

EHRI Online Course in Holocaust Studies  
Federal Archives Berlin-Lichterfelde, R58, 221, Bl. 40.  
The Holocaust in Ukraine – Auxiliary Administration and Police

## C06 The SS Reports its Shooting of the Mayor of Kremenchuk for Helping Jews, 6 March 1942

Incident Report Soviet Union No. 177 (Secret Reich Business) of the Chief of the SIPO and SD (IV A1-B, No. 1B/41g.Rs.), unsigned, dated 6.3.1942

### 1. Locations and intelligence connections

Period: 4.3.1942

The locations and intelligence connections from the Incident Report No. 172 dated 23.2.42 have remained unchanged.

### II. Dispatches from the task forces and commandos [Einsatzgruppen und –kommandos]

There are no dispatches from the task forces A and B.

Task Group C

Location: Kiev

General situation in basic respect

In terms of morale, the activity of the task group with respect to the measures against Jews and former Party communists has generally had a favourable impact. Not only is the treatment of the Jews pursued with understanding, but so too the actions taken against the sponsors of the disturbances.

Amongst a part of the workforce not so hostile to Germany, there is a firm belief in the ability of the German leadership. But because their hope to once again work in workshops and companies in the course of a few months, has not materialised, disappointment is making its presence felt, which is heightened by how the food situation worsens from week to week. It is therefore observable that a great number of workers are returning to the countryside because they believe they can feed themselves better there.

Moreover, the hostile part of the population, which is currently finding fertile soil as a result of the poor food situation and weather conditions, is beginning to influence the people in clever ways, mostly through whispering campaigns. If the news of the withdrawal of German troops at individual sections has had an unfavourable impact, it needs to be noted that rumours about the success of the Reds, about the regaining of numerous cities and the reoccupation of the Donetsk region are circulating in great numbers. When the opposition side is constantly and systematically relaying these rumours in pamphlets and whispering campaigns, there can be no doubt that listening to Moscow Radio in intelligentsia circles has to be seen as the cause of these rumours. The hitherto observed wait-and-see attitude has made way for a fermenting in the negative sense, a development that can be combatted only through centrally orchestrated and intensified counterpropaganda activities.

The cooperation with the Ukrainian authorities and militia is generally good. That the process of installing those responsible is not always undertaken with the necessary caution and care, is proven by the fact that the mayor of the city of Kremenchuk, Senitza, was arrested because he sabotaged the orders given to him. It was only first through interrogation by officials from the task commando that it emerged that he had knowingly used false identification papers and sabotaged the treatment of the Jewish problem by empowering the head pope Protejerej Romanskyj to baptise the Jews designated by him and give them Christian or Russian first names. As a result of immediate arrest operation, it was possible to prevent a larger number of Jews from escaping German control. Senitza was executed. In this connexion, the Chief of the Personnel Office and Family Registry in Kremenchuk was also relieved of his post because he refused in his capacity as registrar to correct the documents. Action also had to be taken against the Ukrainian militia in the old city of Kramatorsk because of constant complaints about the behaviour of leading militia members. The detailed investigation brought to light that the whole militia leadership was extremely corrupt and politically biased and terrorised the population. Following the completion of the investigations, from the 45 arrested the commander of the militia, his deputy, the auditor and a further militiaman were shot. The remaining members were released after review and the issuing of a harsh warning.