illegal intelligence officers, including those assigned from the

ranks of the Comintern. Later on, it received an unofficial name "Yasha's Group", or "Ya Group", named after its first leader, who previously headed the residencies in Paris and Brussels, Yakov Serebryansky. The group included talented and effective employees of the INO of that period: Sergei Shpigelglaz, Naum Eitingon and others.

On January 30, 1930, in accordance with the resolution of the Political Bureau (Politburo) of the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks, another reorganization of foreign intelligence agencies began. One of the priority tasks for intelligence officers was to improve the quality of operational work in a number of foreign countries, including Great Britain, France, Germany, Poland, Romania, Finland, the Baltic states and Japan. Experienced professional, Cheka security officer Artur Artuzov, who headed the intelligence service at that time, proposed to focus efforts on illegal intelligence in particular. Due to this, the period of the 1930s would later be called the "Era of the Great Illegals" in the history of foreign intelligence.

Thus, Theodore Mally and Arnold Deutsch went to London in order to work as illegals; later, they were directly involved in the recruitment of the legendary "Cambridge Five". Married couple Vasily and Elizaveta Zarubin were sent to Berlin, where they maintained contacts with an employee of the German political police, Willy Lehmann, who got a job in the central office of the Gestapo in 1934. The extraction of diplomatic ciphers of leading European powers was successfully carried out by Dmitry Bystroletov, who traveled all over the world.

In January 1933, Naum Eitingon was appointed the new head of the Soviet illegal intelligence service. Under him, since 1934, an illegal residency headed by Boris Bazarov and Iskhak Akhmerov began to operate productively in the United States. In 1935, an operation began to implant a young illegal intelligence officer, Pavel Sudoplatov, into the circle of the leader of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) Yevhen Konovalets. Later, the civil

war that broke out in the spring of 1936 in Spain ensured an influx of new personnel into the illegal intelligence service from among the volunteers who arrived to fight for the republic. Among them were Joseph Grigulevich, married couple Morris and Lona (Leontina) Cohen, Africa de las Heras and many others.

Unfortunately, in 1937–1939, the foreign intelligence agencies, like almost all government agencies of the USSR, were decimated by the mass repressions of that time. Thus, out of 450 INO officers who worked at the headquarters and foreign residencies, 275 people were subjected to repression, that was over 60% of the personnel. Among them were the members



of the "Special Group": Yakov and Polina Serebryansky, Sergei Shpigelglaz, Naum Eitingon, Theodore Mally, as well as Albert Syrkin-Bernardi and his wife. At that time, most of the illegal intelligence officers were recalled to Moscow and dismissed from the security agencies.

The inevitability of a major war between the West and the USSR made it necessary to take emergency measures to restore the effective work of the foreign intelligence service; this was what Pavel Fitin, who headed it in 1939, and his deputy Pavel

Leontina and Morris  
Cohen (code names  
"Helen Kroger"  
and "Peter Kroger")





Africa de las Heras  
(code name "Patria")

Sudoplatov began their active work from. Thus, by the beginning of February 1941, in addition to 45 legal residencies, there were 14 illegal ones, with Germany, France and Great Britain having two to four of them each. In the spring of 1941, even before the attack of Nazi Germany on the Soviet Union, the leadership of the Soviet intelligence service sent instructions to the foreign apparatus to intensify the work of the agent network and communication lines, as well as to prepare Russian and other national emigrant groups in Europe to participate in illegal intelligence operations in conditions of war. In 1941–1942, previously dismissed professionals Iskhak Akhmerov, Arnold Deutsch, and Fedor Paparov were returned to the service in order to work abroad through the First Directorate of the NKVD of the USSR. The reestablished illegal intelligence department, transformed into an independent directorate in 1946, was headed by Aleksander Korotkov, who had had experience of successful illegal work in France and Germany back in the 1930s.

It was the illegal intelligence that made a huge contribution, both during and after World War II, to obtaining information about Western projects on creating a nuclear weapon. In 1948, William Fischer, better known as Rudolf Abel, was sent to the United States in order to replace Iskhak Akhmerov, who returned from there. The illegal intelligence officers, married couples Vladimir Grinchenko and Simona Krimker, Giuseppe Bertoni and Africa de las Heras, Mikhail and Anna Filonenko went to the countries of Central America.

In addition to the American continent, the Middle East and the countries of Southeast Asia, including communist China, became priority areas of illegal intelligence activity in the 1950s. Shamil Khamzin and Irina Alimova, Gevork and Goar Vartanyan, and a number of other intelligence officers successfully worked in these regions. In Western Europe, where the main efforts to confront the Soviet Union were applied by the countries of the NATO bloc, Ashot Akopyan and his wife, Mikhail and Galina Fedorov, Mikhail and Elizaveta Mukasei, and



Arnold Deutsch  
(code name "Stephan")

Alexey Botyan were noted for their "shock work". Particularly successful was the illegal residency formed in Great Britain under the leadership of "Ben" – Konon Molody (aka Gordon Lonsdale) who worked with Morris and Leontina Cohen, experienced liaison officers by that time.

Unfortunately, as a result of betrayals, Konon Molody and the Cohen couple were identified and arrested by foreign intelligence services in 1962, and earlier, in 1957, so was William Fisher. All of them were subsequently released and returned to their homeland, where for many years they continued to make a significant contribution to the training and education of young employees who came to serve in the Special Directorate (from October 1966 – Directorate "S") of the PGU of the KGB of the USSR. Among them were the future Heroes of the Soviet Union and the Russian Federation Evgeny Kim, Mikhail Vasenkov, Aleksey Kozlov, Vitaly Netyksa, Yuri Shevchenko, as well as many other representatives of the glorious generation of illegal intelligence officers, whose exploits we cannot yet reveal to the general public.

On June 28, 2022, the Russian illegal intelligence service celebrated its centenary. Speaking at the headquarters in Yasenevo



Elizaveta and Mikhail  
Mukasei (code names  
"Elza" and "Zephyr")

An illegal intelligence officer is the highest rank of an intelligence officer. If a soldier is required to give his life for the country, in the name of the idea he serves, an illegal intelligence officer is required to sacrifice his own self, his personality. And it is simply impossible to demand more from a person. He must renounce everything: name, surname, profession, Homeland. He must acquire a new name, a new surname, a new profession, a new nationality, cut all ties: friends, family that connect him with his surrounding and his country. And only people who love their Homeland very much are ready to make such self-sacrifice!

George Blake

in front of the employees and veterans of the SVR, Russian President Vladimir Putin congratulated everybody "for whom work in this most important sphere has become their calling and destiny, who have been defending our country's national interests, being far from their Homeland for years and decades, without diplomatic or any other cover, who even today carry out unique operations, delivering the most valuable information to the Center".



# They prevented World War III.

## The role of intelligence during the Cuban Missile Crisis

Text: Maxim Ktorov

**I**n the fall of 1962, the USSR and the USA found themselves on the verge of a nuclear war, having experienced the most acute crisis in the history of relations between the two countries. Sixty years ago, the conflict was sparked by the deployment of American nuclear missiles in Turkey and the retaliatory sending of Soviet missiles to Cuba. Then the crisis was resolved thanks to the wisdom of politicians and the endurance of military officers and diplomats. Now, after the relevant documents have been declassified, we can talk about the important role that foreign intelligence played in the peaceful resolution of the Caribbean crisis.

By the early 1960s, a relatively stable balance of power had developed in Europe and Asia, and therefore the USSR and the USA, who were fighting for global dominance, began to demonstrate increased attention to Africa, where independent states were being formed, as well as to the revolutionary

movements that arose at that time in the countries of Central and South America.

The Soviet Union then had diplomatic missions in that part of the world only in Argentina, Mexico and Uruguay. The rest of the states in the region either limited



Alexander Feklisov, chief  
of the Soviet foreign intelligence station  
in Washington. 1962



John Scully,  
ABC News correspondent

themselves to maintaining contacts with Moscow without opening embassies, for example, Bolivia, Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica and Ecuador, or held a pause after having broken all the ties due to the pressure from Washington. Thus, diplomatic relations with Cuba established back in 1942 were unilaterally ended by Havana in the spring of 1952, after the seizure of power by General Fulgencio Batista.

Surprisingly, neither the Cuban dictator nor his American patrons took seriously the activity of a group of former students led by the brothers Fidel and Raul Castro, Ernesto Guevara and other revolutionaries. In December 1956, a detachment of 82 soldiers formed by them landed on the southeastern coast of the country and began a guerrilla warfare. Subsequently, the anti-dictatorship uprising engulfed the western and central parts of Cuba, and on January 1, 1959, the

Barbudos troops entered Havana, from where General Batista fled at the same day on his private plane.

The transformations initiated by the new authorities, first of all the agrarian reform, clearly went against the grain with the American business, closely associated with former Cuban landowners. In this regard, Washington launched an unprecedented ideological campaign against the communists who had seized power and property in Cuba. The leaders of the Soviet Union, on the contrary, began to send signals to the Cuban leaders of their readiness to provide them all possible support. Soviet intelligence officers were among the first to come to the Island of Freedom from Moscow via Mexico.

The information provided by them about the real state of affairs on the island



made it possible, at the beginning of 1960, to organize a visit to Havana of a Soviet delegation led by the First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Anastas Mikoyan. His secretary and translator was a young officer, and one of the future leaders, of the foreign intelligence service, Nikolai Leonov. In addition to his excellent command of Spanish, he was personally acquainted with Che Guevara and the Castro brothers from his studies at the Mexican university.

The negotiations resulted in making agreements on the purchase of a large lot of Cuban sugar and the provision of a loan of \$100 million to Havana; and by May 1960, the relations between the two countries were completely restored. At the same time with Ambassador Sergei Kudryavtsev, the first batches of Soviet tanks and other weapons arrived in Cuba, the supply of which was agreed upon by War Minister Raul Castro, who had visited Moscow.

Having secured the support of the Soviets, in August 1960 the Cuban authorities launched the process of nationalizing the property of American companies and banks. In response, in January 1961, the United States broke off diplomatic relations with Cuba and began preparations for the overthrow of the Castro regime. With the consent of President John F. Kennedy, who had just taken his office, the CIA Director Allen Dulles ordered the landing of Contras troops on the island, which were to be covered by American Navy and Air Forces.

However, the invasion attempt ended in a disastrous failure. Soviet intelligence became aware in advance of the action planned for mid-April 1961 and its venue in the Bay of Cochinos — or the Bay of Pigs — 150 km to the south of Havana. Following the recommendation of our advisers, light bombers, tanks and artillery were brought up to the landing zone in advance, which made it possible to immediately block the contras on the foothold occupied by them. The US leaders did not dare to use their group of aircraft carriers. As a result, out of almost 1,500 mercenaries of 'Brigade 2506',

more than a hundred were killed and about 1,300 surrendered.

In his memoirs, Nikolai Leonov describes these events as follows: "During the dramatic days of the mercenary invasion of Cuba in April 1961 I hardly ever left the office of KGB Chairman Semichastny, who charged me with monitoring all incoming information and, once in two or three hours, reporting on the situation and giving my own forecasts. I acted simply: I hung on the wall two maps taken from the General Staff and began to mark the course of military operations: on one map — in the way the American media presented it, and on the other — as our representatives in Cuba saw it. Just within a few hours it became clear that the Americans were shamelessly lying, and that their information was a part of the psychological impact on the Cuban population. Our specialists personally reported on events from those locations that, according to the USA news agencies, had long been captured by invading troops or occupied by rebel anti-Castro forces..."

The failure of the Bay of Pigs action forced the CIA Director Allen Dulles and the CIA Deputy Director for plans Richard Bissell to resign. At that moment, "hawks" prevailed in President John Kennedy's circle, and they proposed to increase pressure on the USSR by deploying medium-range ballistic missiles PGM-19 Jupiter equipped with nuclear warheads at the American military bases in Turkey. The first batch of 15 installations had already been there since January 1961, that is, for more than a year. Information about Washington's new nuclear missile plans, received in Moscow from Soviet Intelligence officers, was immediately reported to the First Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Nikita Khrushchev. At an extraordinary meeting of the USSR Defense Council in May 1962, a decision was made to place nuclear weapons in Cuba.

At the end of that month, a Soviet delegation led by the Commander in Chief of the Soviet Air Defense Forces (RVSN), Marshal Sergei Biryuzov, arrived in Havana. Operation

Anadyr was begun, with the aim to transfer to Cuba R-12 and R-14 ballistic missiles, with a range of 2,000 and 4,000 km respectively, equipped with nuclear warheads with the capacity of one megaton. To shield the launching sites on the island, there were plans to deploy a battery of anti-aircraft guns, 12 S-75 anti-aircraft missile launchers, a squadron of MiG-21 jet fighters, 42 Il-28 light bombers, a helicopter regiment, four motorized infantry regiments and two tank battalions, in total about 50,000 soldiers. In addition, a Soviet naval group consisting of two cruisers, four destroyers and 11 submarines headed towards the shores of Cuba.

On October 15, American U-2 reconnaissance airplanes while making regular flights over Cuba, took the first photographs of the R-12 missiles that had appeared at the missile sites. Around that time, information about the Operation Anadyr leaked from Moscow to the CIA with the help of GRU Colonel Oleg Penkovsky (aka Young), who had been working for the United States and Britain since April 1961. On October 20, John Kennedy convened a secret meeting, at which, instigated by the Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, he decided to impose a naval blockade of the island.

On October 22, John Kennedy announced his decision in a televised address to the nation. On the same day, Nikita Khrushchev said that Moscow considered the blockade of Cuba illegal and warned that ships flying the flag of the USSR would ignore it. He also threatened the USA that, in case of an attack on Soviet ships heading to Cuba, the USSR would immediately strike back. At the time, Soviet counterintelligence arrested the traitor Oleg Penkovsky in Moscow, and hence Washington lost the opportunity to monitor the progress of Operation Anadyr.

On the morning of October 24, about 180 warships of the US Navy blocked Cuba, creating a quarantine zone with a radius of 500 nautical miles around the island. The marines were ordered not to open fire without a personal order from the president. Meanwhile, 30 Soviet ships were approaching the Island of Liberty, including the dry cargo ship Aleksandrovsk with nuclear warheads on board. Soviet captains had clear instructions not to submit to foreign demands on the high sea. The armed forces of both countries were put on advanced alert, and the situation became threatening.

On the morning of October 26, 1962, the chief of the Soviet foreign intelligence

Copies of coded telegrams from Washington and Havana

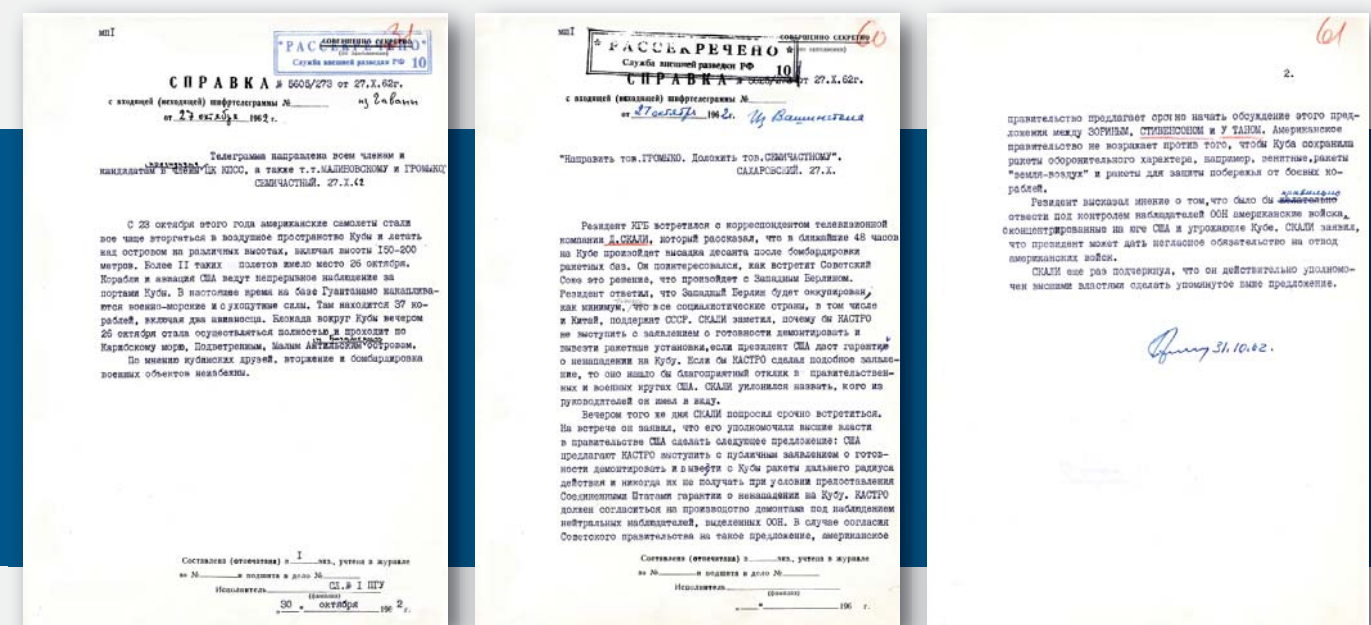






Table at the Occidental restaurant, where Alexander Feklisov and John Scully talked

station in Washington Alexander Feklisov, who worked in the United States under the codename Fomin as a counselor of the USSR Embassy, contacted an ABC News correspondent John Scully, who was part of the president's press pool, and invited him to lunch at the Occidental restaurant. The journalist notified US Secretary of State Dean Rusk about the upcoming meeting with the Soviet diplomat, and the latter contacted the president by telephone. In the presence of his assistant, John Kennedy ordered to inform the Soviet representatives that "time is running out, and the White House is waiting for an urgent statement from Khrushchev on the conditions under which Moscow agrees to withdraw the missiles from Cuba."

