December 10, 1956

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Report, 'Australian Soviet Friendship Society'

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Summary:

At a social event in Sydney held in honor of the Soviet Olympic team, Soviet runner Vladimir Kutz received a gift which contained a dead rat painted yellow.

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English

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NEW SOUTH WALES

AUSTRALIAN SOVIET FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY.

1.   A social function in honour of members of the Soviet Olympic team was held under the auspices of the Australian Soviet Friendship Society in the Sydney Town Hall on the night of Friday, 7th December, 1956.

2.   Amongst the guests at the function was the Russian Olympic runner, Vladimir KUTZ.

3.   KUTZ received a number of presents from amongst those in attendance at the function, including boomerangs, toy koala bears, etc. The presents were placed on a table in the hall and included in them was a box which was wrapped in gift paper and tied with ribbon. KUTZ, on opening the box, found that it contained a dead rat painted with yellow paint. KUTZ was extremely annoyed and expressed his annoyance to leading Party members present including J.B. (John Bramwell) MILES.

4.   The whole affair has been hushed up by the Party. No reference to the incident has been made in any Party press.

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