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AB MEMO No. 679A
6 April 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, SR/CI

ATTENTION : Mr. Stuart Duncan

SUBJECT : Documentation Information Concerning the Soviet
Stateless Person's Identity Document (VID NA
ZHEBEL'STVO V SSSR ILYA LITS BEZ GRAZHDANSTVA)
--Case 4630

REFERENCE : Your Oral Request for TSD/AB Support on 20 March 1964

1. This memorandum and attachment confirms the information passed verbally to Mr. Duncan of SR/CI by Mr. Bowanko and Mr. Bagel of TSD/AB on 23 and 25 March 1963.
2. Please sign the attached Request for TSD/AB Support Form (D-100) and return to this office.
3. If TSD/AB comments are being considered for further distribution, it is requested that the transmitting correspondence be coordinated with this office.
4. Any questions on this matter can be referred to Messrs. Bowanko or Bagel, extension 2654, 222 West Oct Building.

ALVIN R. FREEDMAN
CHIEF, TSD/CA/AB

Attachment: as stated

Distribution:

- Original and 1 - Addressee, w/att.
- 1 - AB Case 4630, w/att.
- 1 - AB File, w/att.
- 1 - AB Chrono, w/att.

DD/P/TSD/AB/1:D. Bowanko:prk

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Attachment to: AB Memo No. 6794

ESD COMMENTS ON THE SOVIET STATELESS PERSON'S IDENTITY DOCUMENT (VID NA ZHITEL'STVO V SSSR DELYA LIT. BEZ GRAZHDANSTVA)

1. These comments are based on an analysis of 15 exemplars, (4 originals, 2 complete photocopies, 8 pages of a third photocopy and 2 pages each of the remaining photocopy exemplars), issued in seven (7) different areas of the Soviet Union between 11 January 1944 and 1 March 1960, and on limited documentation intelligence information.

Only two of these exemplars were issued in Moscow, the area of issuance in your case. No information is available on the use of this document in Minsk. Only three (3) of the available exemplars were issued after early 1957.

2. It is apparent therefore, that a thorough study of this document is not possible, especially as pertains to a specific area. However, certain general information does become clear and is presented in the following comments:

a. The document currently in use has a tan-colored stiff paper cover (card board type) and is approximately 85x122mm. The state seal on the front cover contains 11, 16 or 15 bands depending on the gosznak (printing year). The seal and words VID NA ZHITEL'STVO V SSSR DELYA LIT. BEZ GRAZHDANSTVA are printed in black ink; the words BEZ GRAZHDANSTVA are in blue ink. The document contains 11 numbered pages plus the inside back cover. The undertint is a red, pink and blue repeat pattern done by the Gammal process. The text is printed in black ink. The words BEZ GRAZHDANSTVA are printed in blue ink from bottom to top of each page. Unlike the other two internal identity documents (PASPORT and VID NA ZHITEL'STVO DELYA ZHITEL'STVA) used in the Soviet Union no regulations or instructions are included in subject document. It contains everything included in the Soviet PASPORT plus additional information on the bearer, and apparently serves the same purpose. The bearers of subject document appear to be subjected to a more rigid control than normal PASPORT bearers.

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This document is apparently used to control the so-called "stateless" (BEZ GRAZHDANSTVA) population of the Soviet Union. The term BEZ GRAZHDANSTVA as used here probably means "without Soviet citizenship" rather than the normal western meaning of the term "stateless".

b. For issuance of subject document an application is submitted to OVIR, (Visa and Registration Section) or to PFO (Passportno-Registratsionnyy Otdel - Passport Registration Section) of the UM (Upravleniye Militsei) or UVD (Upravleniye Vnutrennikh Del). PFO executes OVIR functions in those areas without an OVIR. These organs are all subordinate to the MVD (Ministry of Internal Affairs). OVIR is responsible for the documentation control of all foreigners in the Soviet Union except foreign officials. There are no available exemplars of subject document which reflect the reorganization of the MVD into MOOP (Ministries for the Protection of Public Order) which took place during August and September 1962.