After listening to the journalist, Alexander Feklisov calmly said: "President Kennedy must realize: the invasion of Cuba removes absolutely all moral obligations from Khrushchev and gives him a complete freedom of action. In response, the Soviet Union can strike at the most vulnerable place for the West, at the territory of strategic importance for Washington."

Apparently, John Scully did not expect such a twist. He looked at the spy and asked: "Do you think, Alexander, this will be West Berlin?" — "As a response? It's quite possible," — his interlocutor answered, and confidently added that it would take the USSR troops less than 24

hours to occupy the western part of the German capital.

Decades later, Alexander Feklisov remembered that he was not authorized to talk about the capture of West Berlin: "Yes, I took a risk, but I was not mistaken. Perhaps, in response to the American aggression, Khrushchev would not have sent troops to West Berlin. But we warned the USA President that this was possible, and he paid attention to this scenario; it seriously puzzled him. As a result, Berlin, which we were focusing on, became a key deterrent for the Americans."

Within just two hours, John Scully called the USSR Embassy and asked to connect him urgently with "Mr. Fomin." The latter was informing Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin about his conversation with the American. During the immediate repeat meeting, agreed over the telephone, at the Statler cafe, which was located halfway from the White House to the USSR Embassy, John Scully voiced conditions proposed by Washington for resolving the Caribbean Crisis. In particular, the United States promised, in exchange for the dismantling and withdrawal of Soviet missiles from Cuba, to lift the naval blockade from the island and not to undertake any acts of direct aggression against the Castro regime. In addition, the American journalist conveyed John Kennedy's personal request to communicate these proposals to Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev as soon as possible.

Having reported to the Ambassador about the proposals of the American side, Alexander Feklisov sent an urgent telegram to the head of the First Chief Directorate of the KGB of the USSR, Colonel General Alexander Sakharovsky. Following this, a message from the Soviet station chief from Havana was sent to the Center: "I am reporting the situation in Cuba. Since October 23, cases of American airplanes intruding into Cuban airspace have become more frequent. On October 26 alone, more than 11 such flights were made. Cuba's ports are under constant surveillance by the USA ships and aircraft. Naval and ground forces

are being accumulated at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base; there are currently 37 ships there, including two aircraft carriers. By the evening of October 26, the blockade ring around Cuba was completely closed, and now it extends across the Caribbean Sea, the Leeward Antilles, the Lesser Antilles and the Bahamas."

At the same time, the position of the Cuban leadership was stated, which was confident in the inevitability of a US fire strike in the coming hours against the Soviet missile launchers deployed on the island, and a subsequent military invasion.

According to eyewitnesses, it was those intelligence reports that strengthened Nikita Khrushchev's decision about the need to find a compromise with the Americans. The Soviet leader prepared a personal message to John Kennedy, in which he agreed in principle to the withdrawal of missiles from Cuba, but in conjunction with the withdrawal of American missiles from Turkey. On the night of October 28, Anatoly Dobrynin handed over a letter to the younger brother of the American president, US Attorney General Robert Kennedy. The latter confirmed that the White House was ready to give guarantees of non-aggression and lifting of the blockade from Cuba, and did not see insurmountable obstacles to the issue of withdrawing missiles from Turkey.

On the morning of October 28, 1962, the USSR Minister of Defense ordered to start the dismantling of launching sites in Cuba. Three weeks later, Soviet ships removed all the missiles and warheads stationed there. On November 20, by decision of John Kennedy, the US Air Force and Navy ended the air and sea blockade of the Island of Liberty. Despite the formal ending of the crisis, the leadership of the USSR needed confirmation of the fact of the withdrawal of American nuclear missiles from the Turkish territory. Intelligence managed to obtain this information already in December 1962, yet not in Washington but in Paris, where NATO headquarters was located at that time.



# Georgiy Sannikov: “That was a fight to the death”

Interview by Yevgeny Dolgushin

**Georgiy Sannikov is a veteran of the Foreign Intelligence Service, a member of the Union of Writers of Russia. In the 1950s after graduating from Faculty of Law of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, he was directed to work in state security bodies. He worked in Ukraine, participated in the elimination of the remnants of armed nationalist gangs in Western Ukraine and in operational radio games of the Soviet counterintelligence to penetrate foreign OUN centers and Western intelligence services. For many years he worked abroad in the field of foreign political intelligence. «Razvedchik» magazine talked with Georgiy Sannikov about history, his books and the present.**

**Georgiy Zakharovich, our readers are well aware that you, a veteran of foreign intelligence, actively participated in the elimination of the Ukraine's bandit underground in 1953-1956. A detailed narrative of those events is set forth in your books. Today I would like to talk to you about the events of those far-off days from the point of view of today's realities and assessments. When the Great Patriotic War began, you were only 12 years old...**

I remember my childhood well, it ended quickly with the first days of the war. I can rightfully consider myself a labor front fighter. Since the fall of 1942 I already worked in the collective farm on the left bank of the

Volga, and my father, a veteran of the Civil War, fought on the right bank of Volga - he took part the Stalingrad Battle. At the age of 15 I became a cadet of Kyiv special air force school, where pilots were trained. I'd been dreaming about the sky since I was a kid. I saw myself at the controls of a combat aircraft. However, the dream of flying did not come true. The medical board rejected me, it's nice to know now how wrong they were. In 1947 I entered Faculty of Law of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. After graduating I was directed to work in state security bodies.

**How did you come to Ukraine, fighting against nationalist gangs?**

In 1953, a large meeting of the management and operational staff was held at the Dzerzhinsky Central Club on Lubyanka Street. Of course, they also talked about the situation in Western Ukraine and the Baltic states. A call was made at the meeting: "Who wants to go to eliminate the remnants of the OUN underground gangs? Are there any volunteers?" I wrote a report, and they took me. That was that simple.

**What was the situation in Western Ukraine by that time?**

At the time I arrived in Ukraine, there were few OUN-UPA gangs left in the western part of the country, but they were quite large, cohesive, well-armed and deeply clandestine. Soviet power was established at all levels, and the population was no longer afraid of the lawlessness of bandits. Nevertheless, the active struggle against the bandit underground did not stop, although it moved into the mainstream, first of all, of the coordinated operational work of the internal affairs bodies and the KGB of the USSR to identify the locations of the gangs, their structure and leaders, agents and accomplices. Military units also assisted the elimination process.

I became an involuntary witness to the mass terror of the nationalists against the Ukrainian population: violence, inhuman sadistic massacres and atrocities. I saw hundreds of hideouts and underground shelters, a lot of intimidated and fooled former farmers who took up arms and killed their neighbours, without realizing in the name of what they were doing this.

I had to interrogate leaders of the underground, sometimes very well educated and fanatically devoted to nationalist ideas, which, as it turned out, were only half a step away from neo-Nazism. Sometimes these interrogations turned into sharp ideological polemics, and it was important for me to understand the origins of this degeneration of the human personality into a sadist and monster, incomprehensible to the common person.



Only by the end of the 1950s did the fight against the Ukrainian bandit underground come to naught. The last known state security officer died at the hands of the Banderites dates back to 1959, and the last active group of OUN, which consisted of three people only, was eliminated by USSR KGB investigators on April 14, 1960 in Podgayetsky district of the Ternopil region.

**That is, this war ended only 15 years after the Victory salute?**

Yes. And the war was won on this battlefield at a terrible cost, on both sides. About 25,000 Soviet servicemen, state security officers, police and border guards, as well as about 30,000 representatives of Soviet and party activists were killed in the fight against the OUN-UPA in the post-war period. Over the same period, more than 155,000 UPA fighters and OUN underground fighters were killed, less than 2,000 of them in the eastern regions of Ukraine, 134,000 bandits were captured, and about 77,000 surrendered.

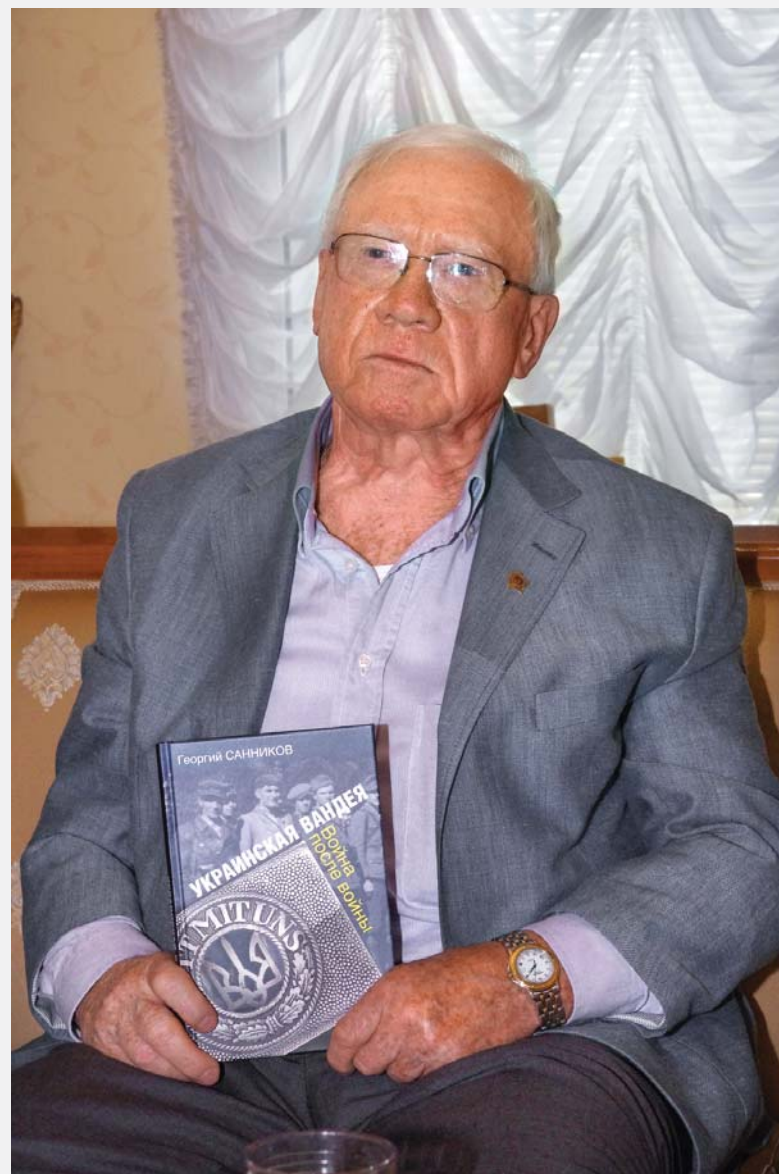


**From today's perspective, can you explain why the nationalist movement in Western Ukraine in the post-war period was so widespread?**

There is nothing wrong with citizens of any country loving their history, language, culture and customs. A nationalist idea is highly flammable and can be turned into a powerful weapon. The main thing is who creates it and whose hands it will fall into. In the bitter history of Ukraine its western part has become the generator of such ideas bordering on fascism.

However, this historical paradox is no surprise. Ardent nationalism was instilled in Ukrainians, although no one called them that at the time, by their oppressors - Poland and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. No enemy was hated more by the population of the western Ukrainian lands than the lordly Poland. Polonization of the Western Ukraine lands and people was an expression of extreme segregation and humiliation for centuries. However, almost all of the Ukrainian nationalism theoreticians came from the lands of the oppressors. It was there that they were nurtured and purposefully guided against Russia and everything Russian, against Slavic unity. At the same time, in the 1920s and 30s, Poland pursued an openly anti-Soviet, extremely Russophobic policy; its pro-Nazi leadership sought, in alliance with Hitler, to oppose the USSR.

Having occupied the lands of the present-day Ukraine in 1918 and wishing to create a vassal quasi-state as their raw materials appendage, the Germans for the first time recognized the statehood of the new formation. However, they quickly abandoned this idea and broke up the newly-appointed statesmen by themselves. The Germans cultivated nationalist sentiments and set Ukrainians against Jews, Poles and Communists, and harshly suppressed any attempts by the Ukrainians to create a self-state at the same time. This was the reason for imprisoning their ideological leader Stepan Bandera, not his fighting the occupiers, and he was released only after four years in order to



involve him into organization of a rebel movement.

Take a look at the map of the territorial distribution of OUN - UPA groups attached to the report of the Highest SS and Police Head in the Russia-South region in 1943. On the map and throughout the text of the entire report Bandera and UPA rebels are called nothing but "National-Ukrainian Bandit Movement". The same terminology can be seen in all other documents of the occupation authorities. Frankly enough. That is the Germans' true assessment of an "independent army" status.

Another curious fact: in battles with the UPA in 1944–1945, security officers captured more than 300 German military personnel, mostly Abwehr and Gestapo officers who remained among the rebels. By the way, the Germans acted in the OUN-UPA underground until the end of January 1947 when the «OUN Security Service» purposefully eliminated them in order not to compromise the movement in the eyes of the West.

The number of weapons confiscated from Banderites in 1944–1956 is staggering: one aircraft, two armored vehicles, 61 artillery guns, 595 mortars, 77 flamethrowers, 358 anti-tank rifles, 844 heavy and 8,327 light machine guns, about 26,000 machine guns, more than 72,000 rifles and 22 000 pistols, more than 100,000 grenades, 80,000 mines and shells, more than 12 million rounds of ammunition. Believe me, even considering that there had recently been a war, it was impossible to find and collect such an amount of abandoned weapons just in the forests and fields. In addition, about 100 printing presses, more than 300 radio transmitters were found and seized, and a significant number of food warehouses and

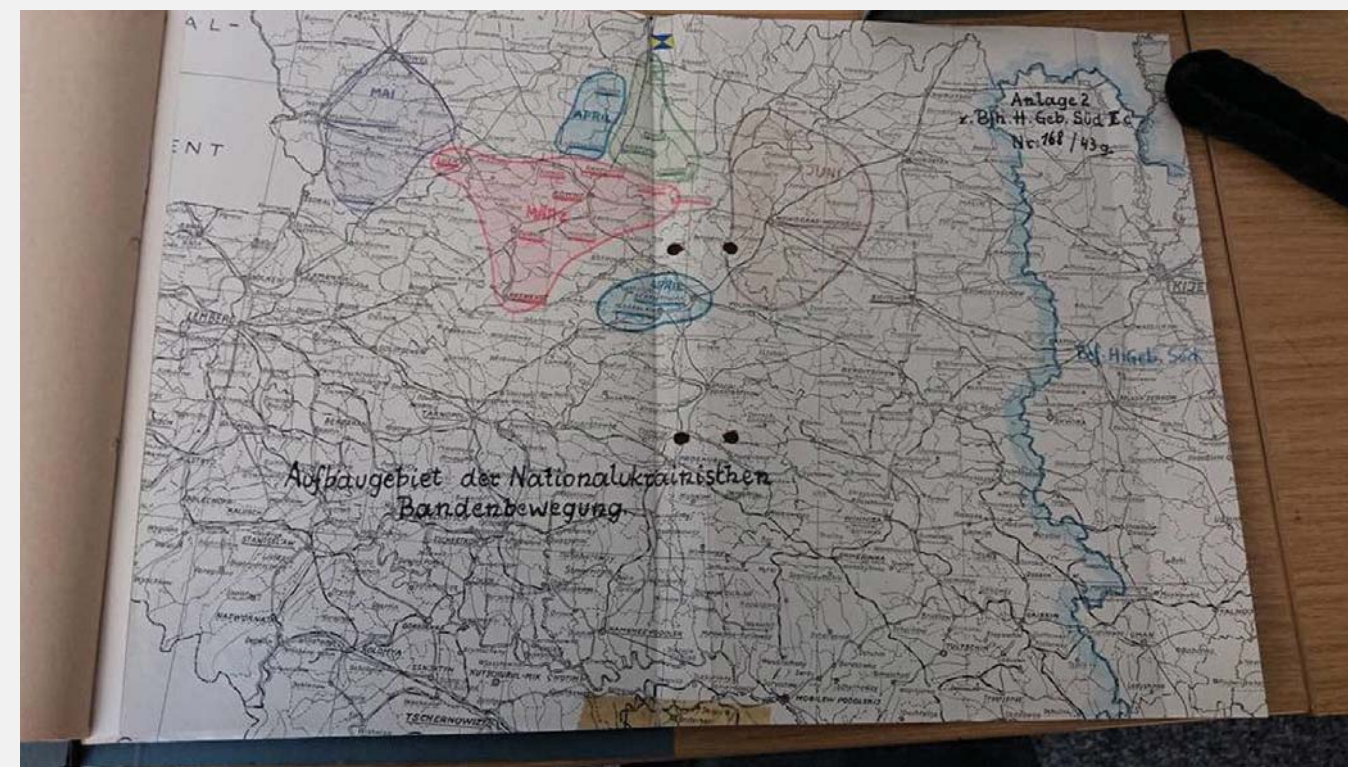
storage facilities for nationalist literature were discovered. All this was left, handed over and transported across the post-war border by the Germans to the Ukrainian nationalists for the purpose of carrying out subversive work on the territory of Ukraine.

