SECRET

Office Memorandum • United States Government

TO : Chief, SR Division ATTN:

DATE: 19 July 1955

FROM: Chief, Contact Division, 00

subject: Reverend Basil SOLOWIJ

l. This Division has contacted Reverand Basil Solowij, a priest of the Eastern Catholic rite. Father Solowij was born in Zalesce (powiat Bobrka), Austria-Hungary on 28 September 1890. He completed his gymnasium studies in Lwow in 1908, and his theological studies at the University of Lwow in 1912. He was ordained in December 1912.

- 2. Father Solowij served as pastor in Pukiw, powiat Rohatyn, from 1913 until July 1944. He fled in 1944, and after residence in a series of DP camps in Austria and Germany, he arrived in the US in 1950.
- 3. Father Solowij is knowledgeable on the Rohatyn area of the Ukraine. He claims the town contained about two thousand people, all Ukrainans. During World War II, according to Father Solowij, all the men of the town escaped to the forests to fight with the Ukrainan Partisan Army (UPA) or joined the Ukrainan Division that fought on the side of the Germans against the Soviets.
- 4. Father Solowij corresponds with his brother-in-law in Stanislawow. Father Solowij sends his letters to friends in Warsaw who in turn transmit the letter to Stanislawow.
- 5. Any inquiry pertaining to this memorandum should be directed to ______on extension 2775.

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