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Federal Bureau of Investigation

Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Attention: Deputy Director, Plans

Dear Sir:

For your information, I am enclosing communications which may be of interest to you.

Very truly yours,


John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enc.
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEWARK**

NY FILE NO. **105-1761 LFK**

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 7/23, 27, 28/51	REPORT MADE BY HAROLD F. QUOD (A)	
TITLE CHANGED GEORGE SABOLEMSKI, was: Alexandrovitch Sokolowski, Alexei Sokolovsky		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: <p>VACLOVAS SIDZIKAVSKAS advised that subject is affiliated with the Byelo-Russian group with a man by the name of OSTRO-SKI. Opposed to this group is another one headed by EUGENE KOCHANOVSKI and NIKOLA ABRANCHIK. SIDZIKAVSKAS is studying the aims of both groups and proposes to discuss mutual problems with either or both of them. He stated he met SABOLEMSKI once in Europe and by accident on the boat, GENERAL TAYLOR, coming from Europe to the U.S. SIDZIKAVSKAS stated that he did not assist SABOLEMSKI in coming to the U.S. He also stated that he learned from a countryman, ARSTOTIS VALIUNAS, that SABOLEMSKI was not responsible for any atrocities in Minsk. Informant furnished information regarding the background and activities of subject in Europe.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- P -</p> <p>DETAILS: The title of this report is marked changed to reflect the aliases of subject, ALEXANDROVITCH SOKOLOVSKI and ALEXEI SOKOLOVSKI, as reported by Confidential Informant T-1, set forth later in this report.</p>			
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VACLOVAS SIDZIKAVSKAS was interviewed at his office at the Hargrave Hotel, 112 West 72nd Street, New York City, Room 311. He stated that he is a member of the Lithuanian Consultative Panel which is sponsored by the National Committee for a Free Europe. He stated that as an official of the Lithuanian movement he has been approached by the groups of Byelo-Russians which are opposed to each other.

One group is headed by ELMINE KOCHANOVSKI and NIKOLA ALFANCIUS. The leaders of the other group are OSTROVSKI (phon) and GREGOR OBOLENSKI. SIDZIKAVSKAS explained that he and his group have maintained the position with respect to these two groups that it is necessary to study the aims of both and determine whether discussions should be entered into with either or both of the groups. There are, according to SIDZIKAVSKAS, problems of mutual interest which may be discussed with these groups. Another objective in establishing contact with these groups, SIDZIKAVSKAS stated, was to avoid having one or the other of the groups turned from the democratic countries and seek the support of the Communists.

SIDZIKAVSKAS stated that he had met OBOLENSKI on one occasion in Berlin when certain problems were discussed. However, he did not know that OBOLENSKI was coming to the United States until he met him by accident on board the GENERAL TAYLOR going to this country. On this vessel SIDZIKAVSKAS met OBOLENSKI on a couple of occasions when they had short discussions.

In the United States, SIDZIKAVSKAS stated that he has not seen OBOLENSKI. On one occasion when the officials of governments in exile met in Washington, L. C. OBOLENSKI wrote SIDZIKAVSKAS requesting an introduction to this group. However, SIDZIKAVSKAS felt that the problems and type of organization in which OBOLENSKI was interested were at variance with that of the governments in exile. The latter consisted of governments seeking to regain the freedom and independence for their countries which they previously enjoyed. OBOLENSKI, on the other hand, represented a segment of a country which was desirous of separating itself and obtaining independence.

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SOBOLEWSKI has sent other correspondence, such as greeting cards, to SIDZIKAJSKAS since they both arrived in the United States out there has been no meeting of these two men in this country.

SIDZIKAJSKAS stated that he had heard that SOBOLEWSKI was responsible for atrocities committed on the Jewish people in Minsk, Russia. However, a friend and countryman of SIDZIKAJSKAS, KESTELIS/VALIUNAS, informed him that he had been in Minsk when SOBOLEWSKI was there and denied that SOBOLEWSKI was responsible for any atrocities. VALIUNAS had stated that SOBOLEWSKI had collaborated with the Germans at the time of their occupation to some extent but not to the point of persecuting the people. SIDZIKAJSKAS stated that VALIUNAS has made his home in New Haven, Connecticut, but is believed to have gone to Frankfurt, Germany, about two months ago on business.