**You listed external factors, but were there internal ones?**

No doubt, there were internal factors as well. Throughout the Soviet history numerous excesses and ill-conceived political decisions can be observed. They were also in Ukraine. On September 17, 1939, Ukrainians greeted the Red Army with jubilation. The lands of former Polish landowners were nationalized, the peasants received the land for personal use, but the total collectivization of agriculture began immediately, accompanied by coercion and exile of the dissatisfied to Siberia. Thus such hasty actions laid the social basis for Ukrainian nationalists.

The actions toward the Greek Catholic Church were also ill-conceived. Yes, the Uniates in an openly manner supported

A map of the distribution of OUN - UPA groups on the territory of Ukraine







the nationalists ideologically, but the arrest and expulsion to Siberia of more than 1000 clergymen led by Metropolitan Joseph Slipy caused an extremely negative reaction of the population.

There were educational centers «Prosvita» in Western Ukraine before and after the war, for preservation of national identity, culture and language. Until 1939 they experienced serious pressure from the Polish authorities. The Soviet authorities banned the organization, its most active members were arrested, and many who remained free joined the ranks of the underground.

As a rule, the leaders of the OUN were educated people and skillfully played on the population's national feelings. They paid great attention to propaganda, especially among young people, imposing the ideology of superiority over other nations. I will repeat, ordinary militants and

even middle management of the OUN-UPA were basically a deceived mass of illiterate villagers and eagerly believed everything. It was easy for the experienced OUN propagandists to convince them.

**The Soviet ideology was actively imposed on people the same way. The propaganda machine was gaining pace.**

Here I would like to quote the words of General Pyotr Ivashutin, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of the Ukrainian SSR, said in 1953 before leaving Kiev for Moscow for promotion. "The fight against the Banderites is not over. Years will pass and the convicts will have their sentences served. Not all of them will return to Ukraine repentant. The children and grandchildren of the repressed will grow up. Resentment for the fate of their fathers and grandfathers will remain in their souls. With a strong support from the West, on the wave of Ukrainian nationalism and

Russophobia the Banderism will revive. Therefore, adequate counteraction is necessary - political, economic and social, but especially ideological.» That was a very accurate foresight.

By the end of the 1940s, the Ukrainian party leadership was already trying to avoid decisive actions by Soviet security services and troops to restore order in Western Ukraine. Not through a decisive debunking of the ideology and practice of nationalism, but through concessions, indulgences, amnesties for convicted and exiled members of bandit groups and bandit accomplices. By the mid-1950s, most of those convicted and exiled had already returned to Ukraine. Many successfully climbed the party and state career ladder, and the authorities did not interfere with this. The revival of nationalist ideas continued latently in the 1970s and 80s, and the degree of danger of this process was hushed up by the leadership of the Ukrainian SSR.

With the collapse of the USSR and Ukraine gaining independence in 1990, nationalism became rampant. And what could one expect, for example, from a member of the group of "gravediggers" of the Soviet Union, the future first president of the "Independent Ukraine" Leonid Kravchuk, who, in the eleventh year of his life, started getting familiar with nationalist ideology, as well as practice, as a scout in one of youth groups - a hatchery for the UPA gangs. In particular, the group which he belonged to, in 1944 conducted surveillance of the tank reserve of the 1st Ukrainian Front stationed in the Tuchinsky forest, and transmitted the data to the German aviation.

As a result of the Orange Revolutions, nationalists began to claim power more and more openly, and after the Maidan of 2014 they brought it under their complete control.

**You said you tried to understand the reasons for the degradation of the nationalists' consciousness, the origins of their cruelty and inhumanity. After the publication of your book «Operation Raid or the Story of One Love» some**

**readers accused you of trying to justify nationalists.**

The full title of the book is "Operation Raid or the Story of One Love (special services in the struggle for Ukraine in 1946–1956)." Do you see the difference? The entire multinational Soviet people together with our country's special services fought for Ukraine, for its population and against the ideology of misanthropy planted from outside, which was alien to us.

OUN-UPA, as well as other nationalist groups, including today's Ukrainian neo-Nazis, are far from striving for freedom and prosperity for their people. They are fighting their own population, imposing their ideological and worldview principles using dirty methods of terror and genocide. And they have only one goal in mind – absolute power. Only a person with a distorted, biased view can see a justification for nationalism in my articles and books. Nevertheless, understanding its origins and underlying causes is essential. It is necessary to properly counter this ugly, inhumane phenomenon.

**There is no doubt you are monitoring the situation with the development of the special military operation. Are you sure that its goals will be achieved?**

Yes, I'm sure. You know, I was recently amazed and delighted by a press report. After liberation of Melitopol a monument was unveiled there. It was one of the first, new ones, not even commonly restored Soviet-era memorials on the liberated land of Novorossiia. It was a monument to the native of these places, who struck terror into the pre-war and post-war bandit underground, State Security Lieutenant-General Pavel Sudoplatov, who personally eliminated one of the nationalist leaders Yevgeny Konovalts in 1938. The people's memory is being restored and is paying tribute to the glorious sons of the Fatherland. And first it honors those fighting against nationalism. It turns out that not everything is lost in history. We will live and believe in our Victory. There is no other way!

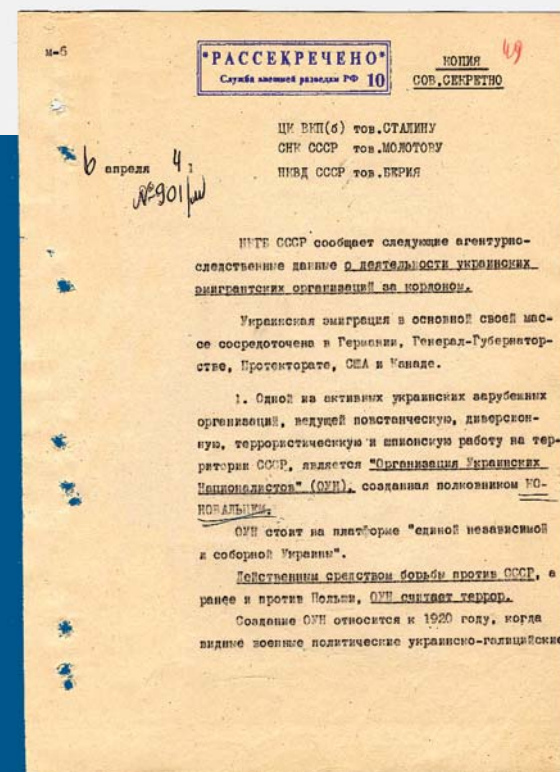


# Subversive Activities of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists

In the mid-1930s, the Foreign Department (INO) of the OGPU/NKVD began to receive data that the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) was planning terrorist acts against senior officials of the USSR state and party authorities.

This data led to an unambiguous conclusion: after the merger of the OUN with the Ukrainian Military Organization (UVO) under the leadership of Eugene Konovalets, there was a radical revision of the OUN's initially declared political goals. Thus, the widely publicized idea about the necessity to «create an independent Ukrainian state and guarantee national liberation of the Ukrainian people» quickly transformed into open calls for armed opposition to the Soviet authorities including espionage and sabotage activities against the USSR from the positions of third countries. [Document 1](#).

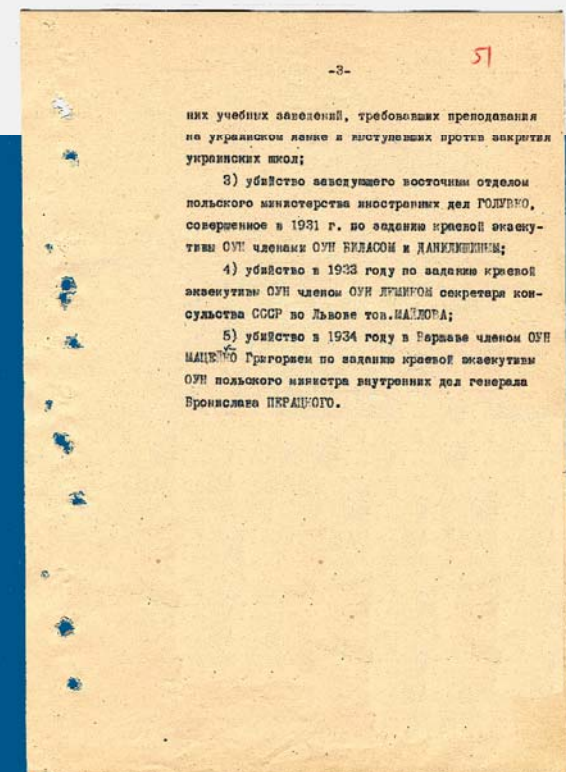
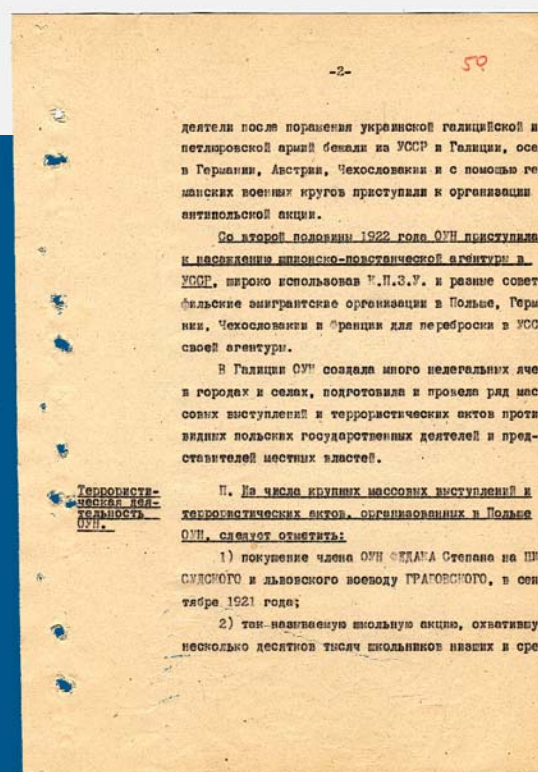
Document 1



Reliable sources of Soviet intelligence abroad reported that, on the instructions of the OUN leadership, several combat groups, the so-called «terrorist troikas», were formed to be deployed in Europe and North America, as well as in the territory of the Ukrainian SSR, in order to eliminate a number of state and party figures, including the People's Commissar for Foreign Affairs Maxim Litvinov, the USSR Ambassador to the United States Alexander Troyanovsky, the first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Ukraine Pavel Postyshev, and the head of the NKVD of Ukraine Vsevolod Balitsky. [Documents 2, 3](#).

According to intelligence data, almost since its foundation, the OUN cooperated closely with foreign intelligence services, first Polish, then German. The strengthening of the OUN's ties with the

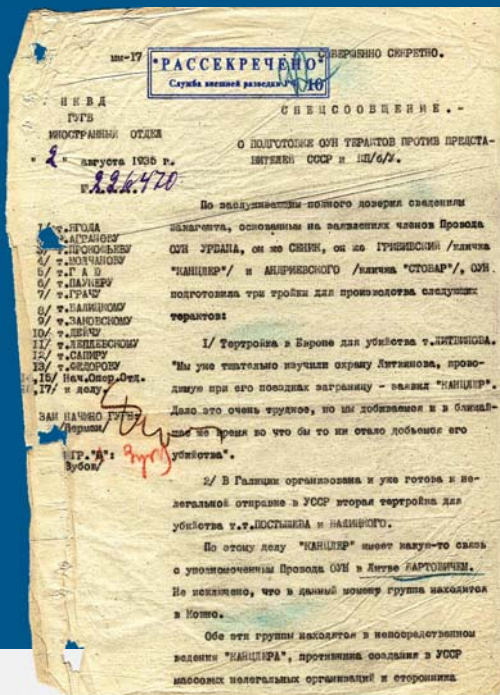
intelligence agencies of Germany began as soon as the National Socialists came to power in the country. Thus, at the meeting of the OUN's head Eugene Konovalets with Adolf Hitler, which took place in Berlin at the end of 1933, they discussed the issues of creating a military-political alliance between the future «independent» Ukraine and fascist Germany. Following the talks in January 1934, by order of the head of the State Secret Police of Germany Rudolf Dils, the OUN was included in the structure of the Gestapo as a special department. The central governing body of the OUN - the OUN Provod - was also located in Berlin. After Eugene Konovalets was eliminated in Rotterdam in May 1938, his place was taken by the OUN's chief of staff Andriy Melnyk, who had previously been recruited by the Abwehr. [Document 4](#).



Document 1



Document 2



"наиболее эффективный" методов борьбы в УОСР.

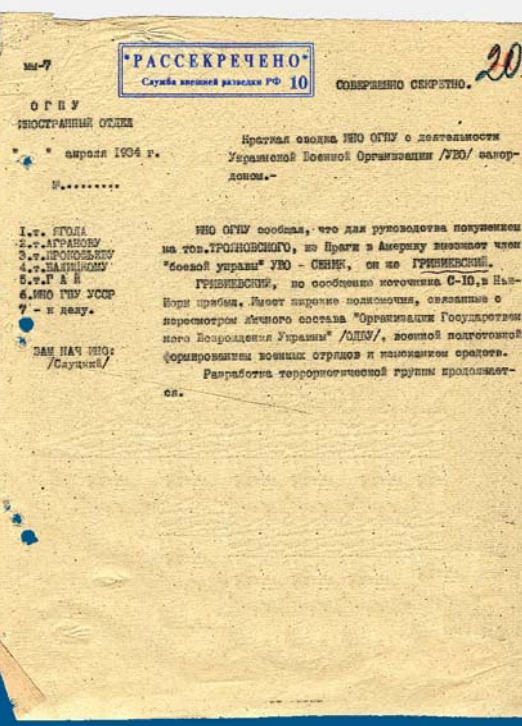
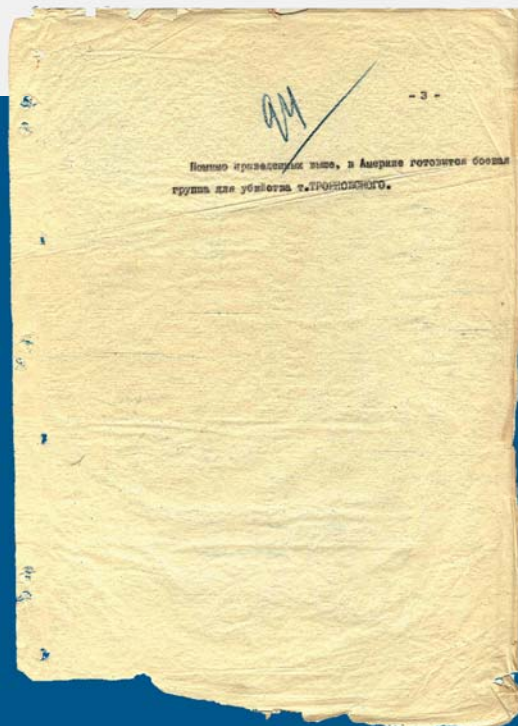
3/ Третья группа организмов членов Бродов ОУН ОУН /личия "ОУНОВИ" / в Бродови. В Бродови трое изводит член укр. групп в Бродови ХЛОСТИНО, член укр. Группы в Галиции ГРИГОРИЙ, член укр. групп в Бродови. Эта группа также предназначена для незаконной помощи в УОСР.

Группа эта, и.б., отправлена по двум маршрутам: а/по бо при поисках продолжения интернационального комитета в Бродови ТИРАНИА /на квартире которого ХЛОСТИНО проживал на переезде (фискал) адм. - Оваторе овер, а/ либо по разработкам ОУН пути на Наворки от от.Бойкова на река Лойкова до двух озер /на фискал стороне/, оттуда и река Лойкова по правую сторону посылал через советскую границу, а 10 верстах глубь советской границы, переход на левый берег р.Лойкова, оттуда лесом и болотом на Сми-овер от Сми-овера на автобусе или грузовике /моторизован/ на Петропавловку, далее по лев. дороге. Возможно посещение этого маршрута в том смысле, что от границы будет залто на правление на Прему и оттуда на Петропавловку автобусом.

