

TO THE EDITOR:

While offering valuable data on Russian émigré trends in the pre-World War II period, the interesting article on “Kazem-Bek and the Young Russians’ Revolution” by Nicholas Hayes (*Slavic Review*, 39, no. 2 [June 1980]: 255–68) may also be viewed as an important contribution to the study of Soviet political disinformation. There are many imponderables in the career of Alexander Kazem-Bek, and the political credo which he presented to his followers coincided with remarkable accuracy with the disinformation line which Moscow used in the 1930s to entrap certain categories of Russian exiles.

It is therefore unfortunate that the author refrained from examining more closely Kazem-Bek’s contacts with Soviet officials, his visit to Prague in 1933, and his fatal meeting in Paris with Count Ignat’ev, then an envoy of Moscow. Another question worthy of attention deals with the role of Kazem-Bek at the “court in exile” of Grand Duke Kirill Vladimirovich and with his possible influence upon American society through the medium of certain members of the Romanov family.

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