

14 Dec 65

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Contact with AECASSOWARY/2 on 9 December 1965
and Information about Cardinal Josif SLIPYY

1. When A/2 was in Germany in November, he flew to Rome with A/3 where he talked with Cardinal Josif SLIPYY alone for about two hours. It was obvious that after 18 years in Soviet prisons and concentration camps, where he shared life with people from all walks, the Cardinal had developed a deep compassion and understanding toward his fellowman. There was little of the impersonal ecclesiastical reserve frequently encountered in meetings with a church dignitary (particularly in the Eastern church) and the conversation was very down to earth. A/2's impression was that the Cardinal feels completely alone in the West. He lives alone and trusts no one, not even his personal secretary nor anyone else in the Vatican. He reproached A/3 for having written his secretary to arrange the meeting, reminding him that all correspondence is opened (according to him, by both the Americans and the Soviets) and told him in future to make such arrangements only via telephone after arrival in Rome. He kept a small transistor radio turned on and spoke practically in whispers. He later told A/3 that A/2 was the first person with whom he could talk intelligently and openly, and said that he admired him but would not want to be in his shoes.

2. The Cardinal frequently placed both his hands over the top of his head and applied pressure to his head as if trying to force his memory. He questioned A/2 about Petro T. TRONKO, about Luka PALAMARCHUK and other past and present members of the Ukrainian delegation at the United Nations and he seemed rather well informed about the existing dialogue between members of the mission and members of the Ukrainian emigration, his source obviously being Dr. KLACHKO. The latter's name was never mentioned, although there was no doubt in A/2's mind who the Cardinal talked about. He expressed satisfaction with AEBEEHIVE's policy toward KOLOSOVA and her entourage when the latter visited in the West.

3. A/2 was told by the Cardinal that he heard AEBEEHIVE was being subsidized by American intelligence. A/2 didn't affirm or deny the charge but said that people talk all kinds of nonsense about who finances AEBEEHIVE but the fact is that the organization is engaged in research and in the publication of books and other

literature and that such activity took a lot of money. The Cardinal agreed money was needed for such activity but said he was against becoming involved with intelligence organizations. It was all right to accept financial aid if A/2 accepted such aid as a representative of a government but it would not be wise to accept financial aid on the basis of a private individual. He said the Ukrainian people were going to need A/2 and it would be in the best interest of all concerned for him to keep his hands clean and not become involved in situations where he could later be accused of having collaborated with intelligence services (rozvidka).

4. The subject got around to the political emigration. A/2 was asked how he got along with the Bandera and Melnyk people and whether he would undertake to unite the three groups. A/2 said he was not interested in trying to unite Ukrainian political parties into one group. The Cardinal said he personally could not become involved in political activity but that he would like to find someone capable of uniting the Ukrainian emigration into one group. He mentioned the names of several people and asked A/2's opinion of them. He also reminded A/2 there were good people in the Melnyk organization and that A/2 should utilize their services. The subject of uniting the Ukrainian emigration seemed to be very much on his mind but A/2 gave him no encouragement to continue the discussion along these lines. The Cardinal told A/2 to keep in mind the fact that ~~the~~ ~~off~~ ~~time~~ during his imprisonment word was received in the prison camp that the Ukrainian emigration had united all their political parties. The news was such a morale-booster the prisoners talked about it for months.

5. When A/3 visited with the Cardinal several months ago, the latter warned him to be careful because his group was penetrated for the purpose of kidnapping him alive (they want to take you alive). Although A/3 had written a letter to A/2 at that time (the contents of which A/2 found rather puzzling), in which he expressed concern about everyone closing in on them and said he felt it was necessary for the leadership of the group to get together to discuss their various organizational problems, he did not mention what he had been told by SLIPYY. He told it only to A/6 in strict confidence. A/2 was told only after his arrival in Germany and he now wondered whether the Cardinal would talk about it with him. SLIPYY did bring up the subject by instructing A/2 to see that A/3 is well guarded because the Soviets were even more interested in getting him to the Soviet Union than they were in A/2 himself. He said the name of the man who has been assigned to kidnap A/3 begins with

M but the Cardinal said he could not recall the name. Several names mentioned by A/2 did not ring a bell. The Cardinal would not reveal his source of this information but insisted he knew. The Cardinal said he was unhappy that he could not ask A/3 to come to Rome to teach at the seminary he was establishing since the Soviets would be certain to remind him to be more discreet in his appointments. He then mentioned that he was being criticized by the emigration for maintaining contact with the Soviet Embassy in Rome and said that he has been visiting the Embassy, is still visiting the Embassy and intended to keep on visiting it because he is the only link between the emigration and the Ukraine. In reply to A/2's question whether the Cardinal realized that the KGB would be aware of any contacts he may have in the Soviet Union, he said he was aware of it, that he knew his every move was being watched and that he knew what he was doing.

6. In connection with the teaching staff he was selecting for his seminary, the Cardinal asked A/2 whether he trusted Vasyl MARKUS', and then asked A/2's opinion of Olexa HORBACH, Bohdan HALAJCZUK and Kyrylo MYTROYCH. These are all individuals whose services he would like to utilize on his teaching staff.

7. There was some discussion regarding those Ukrainian Catholic priests still living in the Ukraine and maintaining contact with each other. There is contact with them via the Vatican. With the aid sent them through Vatican channels they have been able to erect six buildings where some of the priests live and where they conduct their services in secret. Bishop Ivan BUCHKO with whom A/2 met later in Rome told the latter that they have a list of about 225 Ukrainian Catholic priests on whom there is current information.

8. A/2 asked the Cardinal if there was anything new the latter could tell him about his imprisonment. The Cardinal seemed reluctant to talk about that period of his life and merely said that he had been given a very difficult time. The KGB forced people to make written statements accusing him of anti-Government activity and then apprehended him again and again and re-interrogate him. He said, "But I have to forgive everyone. For a piece of bread, a man would break during interrogation, reveal a bit of information or even invent a story and the next day they would start questioning me all over again."

Additional Items Discussed by the Undersigned with A/2.

9. A letter received from A/2's father about a week ago informs that the two HORYN brothers have been imprisoned by the Soviets. The brothers are reported to be members of an underground organization in the UkSSR. Bohdan HORYN was supposed to be one of

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the three underground members who transmitted (in September 1964) to leaders of the Ukrainian emigration a list of requests via a Ukrainian emigre tourist from Canada. A/2's father stated that he would try to send more details later. A/2's sister in the mid-West reportedly also received similar information about the Horyn brothers. The HORYN name was not mentioned in either letter. A/2's father refers to the sons of a relative spending time in a resort. Word has been received from Prague also that there have been arrests of Soviet Ukrainians. An AECASSOWARY source in Sweden received a letter from Lvov that Zenia DANYLYUK a former underground member also has been arrested. She reportedly belongs to the same circle as the HORYN brothers.

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