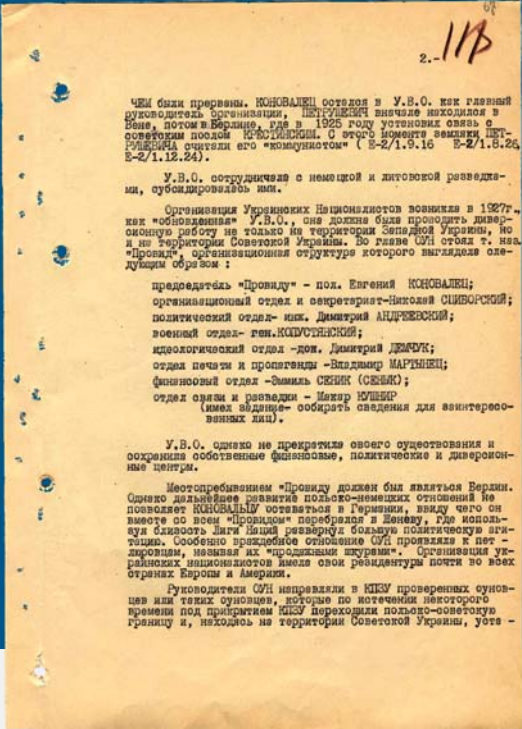
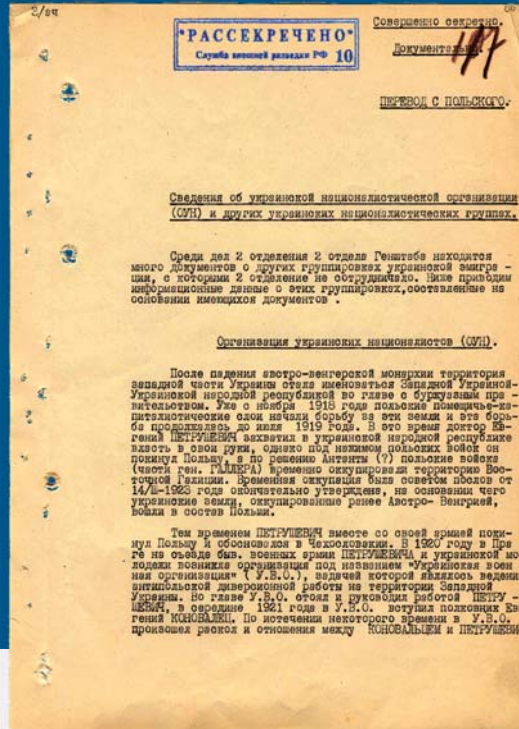
Переход группой границы ожидается в близком не вр.м. Об этом свидетельствуют следующие данные ХЛОСТИНО и член СОВЕТСКОГО в Варшаву:

"Ваше СОВЕТСКОЕ, в конце подготовили и лажу, который мы взяли в Варшаву. С некоторыми из них мы хотели, чтобы вывели его на лажу. За Украину я готов идти на все. Если при этом, что членская группа была-есть..."

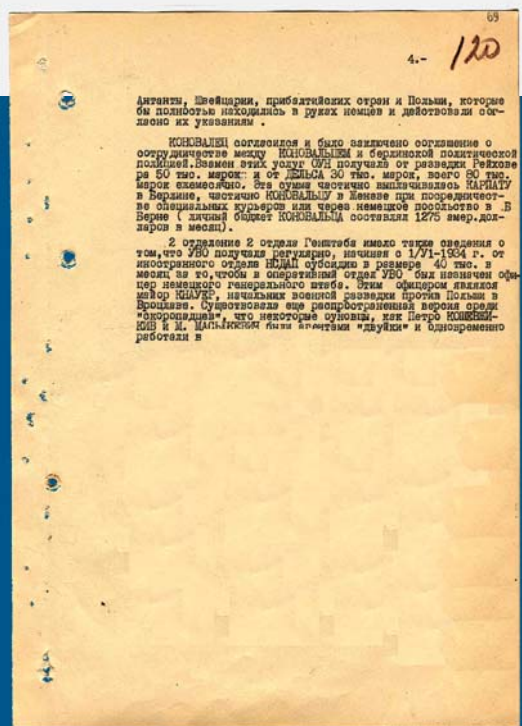
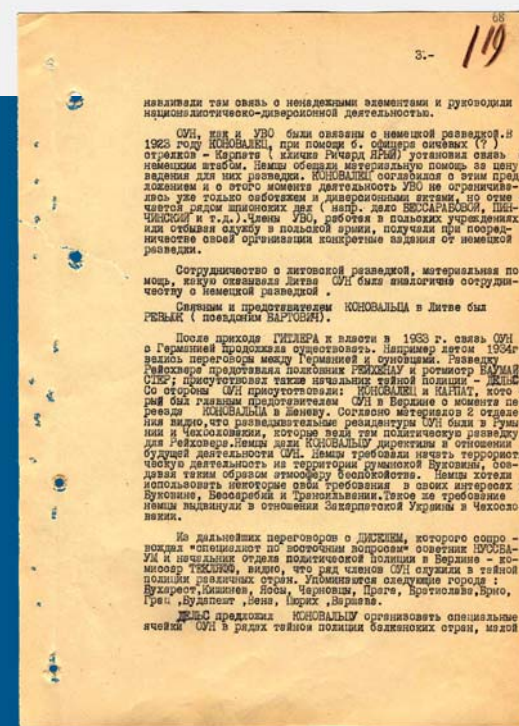
Documents 2, 3



Document 4

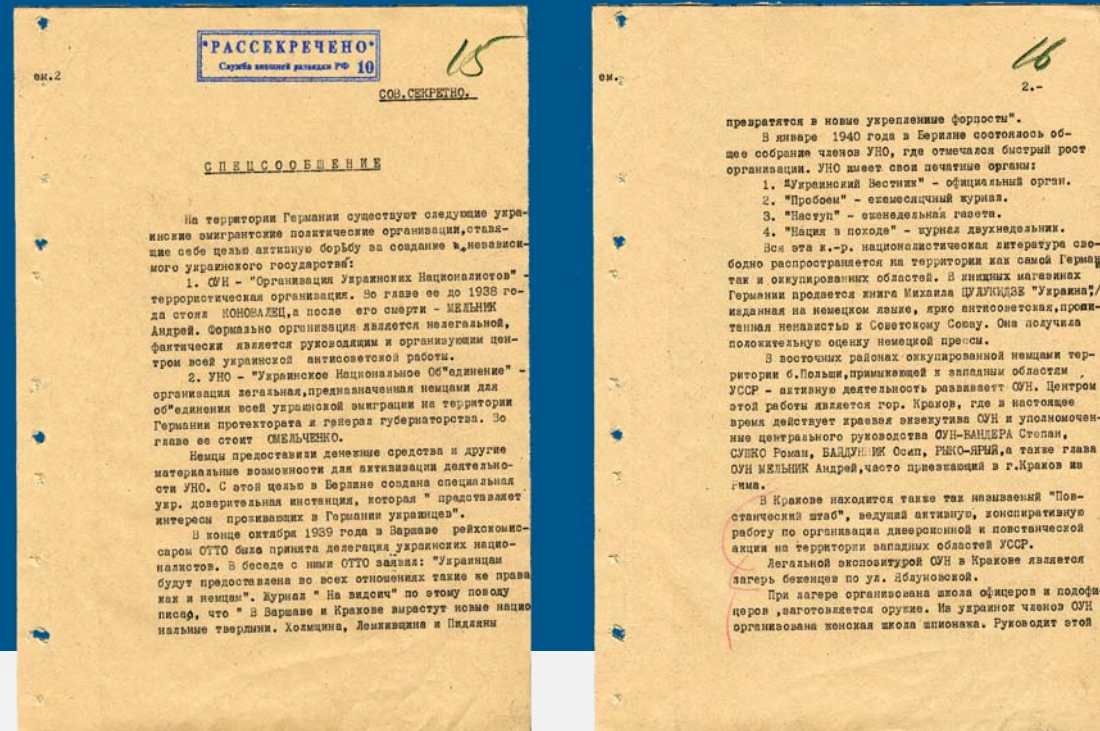


Document 4





Document 5



After the occupation of Poland by German troops, the German intelligence services redirected the OUN for anti-Soviet activities. For this purpose, the OUN's Provod instructed its underground cells in the western regions of Ukraine to build up nationalist agitation, expand the agent network, and train personnel to be ready for an armed conflict in case the Germans attacked the USSR.

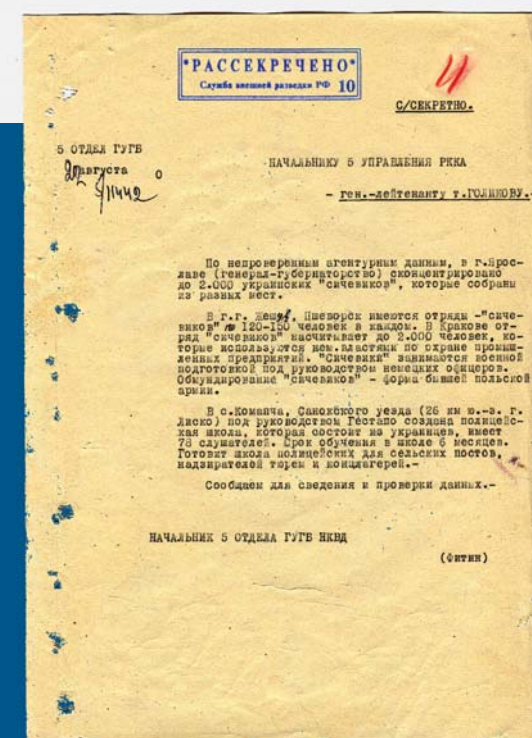
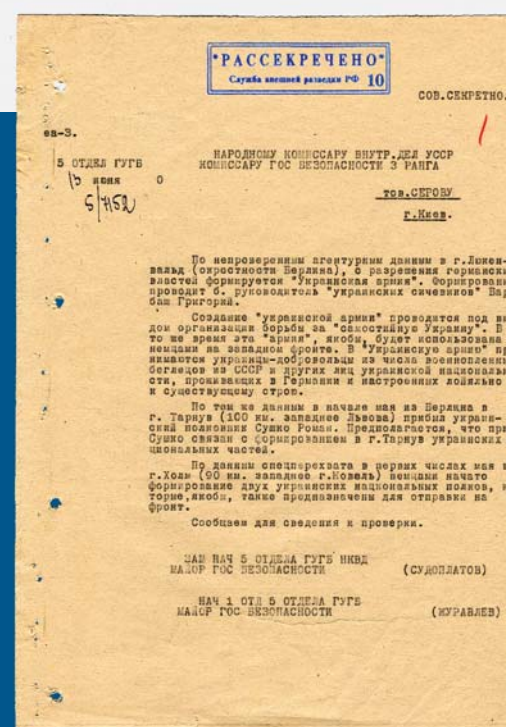
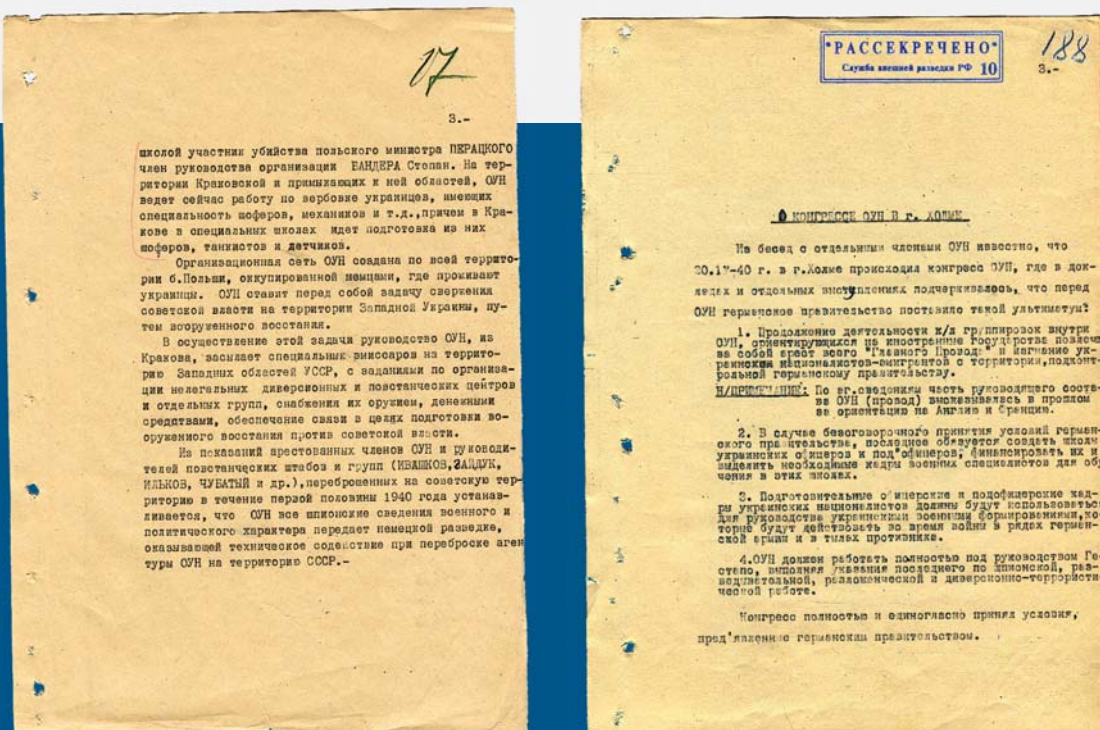
Ukrainian nationalist armed units began forming in the Polish territories occupied by the Germans. Ukrainian migrants from a number of European countries - France, Belgium and Luxembourg - were forcibly resettled in eastern Germany to replenish personnel. The German command also made it possible for the OUN to recruit

prisoners of war among Ukrainians who had previously served in the Polish army. Documents 5-8.

The Ukrainian nationalists' leadership welcomed the Nazis' seizure of the territory of the Ukrainian SSR and collaborated with the occupiers. They repeatedly addressed Hitler and the Reich Commissioner of the «Eastern Territories» Alfred Rosenberg asking for establishing the «the closest» German-Ukrainian relations. Documents 9,10.

After the defeat of Nazi Germany, the OUN members continued subversive activities against the USSR under the cover of their Western «masters», finding themselves in American and British zones of occupation. Documents 11,12.

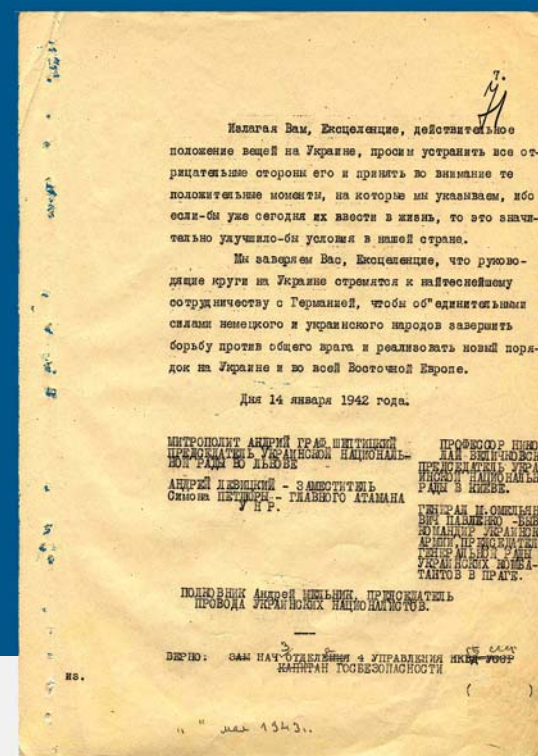
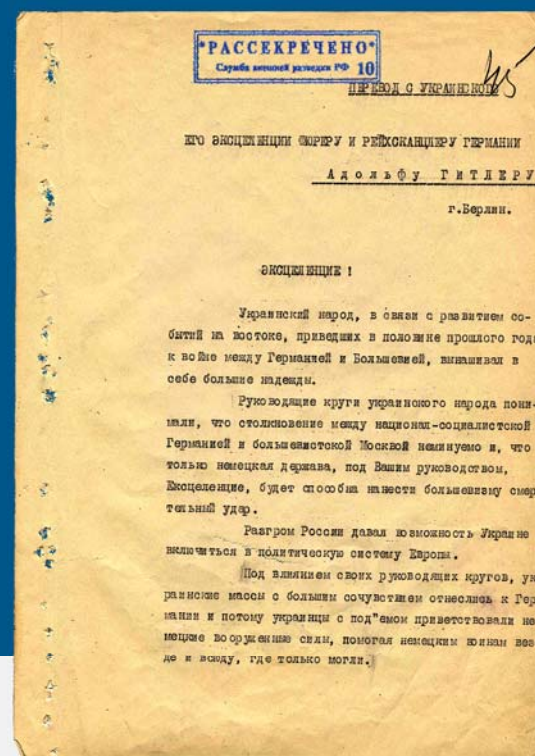
Documents 5, 6



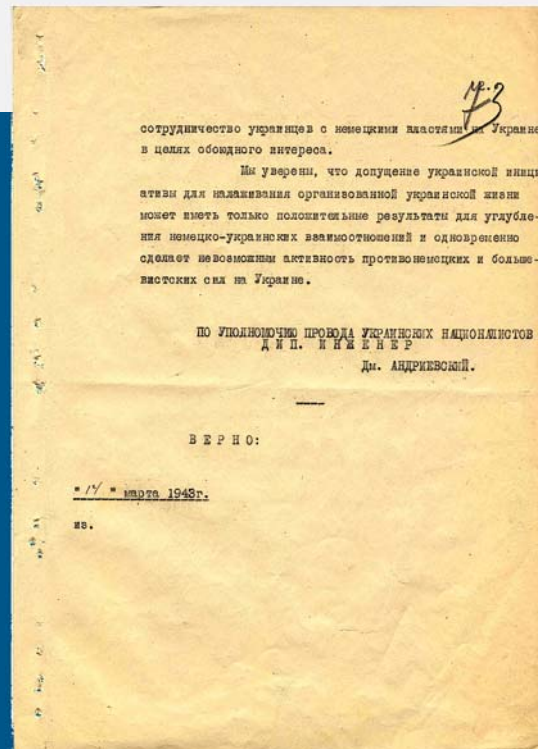
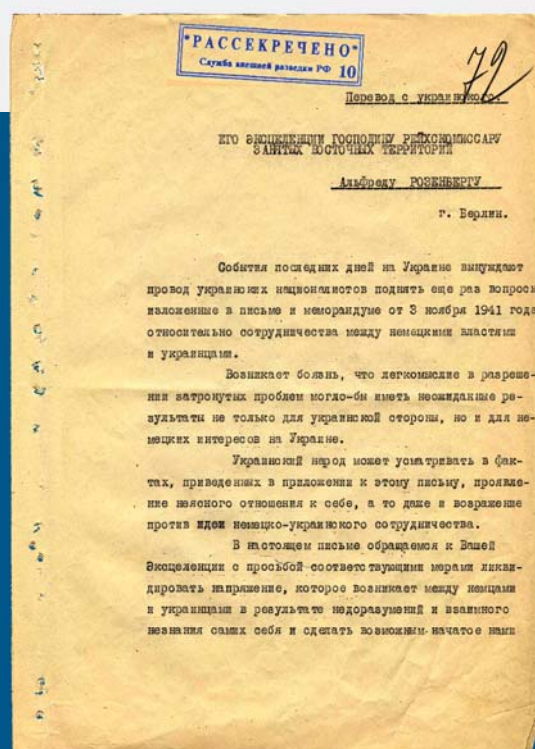
Documents 7, 8



