5 October 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, SR/7

SUBJECT   :   Report of Contact by ⌐   ⌐ with AECASSOWARY 15
                     on 4 October 1956

1. A contact with AECASSOWARY 15 was made at the Library of Congress,
1500 hours, 4 October 1956. The following subjects were discussed:

    a) Travel of the Very Reverend Nicholas S. KOHUT, OSBM, to
Warsaw, Poland. (See para. 2)

    b) Legal tourist travel to USSR by American born citizen of
Ukrainian extraction. (See para. 3)

    c. Travel of Ukrainian Professor to Warsaw from Germany.
(See para. 4)

    d. Return of American citizen of Ukrainian extraction from
trip to the USSR. (See para. 5)

    e. Information on Ukrainian emigres in Australia. (See para. 6)

    f. Program for mailing packages to the USSR. (See para. 7)

        2. AECASSOWARY 15 was instructed by AECASSOWARY 2 to obtain the view
of Agency staff personnel regarding a trip to Warsaw being planned by the
Very Reverend KOHUT, a Basilian Father from New York City. Reverend Meletius
WOYNAR, OSBM, has discussed with AECASSOWARY 2 Father KOHUT's plans for a
trip to Warsaw. He intends to visit with the Basilian Fathers in Warsaw.
They have recently received approval from the Polish Government to establish
a St. Basil's Monastery. AECASSOWARY 2 is anxious for Father KOHUT to
make this trip and continue on to Hungary and Czechoslovakia to obtain
whatever information he can on the emigre groups in those countries.
AECASSOWARY 15 asked the undersigned to have determined whether the Agency
would be interested in talking to Father KOHUT and what the general feeling
of the Agency personnel would be regarding his travel to Warsaw.

        3. AECASSOWARY 2 feels much information may be obtained on travel
and Soviet reality by U. S. tourists in the USSR. He suggested that the
Agency brief and sponsor somebody for such travel and recommended for such
an assignment Mr. Andrew Diakun, an American born citizen of Ukrainian

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extraction, who is well acquainted with the emigre political situation, and who speaks Ukrainian with native fluency and the Russian language well. The undersigned is personally acquainted with Mr. Diakun and knows the above statement to be true. The undersigned also knows that Mr. Diakun worked with the Ukrainian Relief Committee in Germany and has served a tour of duty with United States Army Intelligence. He resides in Buffalo and is engaged in the practice of law. He is approximately 30 years of age and is planning to be married this month.

4. AECASSOWARY 15 stated that AECASSOWARY 2 told him a Ukrainian professor living in Germany has recently departed for Warsaw to participate in a scientific conference. AECASSOWARY 2 did not volunteer the name of this professor to AECASSOWARY 15 but he (15) believes it is Professor I. Mirchuk of the Ukrainian Free University in Munich.

5. Miss Gloria SURMACH of New York City, an American-born citizen of Ukrainian extraction, is believed to be back from her trip to the USSR. AECASSOWARY 2 learned from her father about 2 weeks ago that she was in Rome enroute home. AECASSOWARY 2 feels it would be advisable for an Agency staff member to debrief Miss SURMACH on details of her trip.

6. AECASSOWARY 15 stated that after several unsuccessful attempts to obtain permission to go to Australia, Jaroslav Stetzko finally obtained such permission from the ABN. He (15) believes AECASSOWARY 2 will obtain through him details on the Ukrainian emigre situation in Australia.

7. AECASSOWARY 2 requested AECASSOWARY 15 to inquire about the status of the project for sending packages to the USSR. AECASSOWARY 15 was informed by the undersigned that the project is all written up and awaiting final approval by the "chiefs". AECASSOWARY 15 stated that for best results now is the proper time to get started on this program.

8. The meeting was terminated at approximately 1600 hours. AECASSOWARY 15 was told that he would be contacted by [   ] as soon as he has been able to determine staff reactions to the foregoing points of discussion.

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