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DCE 10745

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, CI
 ATTN : *[Handwritten mark]*
 FROM : Chief, Contact Division, OO

DATE: 3 December 1956

SUBJECT: Proposed Visit of Lajos Schmidt to Hungary

REF *[Handwritten marks]* telecon of 26 November 1956.

1. On Friday, 23 November 1956, the Chicago Office of the FBI telephoned this Division's Field Office in that city, advising that Lajos Schmidt, who was planning a trip to Hungary, was in their office and wished to contact CIA representatives. Later Schmidt informed our *[Handwritten mark]* that he was leaving Monday morning, 26 November 1956, for Vienna, Austria, via Amsterdam and Zurich. He hopes to enter Hungary, possibly as a Red Cross driver, in order to get to Budapest to locate his parents and escort them back to the United States. Schmidt requested that he be put in touch with a CIA representative in Vienna who would "backstop" him if necessary. Schmidt was advised that this Office could not help him.

2. Mr. Schmidt stated that he did not have a visa for Austria but that he called the Prince of Leichtenstein, a personal friend, who will get a visa for him. Schmidt added that he speaks German with an Austrian accent which will enable him to travel without encountering much difficulty. Subject plans to stay with personal friends in Vienna. His Chicago office will be kept advised of his itinerary.

3. Schmidt has expressed a willingness to cooperate in any manner possible. He also mentioned that he had been a Soviet PW. Since we were not able to promise him any assistance he stated that he is so desperate to help his parents that he "will go it alone." He added that he also has a son in Hungary. His father, who is a prominent physician, and his wife reside in the eighth district in Budapest.

4. Lajos Schmidt is an international lawyer employed by Baker, McKenzie and Hightower, 1 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois. Subject travels extensively in Europe representing several large US firms. He has a scheduled business meeting in Italy on or about 6 December 1956.

5. Schmidt has documents showing he was born on 23 April 1920, in Budapest, Hungary, and entered the US through Puerto Rico on 15 October 1951. His permanent residence was legalized by Private Bill 365, Chapter 213, signed 17 May 1954. His US Alien Registration Number is A-8688386.

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6. We can secure information about subject through his office in Chicago, if your office has further interest.

7. Any inquiry pertaining to this memorandum should be directed to [] Extension 2776.

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