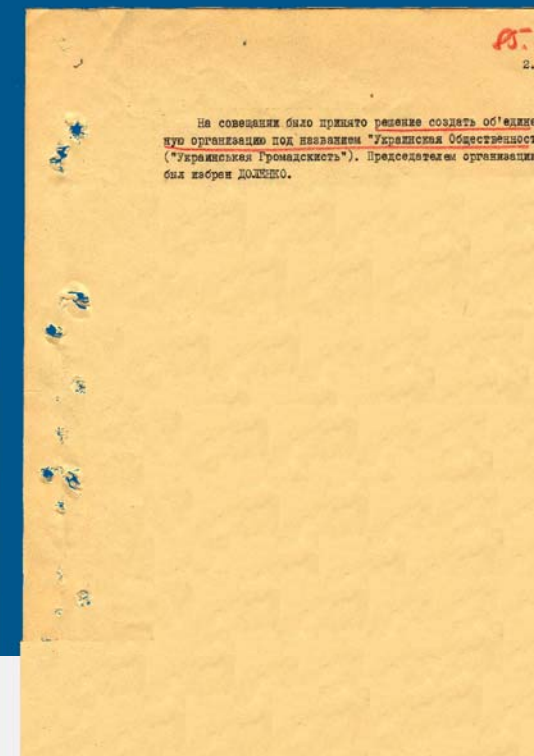
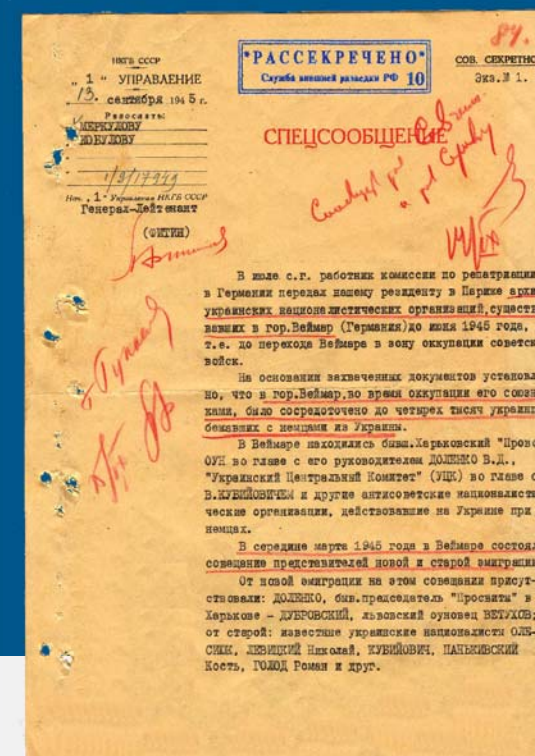
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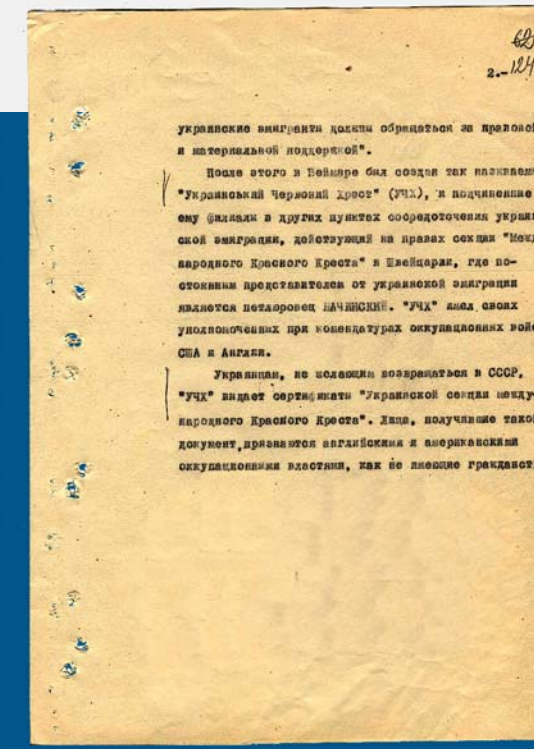
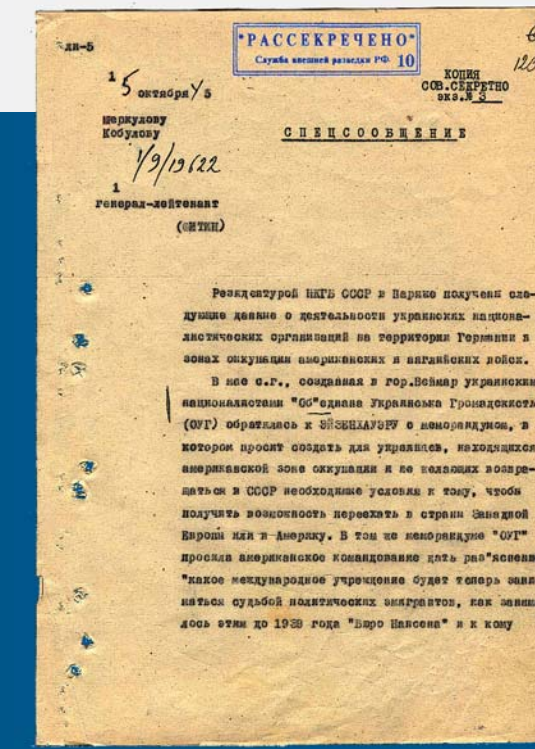
Document 10



Document 11



Document 12





# Jubilee of the Veterans Council of the Foreign Intelligence Service



The Veterans Council of the Foreign Intelligence Service laid flowers to the Soviet Soldier Memorial in Rzhev

In 1954, the USSR released the comedy film «The Boys from Leningrad», in which active longevity was a central theme, along with sport. The grey-haired heroes of the film sang: «The years are no problem for us, if we aim high, always stay young, never, never grow old in your soul!» These lines can be fully attributed to the veterans of the Intelligence Service, who are usually people with an active life position. Many of them are still working or teaching at the Andropov Foreign Intelligence Academy, sharing their rich operational, linguistic/cultural and life experience with young colleagues. Our veterans are truly the golden fund of intelligence and a real point of reference for young people.

A number of public organizations and charitable foundations have been established to address various issues. The Veterans Council, which celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2022, has a special place among them.

On this occasion, we cannot but mention the names of those who were at the origin of the Council, who helped to establish it and who put their heart and soul into this work. First of all, we should mention Yakov Medyanik, deputy chief of the First Chief Department of the USSR State Security Committee, with whose efforts the Veterans Council was founded. I would also like to remember Alexander Golubev, an experienced intelligence officer, who took part in the storming of Amin's palace in Afghanistan, and who led the Council for more than two decades, establishing contacts with veteran organizations of the Russian security services.

Today, drawing upon the rich experience of its predecessors, the Council carries out a wide range of work on the «veterans' track». One of its key priorities is to provide targeted social assistance to the older members of the service. In this respect, we literally try to reach everyone. The Council's activities include patriotic education of young people, work to preserve the historical memory and traditions of our homeland, cooperation with other veterans' organizations in Russia and CIS. The charitable foundations «Soglasie» and «Miloserdiye» operate under its aegis.

Over the past 30 years, the Veterans Council has initiated and actively supported a significant number of commemorative events, not only in Moscow, but also in other regions of Russia. On 2 September 2021, monuments to Soviet spies Zoya Voskresenskaya-Rybkina and Leonid Kvasnikov were unveiled in the town of Uzlovaya, Tula region. The city authorities named the square where the busts were placed Skver Razvedchikov (Intelligence Officers Park), and commemorative events are held there regularly.

In January 2022, a memorial plaque to Colonel-General Ivan Gorelovsky, one of the prominent leaders of the Foreign Intelligence Service, who made a remarkable personal contribution to solving the social problems of veterans, was placed on the territory of the Porechye Departmental Sanatorium-Preventorium in the Moscow Region.

To commemorate the Great Patriotic War, the Council's staff travelled to significant sites near Moscow and laid flowers at the graves of soldiers. In May 2022 a visit was made to Rzhev to the impressive monument to the Soviet soldier. In June 2022, on the eve of the 100th anniversary of the illegal intelligence department, a monument to the deep cover intelligence officers in the form of the image of the famous film character Isayev - Stierlitz was opened on the territory of the Service. The Veterans' Council initiated this project, which was subsequently entrusted to a young sculptor Vladimir Ivanov. Ivanov's work was laudable.

In December 2022, a meeting of the heads of veteran organizations of the intelligence



Monument in honour of deep cover agents

services of the CIS countries was held in Moscow, coinciding with the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Alma-Ata agreements. The fact that this event was held in the context of the current challenging international environment serves to illustrate the significance of the veterans' communication channel within the Commonwealth, which facilitates coordination, constructive exchange of opinions and planning for the future.

Unveiling of the monument to the Soviet intelligence officers Zoya Voskresenskaya-Rybkina and Leonid Kvasnikov in the town of Uzlovaya, Tula region





# Afghan Zugzwang

Text: Igor Morozov, veteran of foreign intelligence

Illustrations: Boris Klementyev

## The first match game

February 11, 2007,  
Vienna, Kärntnerstrasse,  
pedestrian street in the inner city

In a small cafe not far from St. Stephen's Cathedral, an elderly gray-haired man was sitting at a table by the window. He was drinking coffee leisurely, washing it down with water; a traditional Viennese breakfast stood in front of him, but the visitor did not even touch it. He was skimming the Kronen Zeitung, a daily newspaper with two million Austrian readers, and the already read Wiener Zeitung, the official government newspaper, was lying on the edge of the table. Politicians and leading journalists of Austria actively discussed the front-page news of the past week and among them, of course, the Munich Security Conference. It was emphasized that 240 politicians from 40 countries attended the conference. President Putin's speech was the key event of the forum, and therefore European observers assessed in different ways his unusual form of communication with the participants, including the conference chairman Horst Teltschik, and most importantly, his vision

of the global security architecture, including European, with condemnation of today's NATO and US policies. Many observers called Putin's speech historic, as since the times of the USSR not a single Russian leader has come up with such strong criticism of the policies of the USA and the European Union countries. His speech was compared to a cold shower that the West was put under, and more aggressive Russophobes recalled Churchill's Fulton speech, which marked the beginning of the Cold War.

"Good morning, Antal," a sporty-looking man quietly came up to the table and greeted the gray-haired café visitor.

"That's a wrong way to start, Oleg," Antal answered, smiling.

"Sorry, dear Antal, but it seems to me that we met in Tehran at the energy exhibition three years ago."

"Yes, indeed, I came to Iran for this exhibition as an expert on high-power turbines."

So, the old friends, joking "in spy-like style", exchanged the password and reply invented on the spot.

"That's good. And I'm really glad to see you, Antal. You look good, apparently, a young



girl is nearby, as always," Oleg Malinin also smiled.

"Thank you, you know that I retired from military service in Germany three years ago and now I can afford many things that used to be taboo. But my whole life devoted to our work cannot be completed without consequences and does not let me go even now. You do know there, in Moscow, what it cost me to fight off the Czech counterintelligence when, almost fifteen years later, they found all of Minarzhik's connections and began to tie me to his work at Radio Free Europe, and

most importantly, to the explosion of the radio station's headquarters in Munich."

"Yes, we followed the whole situation closely through our sources and publications in the Czech media. It was an information explosion, like a mushroom cloud! But how good of you to attract your German colleagues to your side and convince them that your arrest by Czechoslovak counterintelligence as a BND station chief in Prague in 1988 is still perceived by the Czechs as their failure, or rather, a slap in the face to the Czech service, which didn't understand then, who you really were. At the same time, the revenge of the Czech BIS violates your civil rights and freedoms, as well as your privacy as a German citizen. This was a good idea of yours, and you performed right according to Stanislavsky."

"If you only knew how difficult it was for me to pass the polygraph in Pullach after these insinuations," Antal grinned. "And you in Moscow didn't really help much in this case... I almost failed."

"Believe me, dear Antal, we controlled the entire process of your verification, or rather cultivation, by NATO intelligence services. But they twisted it too powerfully and cast the net so deeply. Apparently, they were sure that we would be captured by it. It was from here that the Center's decision occurred: not to come even one step closer to you. However, you read the "danger" signal on time. We saw this, but for some reason you didn't go further, to the "evacuation" scheme," Malinin said, now seriously. "We didn't understand this, but we assumed that the situation required it.

"It was impossible!" exclaimed Gidashi. "I saw the surveillance conducted in both ways: on foot and by car. I was being watched everywhere: in the office, at home, at meetings with friends. I couldn't even think that it was because of Minarzhik. Or rather, I realized that this was not his level of information to use such operations forces against me. I suspected something was wrong at the Center, and if you want to know my sincere opinion, I still believe that there is a "mole" there. And if he has



access to archival operational materials that came from me many years ago, then this is simply a “giant mole.” So, I decided to get out of the mess myself, without external assistance, because I figured out that the BND had nothing on me. And today I am a distinguished retiree of German intelligence, I have awards from the agency and the government of the Federal Republic of Germany. I am a hero! Let anyone who does not believe it prove the opposite.”

Malinin by that time was himself a reserve officer. After leaving intelligence service, he worked in consulting business related to international risk assessment and security, and then entered politics in 2000. They were connected with Gidashi by common work in Tehran, where Antal, being a German Embassy employee, headed the BND station. As a special agent of Soviet intelligence, he was in operational contact with Malinin for almost three years. These were difficult times for the intelligence activities of the KGB's First Chief Directorate in Iran, because the Islamic Revolution of 1979 and the return of ayatollah Khomeini from exile radically changed the country. There was a rapid islamization of the political system and society. Iran suddenly plunged from a modern secular state into the deep Middle Ages. Attacks on the Soviet embassy and the capture of American diplomats as hostages became the hallmark of the new Islamic authorities. In 1980, the Iran-Iraq war broke out for leadership in the region, for the oil-rich Khuzestan with Arab population and for the eastern bank of the Shatt al-Arab River. It lasted for more than eight years. This significantly toughened the police and counterintelligence regime within the country and objectively made it more difficult for Soviet intelligence officers to work with agents in the government, parties, with the intelligentsia and the military. The Tudeh People's Party was completely smashed. And the meetings between Malinin and Gidashi took place in the extremely dangerous conditions of evening Tehran (at night, as a rule, a curfew was imposed), and both equally risked their lives. Since that time, they trusted each other, valued their friendship and mutual understanding,

although this, in terms of the principles of conspiracy, was not particularly encouraged by the Center.

Malinin arrived in Vienna as part of the official Russian parliamentary delegation to the OSCE session. Yesterday, all parliamentarians watched President Putin's speech at the Munich Conference on television and, naturally, commented on it, giving interviews to foreign and Russian journalists. It was extremely important for Malinin to meet with his old friend in Vienna and listen to his opinion about the depth of the raised global security problems, primarily European ones. The analysis of the experienced intelligence officer always amazed Oleg with his non-standard vision of the geopolitical perspective. At the same time, Gidashi conceptually considered the future development of certain international events in close connection with the historical past, openly mentioning the state leaders' mistakes committed many years ago. An excellent education, analytical thinking and a natural talent for clearly expressing his thoughts let themselves show. Working for the Soviet intelligence and being embedded into the German intelligence service, he planned and carried out unique operations to obtain the necessary information for Yasenevo about the work of the NATO headquarters and its strategic plans, the UN international organizations, the American troops located in Germany and West Berlin. At the same time, the Soviet intelligence officer had to carry out operations to cover up his interest to it in the BND, and these circumstances had Antal develop excellent qualities of thinking and working in two not always interconnected dimensions, and he achieved amazing results in this.

“Antal, I see that you are reading the comments of European politicians on Putin's speech in Munich,” Oleg continued the dialogue. “How do you yourself assess the problems he raised about the architecture of international security? Indeed, the civilization cannot develop under the flag of American dictate and depend on one political and economic decision-making center. The whole world depends on the American dollar, and the

United States speculates on this by imposing sanctions on objectionable countries. They even came up with a term - “rogue countries”. So soon they will rewrite the Bible to fit their needs.”