SIDZIKAJSKAS did not believe that SOBOLEWSKI was participating in any subversive or anti-American activities but felt that his limited contact with and knowledge of SOBOLEWSKI was not sufficient for adequate judgment of the man. SIDZIKAJSKAS stated that SOBOLEWSKI is senior or head of the Central Byelo-Russian Council and the head of the executive organ, "Polonia," and resides at 334 West 29th Street, Apartment 16, New York City.

SIDZIKAJSKAS stated that the head of the group in the United States opposing the group of SOBOLEWSKI is EUGENE KOCHANOVSKI, who resides at 325 East 100th Street, New York City. KOCHANOVSKI is considered to be the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Council of Byelo-Russian Nationalist Party of the Republic. ABRAMCHIK is the Chairman and Acting President.

SIDZIKAJSKAS observed that these groups are violently opposed to each other and are inclined to make extravagant charges about each other. However, it is his belief that the aim of each of these groups is similar in that they both desire the independence of Byelo-Russian section of the Soviet Union.

Confidential Informant T-1, another government investigative agency, advised that subject, at present an

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emigre in the United States under the Displaced Persons Act, was allegedly affiliated with the Communist Party while a member of the Polish Parliament (SEJM) representing the White Ruthenian minority in Poland.

The informant advised that it was ascertained from a source of unknown reliability that JURY SOBULEWSKI, alias Alexandrovitch Sokolowski, a member of the White Russian Central Council, was elected Premier of this body in May, 1948. He claims to be the oldest member of this movement. The informant considers this information to be probably true.

From a usually reliable source the informant furnished the following information regarding the subject, which informant considered to be probably true:

During the period 1922 to 1927 SOBULEWSKI was a member of the Polish Parliament as a representative of the White Russian minority group. SOBULEWSKI was born a Russian and received a Russian-political education but is not pro-Soviet and was formerly a personal enemy of (ASTROWSKI (OSTRO-SKI)). However, due to a series of misunderstandings with the White Ruthenian Peoples Republic (WRR group) he was finally won over to the WCR (White Ruthenian Central Council) group by ASTROWSKI. In spite of his misunderstanding with the WRR, SOBULEWSKI would never agree to carry out conspiratorial activities for the Communists.

The informant furnished the following information regarding subject's background and description:

Name:	JURY SOBULEWSKI
Aliases:	Alexei Sokolovsky, George Sabolewski
Birth Date:	April 24, 1939
Birthplace:	Stolpce, Poland
Nationality:	White Ruthenian
Occupation:	Surveyor
Present address:	30-37 85th Street, Jackson Heights, Long Island, New York
Height:	5'6"
Weight:	175

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Hair:	Gray (Balding)
Eyes:	Blue
Build:	Stout
Sex:	Male
Identification	
Marks:	Unknown

The informant advised that the files of the IGO, Area 2 Headquarters, Ludwigsburg, which is a usually reliable source, reveal the following information concerning subject, the truth of which cannot be judged:

The subject attended seven classes of high school and four years of professional school. He speaks Polish, Russian, Lithuanian and some German. After leaving school he worked as a geometer from 1911 to 1913. From 1915 to 1920 he served in the Army. From 1920 to 1939 he was employed as a building master and geometer. From 1939 to 1941 he was employed as a building master in Saranovice, Russia. From 1941 to 1944 he was connected with the Byelo-Russian Committee in Minsk and Saranovice. In 1944 he was deported to Germany by the German Police and worked with the Byelo-Russian Committee in Berlin.

After the bombardment of Berlin he was compulsorily evacuated to Ulm where he lived until the liberation. He was then transferred to DP camps in Korntal, Oberbeihingen, Kilwangen, Michelsdorf and Mackmang.

The informant stated that the subject, a son of a railway official, was married in 1922 and had one son. His wife was a physician. In 1941 his wife and son were deported by the Russians and he has not heard from them since.

In 1948 subject expressed a desire to immigrate and gave North Africa as the country of first preference; Canada and Argentina as other preferences in that order. In an IRO "Application for Assistance" subject accounts for his employment in part for the past twelve years as follows:

1936-July, 1944 - Railway Technician in Prostějov
1944-March, 1945 - Railway Laborer in Berlin

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The informant stated that the subject's application for a United States visa contained the following information. Places of residence are listed as follows:

1903 to 1907 - Stolpce, Poland
1907 to 1915 - Kowno, Lithuania
1915 to 1917 - Military service
1917 to 1942 - Stolpce, Poland
1942 to 1944 - Minsk, U.S.S.R.
1944 to 1949 - Several places in Germany
1949 to present - backnang

The subject lists his education as high school, four years; professional training, four years; and his occupation as surveyor. A photostat of an Identity Card issued by German authorities on November 7, 1941, in Stolpce, Poland, gives his date of birth as April 24, 1889.