c. Subject document is initially made valid for one (1) year. The number of extensions permitted is unknown, however, since the quarterly registrations average four (4) per page, pages 6 and 7 would be full within two years, thus permitting only one extension. The serial numbers of similar documents when given as basis of issuance also gives credence to this theory. Finally, of the exemplars which had been extended, none were extended more than once. The bearer must register with OVIR every three (3) months.

d. The number of exemplars precludes a final determination of the serial numbering system used in subject documents. It is possible that the block system is used, i.e. a block of 100 or 1000 pre-numbered documents with the corresponding pre-numbered fiscal stamps might be supplied to OVIR or PFO offices for issuance in their areas. These supplies would be replenished with additional blocks when necessary. The fill-in of the document probably is made locally. All serial numbers are preceded by the letter "F" (significance unknown) and contain six (6) digits.

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The serial number furnished by Mr. Duncan, 311479, of a Moscow issued VID NA ZHIZNEL'STVO V SSSR DLIA LITS BEZ GRAZHDANSTVA in early 1960 cannot be accurately checked. The latest exemplar serial number issued in Moscow by "OVIR Upravl. Militsii gor. Moskvy i. Moskovey obl." (OVIR of the Moscow city and Moscow oblast Militia Administration) on 14 June 1955 is P No. 242266.

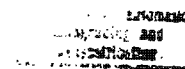
The bearer who reportedly retained this document until January 1962 while residing in Minsk would have had to register his document every three months and extend it in early 1961. The bearer's travel to Moscow in July 1961 should have been recorded on page 4 or 5 of his document, although just how rigidly the controls were exercised at that time cannot be determined.

It is recommended that this document, serial number 311479, be submitted to ERB/AB for a CI analysis.

e. The following are the contents of the 11 pages of subject document in the order they appear on each page:

- Page 1** - Validity; surname; first name and patronymic; issuance authority; photograph of bearer in lower left corner; serial number to right of photograph; authenticating cachet partially over photograph; and a line for bearer's signature. (some exemplars were not signed).
- Page 2** - Data on the bearer.
1. Date of birth (either year only or complete date).
 2. Place of birth.
 3. Nationality.
 4. Dates and date bearer arrived in the USSR.
 5. Profession and type of work.

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6. Family status.

7. Last citizenship.

A fiscal stamp bearing the document serial number is attached below these seven (7) questions. A validating signature of the chief of the militia administration usually appears to the right of the fiscal stamp. The same authenticating cachet used on page one (1) is affixed over fiscal stamp and signature. The date of issuance appears in the lower right corner and the serial number appears at the bottom of the page.

Page 3 - The name, age, relationship and document basis for inclusion of persons included in bearer's document are listed on this page.

Pages 4 and 5 - Have eight (8) spaces per page for entries, with validating signature and cachet plus the date, permitting the bearer to reside in a given area. The validating signature, at least in the Moscow issued exemplar is that of an OVIR official. Travel to other cities is also reflected here. Two (2) of the available exemplars show travel. In each case a residence permit entry is made before leaving on a trip. This entry includes a length of stay deadline. In one of these two exemplars, (the pre-World War II exemplar referred to above), another entry was made upon return to place of residence.

The serial number also appears at the bottom of page 5.

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- Pages 6 and 7 - Are for quarterly registration entries. These entries indicate registration and date of next quarterly registration. Sometimes place of registration is included in the handwritten entry. All such registrations appear above the signature of an OVIR official or OVIR representative.
- Pages 8 and 9 - Are for normal militia or OVIR residence registrations and deregistrations.
- Pages 10 and 11 - Are for "special remarks" including employment cachets, and document validity extension for one (1) year. These extensions are validated by OVIR.
- The goznak appears at the bottom of page 11.

(Note: Some of these entries and cachets may appear on the wrong page.)

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