“You know well, Oleg, that I linked my fate with the Soviet Union in 1963, immediately after the end of the Cuban Missile Crisis and the assassination of President Kennedy. Already then, I understood that the United States, without hesitation, could again bring the world to the brink of nuclear disaster more than once. This is a mafia nation that consisted of adventurers, bandits and scammers of the Old World; in the 17th century, it moved to another continent, shot at Indian tribes, and eventually captured their lands by force and deceit. This is how their criminal capital was formed, and most importantly, the psychology of the entire nation was formed exactly on these imperatives: strength and cunning, in other words a revolver and fraud, decide everything. Therefore, the entire subsequent history of international events in which the United States was involved or which were initiated by it testifies to only one thing: America cannot be trusted under any circumstances. If the United States does not achieve its interests through negotiation intrigues, and this is like playing cards with a sharper who always has marked cards, then they will use military force. Thank God, times are changing, life is moving forward, and the United States is not the only country that owns nuclear weapons today. For Russia, this is a great deterrent to the aggressive policies of the United States and NATO. Therefore, recently they have come up with a new system of checks and balances, these are sanctions against all countries that want to remain sovereign and pursue an independent foreign policy in the national interests of their people. But this position is at odds with the doctrine of the US global dominance. From this you can draw a conclusion about how the American satellites in Brussels and the NATO headquarters perceived Putin's speech. After all, they have long been under the US control and handed over their foreign and defense policy to it. In fact, they have given up all their sovereignty.”

“I would say that the Americans first trained and then changed the entire top political elite in Europe,” Malinin clarified. “At least this process has passed the point of no return, and in Brussels the entire European Commission works, oddly enough, for American interests to the detriment of European ones.”

“I agree with you, because I know that it is impossible to take up any significant position in Brussels without undertaking an internship in the USA,” Antal added and continued his thought, “to say nothing about Eastern Europe, especially the Baltic countries. Each of these states has its own complex of fear of Russia, so they will be the striking force in the information war against Putin. But this will not be enough for Americans. They need an excuse to return to Europe again, and not only with modern tanks and the latest artillery guns, but with a missile defense system. Not long ago, the Pentagon began developing hypersonic weapons and new guided nuclear bombs. It was not for nothing that Putin said it in his speech and warned that Russia has such information. It is clear that his words will not stop either Bush or the next US President — whether he is elected in 2008 as a Republican or a Democrat. The Pentagon and the military-industrial complex will do their job, annually increasing the budget for the new types of weapons, which will force many countries of the world to follow in the footsteps of American policy.”

“You're right, Antal, times inevitably change,” Oleg agreed. “Putin in Munich, in my opinion, deliberately named the world's largest economies, such as India, China and other BRIC countries. Politics follows economics, and therefore these countries no longer want to depend on decisions made in Washington, especially those that affect national security and economic development. Even today they intend to take part in global and regional decisions, therefore the request for a multipolar world is being formed objectively, regardless of the United States.”

“Yes, you're right,” Antal agreed. “America cannot hold back this process, and Putin yesterday made the States understand that the unipolar model is not only unacceptable



for many countries of the world, but also impossible due to its political and military-economic costs. The United States is just running out of resources to maintain its superiority, and new ones are unlikely to be expected in the foreseeable future.”

“And most importantly, Russia has already become different: a powerful leader has emerged with the firm intention to restore the state’s greatness and its citizens’ dignity, to restore the economy destroyed by “perestroika” relying upon market conditions and the latest technologies,” Malinin said proudly. “Our generation witnessed the collapse of the great power, and today it takes part in its return to the geopolitical trajectory. Therefore, in Munich, Putin absolutely honestly told many countries that Russia no longer intended to tolerate the international arbitrariness of the United States and NATO and would build its policy in opposition to Western forces.”

“As a historian, I believe that not just a struggle for a multipolar world is beginning,” Gidashi emphasized. “On a new coil of the historical spiral, the struggle between the Western and Eastern civilizations, which have completely different laws and time boundaries, is unfolding again.”

When Malinin returned to the hotel after the meeting with Gidashi, he quickly passed by the loudly talking journalists in the bar to his room. Having prepared coffee and having made himself comfortable at his desk, he plunged into deep thoughts about the future relations between the West and Russia in the historical interpretation of a seasoned intelligence officer. Indeed, there was a lot in his vision and analysis of the distant past that modern politicians should think about. Like a black-and-white film’s reel, the history of relations between the two superpowers USSR and the USA, the Warsaw Pact and NATO, and the bright and significant international events of the late 70s and 80s of the last century flashed before the senator’s eyes. And of course, there were the Helsinki Agreements of 1975, the creation of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the related hopes for détente in international

tension, the signing of the SALT II Treaty on the 18th of June, 1979 in Vienna by Brezhnev and Carter. And what happened next?! Why did US President Jimmy Carter, who later received the Nobel Peace Prize, on the 3rd of July, 1979 (just two weeks after the signing of the Treaty in Vienna, where he publicly exchanged kisses with Brezhnev), signed a directive ordering the CIA to start a secret war against the USSR in Afghanistan and to train armed detachments of Mujahideen in Pakistani camps! The same summer, he signed another directive, which became a powerful impulse for a new, almost global nuclear arms race.

“How is it possible to trust the United States after this and negotiate something with the West!” — Malinin wrote in his notebook, formulating a speech for the upcoming meeting of the International Affairs Committee of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Reflecting in the silent night of the sleepy city, he mentally went back to that historical period when in distant Afghanistan 32 years ago the interests of two superpowers — the USSR and the USA — collided.

#### April 1978, Afghanistan

On the 27th of April, a coup d’état took place in Kabul, carried out by the military wing of the “Khalq” group of the Afghanistan People’s Democratic Party. As a result of the actions of the military and the leader of the rebellion Hafizullah Amin, Prime Minister Daoud, along with his family and his entire inner circle, were eliminated. The PDPA leader Nur Mohammad Taraki informed Ambassador of the Soviet Union Puzanov by telephone that a democratic revolution had occurred in Afghanistan and asked him to report it to Moscow.

In the Old Square this information had the effect of a bomb exploding. Not only excellent political, business and good neighborly relations were established with Prime Minister Daoud from the very beginning of his reign (1973), but Soviet civilian specialists



worked at many facilities under construction in Afghanistan, huge investment funds were invested in it, and military advisers helped the army. Through all available channels (the International Department of the Central Committee of the CPSU, political and military intelligence) the leadership of the PDPA was strongly advised against artificially creating conditions for any revolutionary changes (it was, in other words, prohibited).

In this regard, Moscow kept silent for two days, making Taraki and Amin nervous, and

Ambassador Puzanov in Kabul did not let the phone out of his hands, attacking the Foreign Ministry. He did not understand how to react to the actions of the PDPA leaders who violated the strict instructions of Moscow. Finally, a meeting of the Politburo took place and a decision was made: since it had happened, it was necessary to congratulate Secretary General of the PDPA, Comrade Nur Mohammad Taraki, on the victory of the democratic revolution in long-suffering Afghanistan and to continue helping the Afghan people.

#### April 30, 1978, Washington, White House

US President Jimmy Carter held a meeting of the National Security Council. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, National Security Assistant Zbigniew Brzezinski, Director of Central Intelligence, who also headed the CIA, Stansfield Turner, Pentagon chief Harold Brown and other members of the NSC were invited to attend. The President’s administration, under the leadership of Brzezinski, was developing the US National Security Strategy for the next decade. According to Zbig, as Jimmy Carter informally called his assistant, it was supposed to serve as the basis for the program of the presidential campaign for a second term. Therefore, the meeting agenda was focused on the key aspect — “Strategic interests of the United States in the Middle East and possible threats from unfriendly states.”

Carter greeted all members of the National Security Council and said:

“Colleagues, I’m glad to see everyone. And I would like to emphasize that, despite the apparent détente, the world does not become safer where America does not take over the reins of power. Management of political processes in countries and regions that are traditionally important for us — and this is primarily the Middle East with its oil resources — is critical for the United States. The world leadership and economy of the United States, the well-being of American



citizens, world trade and the dominance of the American dollar in it depend on this. So, an important challenge for American foreign policy is the regional conflicts in the Middle East, and therefore the negotiations between Israel and Egypt, in which we act as a moderator, — the instability of our closest ally, the Shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, and the unexpected revolution in Afghanistan. One cannot but see the aggressive offensive policy of the Soviet Union in this region and its role in the Arab world, especially the close connection with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

“Let’s discuss the emerging political situation in the East, starting with the Director of Central Intelligence.”

Admiral Turner accurately, in a military manner, reported on the operational-political situation in the Middle East, some of the nuances of the issue related to the end of the Egyptian-Israeli contradictions in Sinai and the preparation for the signing of the Camp David Agreement, which aroused well-deserved jealousy and critical remarks from the Secretary of State. Both Cyrus Vance and Stansfield Turner understood the close attention the President paid to this political issue, so they sought, ahead of each other, to participate in the negotiation process actively, each within the limits of his powers and capabilities: the Secretary of State participated in the negotiations themselves, squeezing National Security Assistant Brzezinski out, and the Director of Central Intelligence participated as well with the help of the senior CIA agents close to Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin. And sometimes it happened that while Vance was going to the President for the next report on the preparation of the Egyptian-Israeli agreement, Turner fairly often was ahead of him, causing a feeling of hostility, and sometimes undisguised anger. At the same time, both of them understood that the negotiation process was nearing completion, and the upcoming summit at Camp David should give a serious advantage to Jimmy Carter and the Democratic Party in the future general elections for the President of the United States.

However, in today’s agenda, the CIA Director had a serious advantage over all his competitors. He waited for the end of the meeting to personally tell the President about what happened in Afghanistan and what positions the CIA had with the PDPA coming to power.

Two hours after Carter announced the end of the meeting, having heard Vance, Brzezinski and Brown, Admiral Turner asked to remain to report confidential information about new CIA capabilities in Afghanistan.

“Go ahead, Stan. But quickly, because Brzezinski and I need to sum up some results of today’s discussions,” Carter replied.

“It couldn’t be done quickly, the information is too serious, it concerns not only Afghanistan, but also affects the Soviets,” Turner said seriously.

“Okay, I’m listening carefully,” the President said.

“Mr. President, what I will report to you relates to the important secrets of the CIA, but I, as the Director of Central Intelligence, clearly understand the boundaries of the operational use of an agent and his transition to the political field of work where geopolitical scenarios, requiring the use of more versatile intellectual and organizational capacity, begin. The fact is that one of the leaders of the so-called democratic revolution in Afghanistan is our agent under the pseudonym Crafty.”

“Yes, well, what a pseudonym you came up with for him: ‘Crafty’”, — Carter shook his head.

“It was long ago, in 1957. At that time, he came from Kabul to the United States and studied for five years at Columbia University. Apparently, he received such a pseudonym from FBI agents for the way he showed himself among Afghan students. After all, at first, he was cultivated by FBI agents, and then they handed him over to the CIA in 1961, shortly before his departure to Kabul. Returning to Afghanistan, he began active

political activity on our instructions and soon established a close relationship with the leader of the People’s Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Taraki. The latter had also been cultivated by the CIA station for some time when he worked at the American Embassy in Kabul, but had not proved himself to be a sufficiently active and purposeful person. He was caught double-dealing, for which he was fired from our embassy. On the 27th of April, after the overthrow of Daoud’s government, he became Prime Minister, that is, the leader of Afghanistan,” Turner concluded the introductory part.

“Who did your ‘Crafty’ become after the coup?” the President asked a reasonable question.

“Currently ‘Crafty’ is the Minister of Foreign Affairs at the rank of Deputy Prime Minister. In addition, he holds a number of key party posts and oversees the security service. He has a strong position in the army, since he headed the Khalq military organization for a long time. I won’t overload you with information about the internal party squabbles of the PDPA, but I can confidently say one thing — our agent has influence in the leadership of the security bloc, and if he lacks something to achieve his goal, believe me, Jimmy, he will rip it out with his teeth and cover all of Afghanistan with blood,” the CIA Director concluded the presentation of the capabilities and psychological characteristics of agent Crafty.

“You’re scaring me, Stan,” Carter said thoughtfully, glancing at Turner. “It is important that his goals coincide with American policy in Asia.”

“That’s what we’re told from the Kabul station, Jimmy. I carefully got acquainted with his personal file — indeed, he is just the devil in the flesh. From the first day of the coup until today, he and his team have already shot the entire entourage of the former Prime Minister and continue to do so, switching to the opposition and as if competing with each other,” Turner continued to characterize the agent.

“Well, this is typical behavior of savages who came to power as a result of a bloody coup, no matter what they call it: a democratic or socialist revolution, a revolution of roses or dignity. What is important for us in such events is how we can use them in the interests of the United States of America,” Carter concluded.

“The fact is, sir, that Taraki sincerely focuses on the Soviet Union, which has long been providing economic assistance to Afghanistan. It has built about 150 industrial and agricultural facilities for Afghans in different provinces. Soviet specialists work there and train Afghans new professions. Afghan people sympathize with the Soviets, especially since they have common ethnic roots: Uzbeks, Tajiks, Turkmen. The Afghan army is armed with Soviet weapons and military equipment, and, according to our information, the USSR sent about 500 military instructors and advisers there. In other words, the Soviets are too deeply entrenched in this country to abandon it easily. But now that we have a key agent in the leadership of Afghanistan who, under certain conditions, is capable of reorienting this Asian country towards us, this could become a resounding triumph of your first presidential term. The CIA can prepare all the activities and carry out a spectacular operation by the beginning of the presidential race,” Stansfield Turner triumphantly concluded his report.

“Thank you, Stan, let me think for two or three days. You’ve brought out too many details. At the beginning of your speech, you correctly noted that when an agent rises from the operational level to the political level, increasing the stakes of his use, it is necessary to use more significant intellectual and organizational resources to direct him. I think we need to consult with Brzezinski. He is a master at solving such problems, and most importantly, at creating models of geopolitical games, in which, even unexpectedly for me, many begin to play according to his scenario,” Jimmy Carter summed up.



“Thank you, Mr. President, for taking CIA intelligence information seriously,” the admiral emphasized with satisfaction, turning to a formal address to his friend and former fellow student. “I am sure that it will be reflected in the National Security Strategy, which your assistant Brzezinski is working upon. Of course, he will understand who our main agent in the Afghan leadership is. This is not a secret that can be kept for long, and Crafty is just a temporary companion for American democracy. He is too prone to feudal cruelty and blood, so we only need him for a certain time. However, when we discuss the Soviets, I would not like to reveal our sources of information in the KGB, the Foreign Ministry and the political institutions of Moscow. They were recruited at different times, on combined recruiting grounds - ideological and material - and proved their devotion to democracy and more than once showed high efficiency in their work. That is why they are extremely important for further work within the system against the Kremlin and for protection of the strategic interests of the United States. Being the Director of Central Intelligence, I know the distribution of operational forces in the mosaic of Soviet power and I am absolutely sure that the CIA influence agents in the USSR will have their say.”

#### Two days later, White House, Oval Office

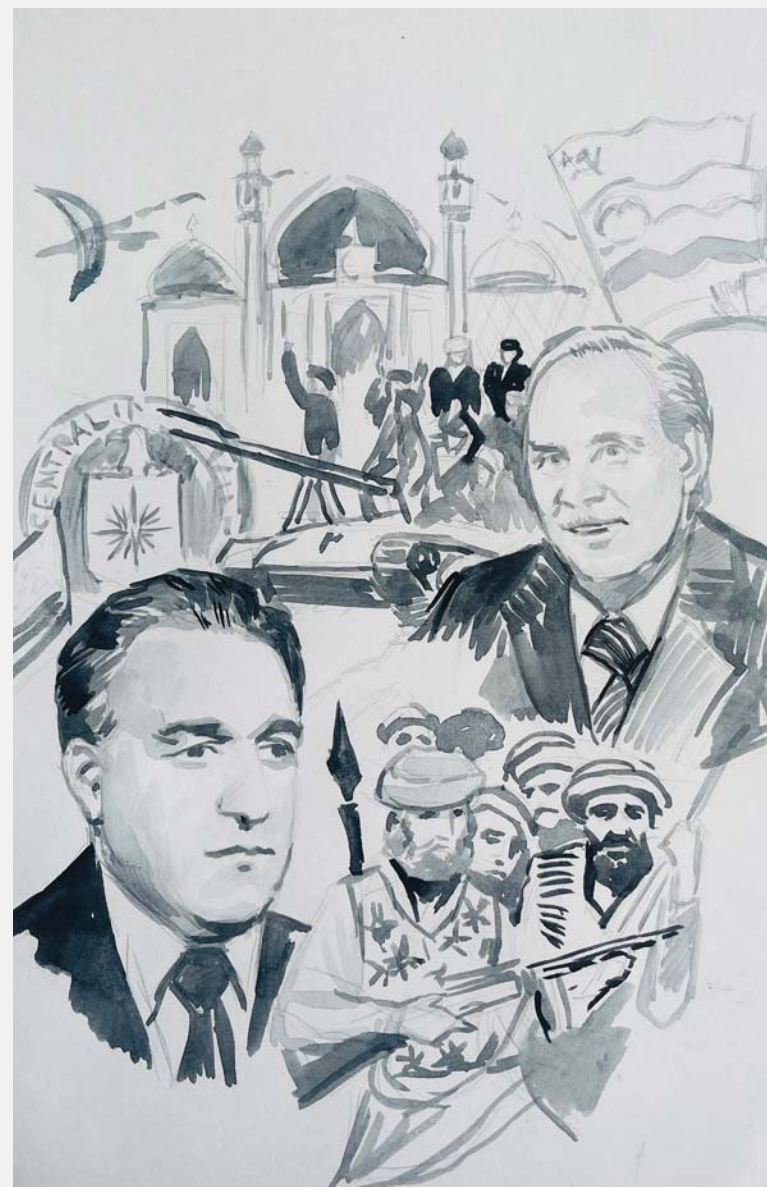
President's Assistant for the National Security Zbigniew Brzezinski was walking down the White House corridor to the President's Oval Office. Jimmy Carter had invited him to discuss some extremely important information, presented by the Director of the CIA. Over the phone, the president emphasized that it could significantly complement the National Security Strategy and even become its core content. Glancing at the famous portraits of American presidents hanging on the walls of the corridor, Brzezinski was thinking about the president's call. What could have influenced his opinion that they had not previously discussed? Conceptually, the Strategy is almost ready, its main

directions, as US global leadership, détente of international tension, nuclear arms reduction and the settlement of regional conflicts, especially in the Middle East, were approved by the President himself. What superimportant information could have Admiral Turner, mired in reforms of the Central Intelligence Agency, reported, which could significantly complement the National Security Strategy, and even possibly become its core content! Brzezinski was simply at a loss.

Jimmy Carter was waiting for his national security aide. Brzezinski saw this as soon as he entered the Oval Office. Two large white armchairs stood by the fireplace, and a small table was set for tea. This meant that the conversation was going to be long and serious, otherwise the president would have received his assistant traditionally at the Resolute desk, given as present by the British government to US President Rutherford Hayes in 1880.

After greeting Brzezinski, Carter invited him to sit by the fireplace, taking from the table his notes with the CIA information about the events in Afghanistan. The President told the assistant about the coup in Afghanistan and about the agent who had influence in the party that had come to power, in the army and the security service, and who, due to his psychotype and emotional-volitional qualities, was ready, if necessary, to achieve new goals, including through extraordinary measures.

“Since Taraki, the leader of the party, is Moscow oriented, Admiral Turner proposes to actually prepare and carry out another coup, eliminate him, and then make Afghanistan a base for American influence in Asia, at the southern borders of the Soviet Union. Though there is one small but very important detail: the entire Afghan army is equipped with Soviet weapons and military equipment. There are a lot of military advisers there. There are also civilian specialists working in Afghanistan, so the Soviets will not give up Afghanistan so easily,” Carter concluded the introductory part.



“I can guess why you took this information, second-rate for the president, into consideration. Without a doubt, it deserves our attention if only because the events are unfolding on the borders with the USSR. Afghanistan is the southern underbelly of the Soviets, and the national republics with Muslim population are closely linked to Afghanistan by ethnic ties. This is very important information, especially considering that the CIA has a leading type influence agent. And if he is also capable of performing the functions of a battering ram, then he is doubly valuable,” Brzezinski gave

his assessment of what he had heard. “We can deliver a huge blow to the Kremlin.”

“Yes, but how can this be reconciled with the détente of international tension, initiated by the United States and our European partners, with the Helsinki Agreements, and the creation of the OSCE? After all, less than three years have passed since the West agreed with the Soviet Union, for the first time since the Caribbean crisis, to reduce the intensity of political tension. We are negotiating with the Russians on the conclusion of the SALT II Treaty, on a sustainable architecture of international security.”

“Mr. President, there are no rules in geopolitical games. They are invented and developed by someone who wants and intends to win, who has strength and believes in his indisputable advantage. The whole world is a big chessboard on which global leaders play their games, each one their own. Everyone's task is to outplay their opponent. America is a great state, it dominates the whole world, but communist Russia stands in its way, and this is the East, a completely different and alien civilization to us. Communist China is developing next to it in Asia, and this is also an autocratic civilization, no less dangerous for the free world. For the sake of victory over the East, all means must be used, as in the Middle Ages: forged documents, palace intrigues, bribery, and, of course, women. At the same time, we must not forget that sabotage, terror and military force have played a decisive role in any era,” Brzezinski emphasized.

“And what is the conclusion from this historical excursion?” Carter asked.

“The United States has one mission - to strengthen leadership throughout the world and make it American. The whole world should live according to American rules, and all laws for it should be written only in America!” Brzezinski finished with some pathos.

“Zbig, so what shall we do in Afghanistan?” the president asked with slight irritation.



“How can we drive the Russians out of there and take this country under our control and American interests?”

“Mr. President,” the national security aide continued formally, “it seems to me, or rather, I am sure, that the Russians should not be expelled from Afghanistan.”

Noticing Carter’s surprised look, Brzezinski clarified his thought:

“Yes, I am sure that everything possible must be done to drag the Soviets there along with their army, the KGB and all the military and party advisers. Let the whole world see that the United States is fighting for peace, détente of international tension, reduction of the nuclear arms race, and the Soviet Union is occupying neighboring countries in order to reach warm seas, that is, the Indian Ocean. And this will correspond to the legend of the “Testament of Peter the Great”, also, by the way, a forged document that the Poles, together with the British, falsified in the 19th century.”

“Zbig, I ask you to meet Turner and develop a detailed plan of action. Do everything in the strictest confidentiality. Only the three of us know about the essence of this operation; I myself will decide who else to involve in it if such a need arises. But don’t get ahead of things, consider that this is only an idea, and not a strategy of action.”

#### May 1978, Kabul, US Embassy, CIA station

CIA station chief Michael Mitchell, sitting at his desk, was carefully reviewing the intelligence messages received by agents in recent days. Some of them were written in poor English, others were translated for him from Pashto and Dari, since he did not know these languages. He realized again and again that the station had serious trump cards in its hands for starting the Great Game in Afghanistan. For the first time in many years of his operational work, the CIA agents were so organized and focused on

results. And this depended largely on their undisputed leader, Crafty, who was the agent of influence of American intelligence. He was recruited while studying at Columbia University by FBI professionals and was unlikely to have had any decent training at the CIA. The fact is that the FBI tried to keep the agents under their control until the very end of their stay in the States, sucking the maximum possible out of them. And only shortly before leaving for their homeland they were handed over to the CIA for contact.

Michael Mitchell had worked for many years in the Middle East and Asia so as to deeply understand the psychological profile and capabilities of the agent he inherited from his predecessor. Incredible cunning and an almost manic desire for power, the extraordinary qualities of a leader allowed him to break into the circle of the leader of the PDPA, Nur Mohammad Taraki, and become an indispensable deputy in the party. And this despite the fact that during some period of his ascent to the party Olympus, he was close to a fatal failure, in which he could have lost his life. And it was the CIA station chief who helped him out of this dangerous turn.

Once Crafty strongly stepped on the interests of the Parcham faction in the Central Committee of the PDPA and rudely insulted its leader Babrak Karmal. One of the Parchamists, who studied with Crafty at Columbia University and suspected about his cooperation with the FBI on a material basis, shared his assumptions with his party comrades. He emphasized that all Afghan students lived ascetically, saving on whatever they could. At the same time, Amin lived luxuriously in comparison with them and did not deny himself anything. This caused Afghan students to dislike their fellow student and at the same time to have hidden envy. While studying at the university, none of them could object to him, but now the time came to remember his betrayal. Babrak Karmal seized on this kind of opportunity to deal with Amin and, having prepared his former fellow students, and now members of the PDPA party, for

serious accusations, he brought this issue to the plenum of the Central Committee. The scenario was elaborated so deeply and extensively that Hafizullah Amin, under pressure of undeniable evidence and proofs from those whom he once despised at the university, admitted to having connections with American intelligence. Fearing that he would be eliminated right at the plenum, he immediately came up with a legend that, by collaborating with the Americans, he was protecting the Afghan student diaspora from rival Pakistanis and Iranians. And he received money to buy medications for relatives and send them to Afghanistan. However, gravity of the arguments, hatred for the American intelligence services and the aggressiveness of the Parchamists were so strong that Nur Mohammad Taraki, leading the party plenum, could not but agree with Karmal on the decision to create a group to investigate the situation around Amin.

And here CIA station chief Michael Mitchell played his key role. While preparing to work in Afghanistan, he came across materials from the Kabul station, which worked on Taraki while he was working at the US Embassy in Kabul as a translator. These materials indicated that Taraki systematically provided information about the political situation in the country, characteristics of government officials, religious figures, and tribal leaders. It was emphasized that the station employee practically transferred him to a monthly allowance and took from him receipts for money received. However, it soon became clear that Taraki, while being cultivated by the Americans, began to leak the same information to representatives of the KGB station in the Soviet embassy. In this regard, as noted in the materials, he was fired from the US Embassy on a plausible excuse.

When Crafty, in an extremely excited state, summoned the station chief to an urgent meeting and told him about the scandal that had happened at the PDPA plenum, the station chief remembered these materials and elaborated the agent’s tough line of behavior. Namely, Amin had to meet Taraki in secret and tell him that he knew

about Taraki’s cooperation with the CIA while working at the American embassy. If problems arose around him related to the investigation into his university stay in the United States, Nur Mohammad himself would be the next target of the Parchamists’ attack. And if money receipts and other materials written by him came to light, then the party leader himself may have had problems that would give the Parcham faction undeniable advantages in the next party elections, which were just around the corner.

Amin carried out the conversation with Taraki brilliantly, and after that they, connected to each other by personal secrets, rallied even more closely. Nur Mohammad, using his influence in the party, neutralized the investigation against Hafizullah Amin, and this topic soon faded away. But they did not forget the danger that came from the Parchamists, who once had studied with Amin in the United States, so soon one of them disappeared, and the other two hastily left the country.

Station chief Mitchell also made his own conclusions. Firstly, the agent was quite effective even in extreme conditions, and secondly, Taraki had not forgotten everything from his life, especially the period of work at the American embassy. This was good, since the time had come to pay the bills.

#### July 1978, Moscow, Dzerzhinsky Square, headquarters of the KGB PGU

Head of the First Chief Directorate Kryuchkov, returning from Andropov, called his deputy for personnel and informed that the KGB chairman had given instructions to select a worthy candidate for the post of head of the KGB representative office in Afghanistan.

This was the request of Nur Mohammad Taraki, which he conveyed through the Soviet ambassador Puzanov. The Politburo decided to grant this request.



“Think about who we can send to Afghanistan. This should be a person with management experience abroad and one who knows the entire region well: Pakistan, Iran, Turkey,” Kryuchkov set the task with concern. “The responsibility of our representative will be enormous. He must create a representative office and select officers capable of working in a combat situation. He will have to skillfully navigate the political processes of the young republic, which, to put it mildly, are not entirely easy, and most importantly, help the country’s leadership create full-fledged intelligence services: intelligence, counterintelligence, border troops... Do you have a leader of this level in mind?” the intelligence chief ended his monologue with the expected question.

“Yes, Vladimir Alexandrovich,” the deputy intelligence officer for personnel immediately answered, “and you know him. This is Leonid Pavlovich Bogdanov, who returned from Iran not long ago. He worked quite effectively as the station chief during his long-term mission, and now performs serious tasks in a group of consultants for the intelligence leadership.”

“Yes, I also see him as the head of the representative office. Talk to him first, and I’ll invite him a little later,” Kryuchkov ended the conversation.

Within several days, Bogdanov urgently was forming a representative office, carefully selecting foreign intelligence officers for future work in a country with a difficult political situation. He invited Oleg Malinin, then still a young but operationally well-trained officer who was fluent in the Dari language, to work in Kabul.

“We are going to Afghanistan to provide assistance to the country’s leadership. We will create Afghan intelligence services from the very basic level, so the mission needs young officers who could work with Afghan youth in intelligence and counterintelligence,” the experienced intelligence officer sort of explained his plan to the novice operative. Malinin listened to his future boss breathless. For

him, this was the lucky ticket that every graduate of the Red Banner Institute of the KGB could only dream of, who from the first days of his studies dreamed of personal participation in intelligence operations in combat conditions.

On August 2, 1978, a group of foreign intelligence officers flew from Vnukovo airfield to Kabul on a special flight. The group was headed by Kryuchkov himself. It included officers of the representative office and the head of the counterintelligence department of the PGU, Major General Kalugin. The mission of the head of the PSU was secret. It was assumed that Western intelligence services would eventually receive information about it, but by that time a secret cooperation agreement would be signed, and Bogdanov would have time to launch the work of the representative office and begin to form a professional Afghan intelligence service. But none of the intelligence officers on the plane realized that the CIA had already received information about the trip of Kryuchkov and a group of PGU employees to Afghanistan. This information leaked from the “mole,” who had long collaborated with the Americans and reached career heights in Soviet intelligence.

June 25, 1978,  
Kabul, CIA station

CIA resident Michael Mitchell met Hafizullah Amin in the strictest secrecy. He had just received a telegram marked “Highly Confidential,” signed by Director Turner. Such attention from the top leadership of the Central Intelligence Agency did not seem strange to him, because two weeks ago he had sent a telegram in which he had described in detail the situation in Afghanistan and the possibilities of influencing it in the interests of the United States, despite the fact that forces that had come to power outwardly positioned themselves as socialist left. And he, of course, waited for the answer with slight impatience, hoping in his heart for support for his plan. He also served as acting

ambassador as the latter had completed his tour of duty in Afghanistan and returned to Washington. This increased his status at the embassy and flattered vanity. However, what he read in the telegram did not in any way clarify the position of the leadership of the CIA and the State Department.

Positively assessing his proposals, the director radically changed the format of communication between the Center and the station. He, as the head of the station, was instructed to strengthen the conspiracy with the key agent and set the task of destabilizing the political situation in the country. It was necessary to begin eliminating the opposition, tribal leaders, and terrorizing the military leadership of the former Daoud’s government. Moreover, all actions should be carried out in the presence of Soviet military specialists, involving them in this process. The Afghan special services would close in on the key agent and, through him, request help from Moscow to create a KGB representative office in Afghanistan. Handler officers were to be involved to the maximum extent possible in all internal processes, including the executions of the political opposition. Provoke a mutiny in the army and contact the Kremlin with a request to send Soviet troops into Afghanistan.

In the telegram, the CIA director recommended working with the agent in an extremely secret manner, assigning him tasks step by step and monitoring their implementation. At the end of the telegram, it was noted that Adolf Dubs, who had been appointed US Ambassador to Afghanistan and was currently undergoing the relevant formalities at the State Department and Congress, would soon fly to Kabul. In this regard, additional instructions would be given on how to organize work with the agent in the highest interests of the United States.

Hafizullah Amin outwardly calmly accepted the station chief’s task of destabilizing the situation and unleashing terror in the country. He and Taraki had already made the decision to eliminate the opposition.

After all, this was the only way the Saur Revolution to survive. The Revolution which they had been preparing for so long and dreaming about for so long, despite the strict prohibition of the international department of the CPSU Central Committee, Ambassador Puzanov and chief military adviser Gorelov. That was it, the revolution was an accomplished fact! And he helped Nur Mohammad Taraki, sincerely believing that his time would come.

“I wish it would come faster,” he thought, looking into the eyes of the CIA station chief, but there was no answer to this question in them. “Well, well, we’ll wait. Just remember: my patience is also not limitless, I have been walking towards this goal for too long - to be president, prime minister or the new Zahir Shah. If you Americans are not ready for this, I will reach the goal with Soviet comrades, Iranians or other allies. But I’ll definitely get there!”

On June 27, American Ambassador Adolph Dubs stepped off the plane onto the Afghan soil, not knowing that just six months later he would become a victim of the terrorist attack of the Afghan Maoists “Settam-e-Melli” in Kabul.

To be continued in the next issue of the magazine.

Answers to questions  
published  
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Across:  
2. Агент  
4. Баратаня  
7. Фишер  
8. Бнейк  
9. Эйнтон  
11. Триппер  
13. Ким  
17. Морозов  
18. Судоплатов  
19. Разведка  
20. Молоды  
22. Лес  
24. Наружка  
25. Монастырь  
Down:  
1. Лернда  
3. Амтис  
5. Дзержинский  
6. Тайник  
7. Фитин  
10. Резидентура  
12. Феклисов  
14. Маршрут  
15. Быстроход  
16. Вербовка  
18. Связной  
21. Негерал  
23. Конспирация  
26. Ковальчук





# The “Wind of Victory” fills our sails

Text: Vladimir Golobokov, administrative manager of the club of the author war song “Wind of Victory”  
Photo: archives of the club “Wind of Victory”

**“I want the pen to be on a par with the bayonet”.**

*Vladimir Mayakovskiy. Back home! 1925*

Front prose and poetry can be considered a special artistic phenomenon, an independent genre of Russian literature. Almost always during the fighting, war correspondents, writers and poets went side by side with the soldiers to victory. The lines written by them were copied by hand, memorized by heart, carefully kept together with personal documents, orders and medals. According to veterans, “Vasily Terkin”

taken apart for quotations gave strength and inspired optimism, and Konstantin Simonov’s poem “Wait for me, and I’ll come back” served as a kind of talisman in difficult moments of front life. Poetry reminded soldiers of their distant home and native places, of those who waited with impatience for their return. In addition, truth born in trenches (lines written by talented eyewitnesses of combat operations) helped soldiers and

officers to better understand and correctly formulate their attitude to possible death: death praised in battle for a just cause, for relatives and friends, no longer seemed a “vain” sacrifice.

In the first months of the Great Patriotic War, mainly professional poets and prose writers were published in the front-line newspapers. However, soldiers’ personal experience accumulated

in the course of heavy fighting and trials needed to be expressed: it was unbearably difficult to keep inside the emotions and memory of the events to which soldiers and commanders of the Red Army were witnesses and participants. The poems and songs they wrote motivated their comrades-in-arms to the feat of arms, gave them strength and confidence in victory, reminded them of simple human feelings and of their responsibility to their loved ones and compatriots for the future of their Homeland. Many of these works eventually became classics of Russian literature.

Since the victory in the Great Patriotic War, Russia has repeatedly faced and continues to face serious challenges to its security and sovereignty. Local conflicts and provocations by Western “partners”, the need to protect our national interests and humane choice - all this has required and still requires the intervention of the Russian Army. Again and again our soldiers and officers, brought up on the best examples of frontline poetry and prose, who have absorbed into their genetic code the heroic plots of Soviet and modern war films, patriotic paintings by battle artists, stand up to defend the interests of the Motherland. This means that next to them, again and again, literary talents are born, capable of covering the chronology and lessons of severe trials into artistic words and conveying them to readers.

It is a non-trivial task to bring together talented people who have gone through such a difficult school of service to the Fatherland, but have not withdrawn into themselves and are ready to share their thoughts and experience.

However, several years ago, Anatoly Pshenichny, twice laureate of the Foreign Intelligence Service Award in the field of literature and art, member of the Union of Russian Writers, focused his efforts on its solution. On his initiative, the club of author’s military song “Wind of Victory” was set up at the Victory Museum on Poklonnaya Hill in Moscow.

The club’s events are open to all comers, but few people become its permanent members. The main criteria for professional selection are not only combat and special experience, but also careful attitude to the word, brilliant mastery of the Russian language, and uniqueness of works created. Among the regular members of the club are participants of combat operations in Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Chechnya. Already few, unfortunately, veterans of the Great Patriotic War are welcome guests of all events of “Wind of Victory”. Friends of the club and regular participants of the concerts are security and law enforcement officers of the Russian Federation, including former and current officers of the Foreign Intelligence Service, deputies of both chambers of the Federal Assembly, military students and cadets.

The Victory Museum on Poklonnaya Hill has become a home and a reliable partner for all the events for Wind of Victory. At the same time, the club members perform concert programs in military units and hospitals, at defense enterprises, in concert halls and clubs in cities and villages of Russia. More than 100 events took place in less than three years.

Currently, one of the main tasks of the club’s creative team is

to support the participants of the special military operation in Ukraine - volunteers, soldiers and officers of the Russian Army. Furthermore, the most important mission of “Wind of Victory” is to foster patriotism among Russian youth. Thus, students - future specialists of strategic branches of the Russian industry and economy, take a direct and active participation in the events of the club, whose creative projects, as practice shows, do not leave them indifferent. “Wind of Victory” has already signed agreements on cooperation in the field of cultural and educational activities with several leading universities of the country and plans to expand this direction.

Through their daily activities and creative spirit, the club members daily refute the famous utterance of Marcus Tullius Cicero: “When arms speak, muses are silent”. Gathering gems of frontline folklore and military poetry, often born in the most difficult conditions of combat and special operations, supporting novice and already known poets and writers in making the widest Russian audience acquainted with their truthful and sincere works - this is what the club of author’s military song “Wind of Victory” was created for, exists and will continue its creative activity.



# Poems of members of the author's military song club "Victory Wind" and of the Foreign Intelligence Service veterans



## Anatoly Pshenichny

### He is from intelligence...

We often sigh about the past –  
Impossible to wipe it off with a rag, like chalk.  
Each his own way – but I chose reconnaissance  
And never regretted it!  
Years, codes, approaches, departures,  
A swarm of tasks flies through the window ...  
We are not cinematic «Bonds» at all –  
And intelligence is not a movie at all!

Let's remember again – for one it is early, for another it's late,  
How in a foreign land we were waiting for luck  
And how we brought to our stations  
What we managed to get.  
We didn't toss a coin to make a choice,  
There was a plan to work, the wheels to go on!  
And only enemy counterintelligence  
Knew restless Russian people!

For someone - both money and fame,  
For someone - a reception and a banquet,  
But for us it is a capture, then a setup,  
Pseudonyms and fairy tales of legends!  
But then, friends, we managed  
To muster up the courage if something went wrong.  
Even the title of "persona non grata"  
Was accepted as an award!

And when the cup overflowed,  
We did not throw into the attic  
Our friendship, reliability and faith –  
Things you can't do without in intelligence!  
Life will put marks for anyone  
Without taking into account expensive clothes,  
But if you hear: "He is from intelligence ..." –  
We do not need other marks!

### Sight

Thank God, I'm alive and safe,  
This means that God have helped:  
My friend recognized me through the sight  
And he didn't pull the trigger!  
And they used to tell us sober-mindedly:  
"Tear out pity from your heart!..  
...There is a civil war going on -  
The meanest of wars!

I remember: there were times:  
Football, a concert of "Lyube"...  
He was then in the stream "A"  
And I in the stream "B".  
Those years have been erased like chalk,  
And the bell doesn't ring,  
But he recognized me at gunpoint  
And he didn't pull the trigger!

...Flying through the radio noise,  
Like midges toward the light,  
Both the truth resembling a lie,  
And a lie looking so honest!  
...I drank vodka, but wasn't getting drunk,  
Postponing the time,  
When I would take him in sight  
But wouldn't pull the trigger...

There's a civil war going on,  
It is doubly cruel...  
Don't give medals to us  
In a war like this!

## Ivan Grishanov,

veteran of the Great Patriotic War, son of the regiment

\*\*\*

My life is not rich in affection,  
I didn't have them and didn't look for them.  
First an orphanage, then a thieves' hut,  
And then the war's evil grin.  
In that life a dugout with a five-layer ramp  
Was more pleasant for me than a daytime sky.  
I had been in every hell,  
In the whirlwind of deadly battles!  
I forgot where I came from,  
World of war was my first children's study.  
And the days flowed by like teardrops  
Falling to water from sore eyes.  
I will answer your question clearly:  
I was born already angry and grown up.

### Tanks in the fog

Tanks in the fog are like an elephantine crowd,  
And the trunks of the guns under a film of moisture.  
The crews are standing, and the company commander,  
already new,  
Is clearly reading damp papers to us.  
Sappers found passages in the minefield,  
They set milestones at the cost of their lives...  
A blind attack is like a difficult birth:  
This requires patience and faith in success.  
Yesterday we were burning, we were torn by mines,  
And cannons hammered on our flank.  
Losses and fatigue have shackled hope,  
And the commander pressed us like a barbell.  
He's got experience and strength: he has already burned  
twice,  
Neither title nor order will decorate such a person...  
He said in conclusion: "Let everyone think,  
How to win the battle in the coming dawn.  
I will go on foot, and I must be closely followed  
By all tanks in a column right up to the trench.  
And what they prescribed, I think is nonsense,  
I take the sentence on my neck.  
Not a gram of alcohol - we'll take a sip at the funeral  
repast,  
Not all of us will return, that's our destiny.  
We are living people, and death is not a picture,  
But we need to break through the minefield.  
Nobody except us. In places! Start it up!"  
And the company commander went ahead, as he said...

## Mikhail Kalinkin,

Colonel

### Mariupol Waltz

We are biting into Mariupol -  
We and the enemy are one to one!  
And above us is the heavenly dome -  
God looks at the war mess...

We peel them off layer by layer,  
Like cabbage that rots at the edges!  
We are neither zombies nor superheroes,  
We must move forward.

He and I both speak Russian,  
And Kalashnikovs here and there,  
We are similar and it's sad,  
Despite the fuss of the war.

But we are of different faiths with them,  
Despite the Christian cross on everyone,  
In their souls is Stepan Bandera  
In our souls - Khatyn and Brest!

This is how it turned out according to our nature.  
My great-grandfather, and father, and grandfather -  
We are still not getting out of war  
For these one hundred and a half years...

Everyone who surrounded us on the planet,  
Tried to bite us.  
And now these "Svidomi"  
Pan Zelensky and Tyagnibok...

Monday, Wednesday, Saturday -  
It's somewhere out there, to the side...  
Here war is called work,  
We work in war.

Whether it will be day or night,  
Let Allah or Christ decide.  
We will finish our work  
And my country will live!

We can't retreat today  
Like fathers back in 1941!  
Let Bandera live in hell  
And let Russia's star shine!



## Dmitry Yurkov,

reserve captain

### Young Germans

Once between Kiev and Minsk,  
Where the pines reach out for the clouds,  
German tourists were traveling,  
And they asked to drink milk.  
The lilac distance loomed,  
And the answer seemed like a trick:  
“Eh, young Germans, we fought with you...  
Come in - peace and accord be with you!”

She opened the doors of her rickety hut  
Breathing welcomingly –  
A little old Russian woman  
With a great Russian soul!  
She didn't take the money and, turning purple,  
Furrowed her brow affectionately:  
“Young Germans, you haven't defeated us!  
Drink free, accord and love be with you!”

A daring song came,  
And the winds changed their route...  
“Young Germans! We fought with you,  
But we don't take money from beaten people!”  
And her cold hands  
Carefully crossed the tomboys...  
“Young Germans! You are almost like grandchildren to me...»  
And she covered her face with her fingers.

And then until dawn  
Under the moon sparkling in the river  
Two planets argued and sang  
In clear Russian...  
That scene of revelations and farewells  
Could have been a gem in a movie...  
“Young Germans, farewell! Goodbye!  
God will forgive you, and I already have, long ago...»

## Alexei Shorokhov,

Secretary of the Board of the Writers' Union of Russia

### Black Raven of Gorlovka

Why are you hovering, why are you circling,  
Black raven, above me?  
And who do you serve, raven?  
Are you a drone or a live being?

Oh, don't peck, black raven,  
My black eyes!  
It is not out of malice that they are black,  
But from coal dust.

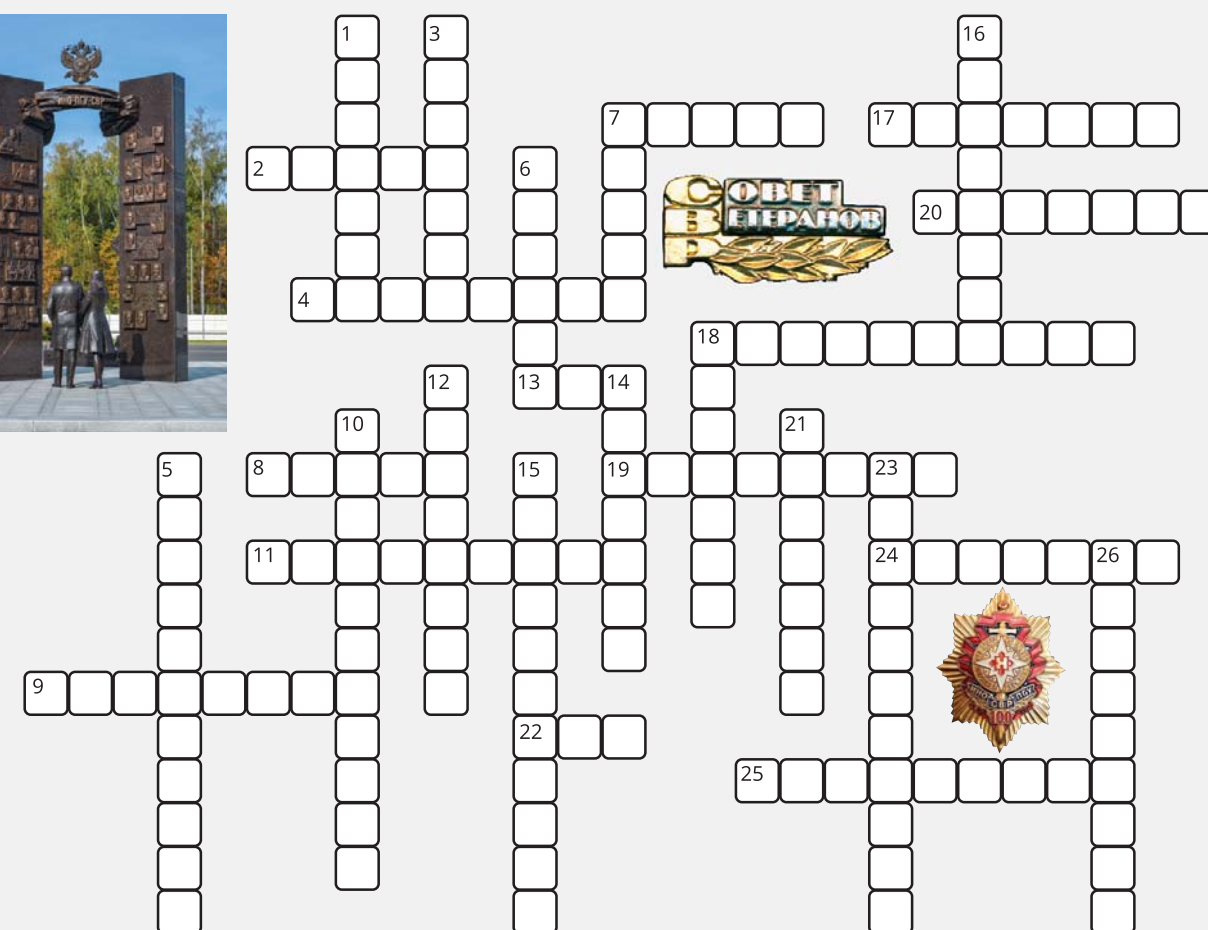
No, I didn't know, black raven,  
That I would lie motionless  
Behind the Kalmius River  
With a blood-covered head...

Don't worry, don't hope!  
Don't touch my mouth!  
It's not thunder in the sky,  
That's artillery working.

You will see, you will wait until  
Near the Bakhmutka River  
Our Russian regiments  
Will come and stand forever.

That's when they'll lift me up,  
Throw me into the back of the truck, onto the bags.  
As for you, my sniper friends  
Will take you off the rifle...

Why are you hovering, why are you circling,  
Black raven, above me?  
And who do you serve, raven?  
Are you a drone or a live being.



### Across:

2. Source of valuable information.
4. Hero of the Soviet Union, the prototype of the main character of the film “Teheran 43”.
7. Still better known as Rudolf Abel.
8. Escaped from the top security prison in England.
9. One of the heads of illegal intelligence in pre-war years.
11. Was at the forefront of establishing the Foreign Department of the VChK.
13. Deep-cover agent, Hero of the USSR, a namesake of North Korean leader.
17. Veteran of the Foreign Intelligence Service, the author of the novel “Afghan zugzwang”.
18. The main saboteur of the Great Patriotic War, the terror of Ukrainian nationalists.
19. That's our job.

20. Worked in England under the name of Gordon Lonsdale, received an award from the Queen.
22. Unofficial address of the Russian secret service headquarters.
24. “Tail” after the intelligence officer.
25. One of the most successful radio games of the Soviet intelligence during the Second World War.

### Down:

1. Fictional biography of an intelligence officer.
3. Pseudonym of the main character of the TV serial of 2022 played by Agnia Ditkovskyte.
5. “Iron” Felix.
6. Hidden storage.
7. The main character of the film “The Chief of Intelligence”, whose memorial is set up in front of the press-bureau of the SVR.

10. An affiliated office of the secret service in a foreign country.
12. Helped to prevent the Cuban missile crisis.
14. Sometimes it is transportation, sometimes it is verification.
15. Genius recruiter who changed his name and appearance very quickly.
16. Attracting people to one's side.
18. A messenger who provides the interaction between the members of the reconnaissance group.
21. Intelligence officer working under a deep cover.
23. One of the main principles of intelligence activities.
26. People's artist of Russia, the author of the sculptural composition commemorating the 100th anniversary of INO PGU of the SVR of Russia.





Picture:  
Vladimir Mochalov

The informant came to the meeting accompanied by his wife, two daughters, son and elder brother. According to the foreigner, his family loves Russia and has long dreamed of communicating with a Russian, but did not have a suitable opportunity

## Selected moments of operational correspondence

Judging by the behavior and appearance of the foreigner, he started drinking alcohol long before the meeting.

When asked about the scratches on his forehead, nose and cheeks, the subject, without going into details, answered succinctly but meaningfully: "Wife."

The foreigner remembers with particular warmth his service in the special forces, where he had the opportunity to undergo a survival course in the desert, eating insects, small rodents and snakes.

In assessments of political events, the subject, as a rule, limits himself to thoughtful silence.

Looking at the empty bottle, the informant went into a lengthy philosophical discussion about the "transience of life."

By religion, "B" is a Muslim, which he talks about at every opportunity, but apparently he does not believe in God, since he likes to drink and eats pork with gusto.

Outwardly, "L" looked sloppy: his clothes were crumpled and dirty, the hair on his head was disheveled, his beard and sideburns were poorly trimmed, but at heart he was cheerful, a smile never left his face.

## In the next issue of the magazine:

**President of the Russian Academy of Sciences Gennady Kvasnikov:**

«Modern science should be practical».

**People's artist of the USSR Alexander Shilov:**

«I admire intelligence officers!»

**Deep-cover agent**

**Tamara Netyksa:**

«In intelligence you sometimes have to run conscious risks».

**The role of intelligence in the atomic project of the USSR**

80th anniversary of the decision of the State Committee for Defense to start working over nuclear weapon.





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