The informant advised that a United States Displaced Persons Commission Analyst Report dated February 21, 1950, lists the following information on subject: School in Stolpce, Poland, and Kowno, Lithuania, 1896 to 1911; 1937 to June, 1941, Geodesist, Stolpce, Poland; July, 1941, to June, 1943, Mayor of Baranowicze, Poland; date unknown, Chief of Voluntary Agency in Minsk, Russia, for one year.

The informant stated that LIZMA (Dimitri) KASHOWICZ, aka: Stanislaw Kisielewski, born September 21, 1909, in Hicowies (near Brest-Litovsk, now USSR) was interviewed regarding the activities of the subject. The reliability of this source is unknown to informant but the information furnished is considered to be possibly true, by the informant.

KASHOWICZ stated, in effect, that he first met subject in the latter part of 1942 or early 1943 in Minsk when he contacted him as a member of the White Ruthenian Self-Aid Committee. Subject at that time was the Chief of this committee in the Minsk area. At the end of 1943 subject joined the Byelorusskaja Zentralnaja Rada (BZR) as Assistant to RADOSLAW OSTROWSKI. This organization was sanctioned by the Germans and was exploited to the extent that they, the Germans, used this organization to recruit White Ruthenian partisans whom they used behind the Russian lines.

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In July, 1944, when the Soviets were threatening the Minsk area, the Germans evacuated OSTROUSKI, SOBOLEWSKI and many other functionaries, including KASNOWICZ, to Germany. SOBOLEWSKI was evacuated to Berlin where he remained until several months before the war ended. KASNOWICZ saw subject only once during this time, when the White Ruthenian Committee called a general meeting in Berlin. KASNOWICZ later saw SOBOLEWSKI at meetings of this committee in a displaced persons camp at Ellwangen.

KASNOWICZ stated further that he had heard about subject's being a member of the Polish Parliament (SEJM) representing the White Ruthenian minority in Poland. He also heard that subject had been arrested by the Poles but declared that it was not for Communist activities, but rather for using his position to help the White Ruthenians obtain funds for schools and other cultural activities. KASNOWICZ stated that he had the impression that subject had been held for only several days by the Poles and then released. He added that he thought it was in the year 1927 but that he was not sure.

KASNOWICZ also added that it was common knowledge among the White Ruthenians that the Polish Government had made it a practice to arrest former White Ruthenian Parliamentary representatives in order to discredit them in the eyes of their own people. Many of these former members of Parliament were arrested "on suspicion of Communist activity" and it was difficult to distinguish between propaganda and fact. KASNOWICZ added that although he had heard that SOBOLEWSKI had been arrested by the Poles, he definitely did not hear that his arrest was because of Communist activity.

KASNOWICZ stated that he knew of only one man in the United States Zone of Germany today who would know of SOBOLEWSKI'S activities in the 1920's. He gave the name of MICHAEL WIGNAROWICZ, born September 14, 1903, and at present residing in Wachtendonk. The informant stated that KASNOWICZ admitted using a false name under which he attempted unsuccessfully to emigrate to the United States.

The informant stated that the Visa Screening files, which is a source of usual reliability, contained information that is probably true revealing the names of three character witnesses for SOBOLEWSKI as follows:

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NIKOLAJ BREBIEK, born May 22, 1922, has known subject since 1933;
BORIS SCHTSCHORS, born June 26, 1916, has known subject since 1925;
MICHAEL IGWATOWICZ, born September 14, 1903, has known subject since 1922.

The informant stated that the IRO and Region I records did not reflect the location of BREBIEK. SCHTSCHORS emigrated to the United States on May 24, 1950, and his present address is unknown. IGWATOWICZ is allegedly residing in Berchtesgaden.

The informant stated that SIMON KABIYSCH, who was formerly at Displaced Persons Camp Michelsdoff and is presently living in a Displaced Persons Camp at Bad Aibling, was interviewed. The informant stated that the reliability of KABIYSCH is unknown and the truth of the information he furnished cannot be judged.

KABIYSCH stated that he was well acquainted with subject. He stated that subject was a surveyor by profession and before World War II lived in the Polish town of Stolpce near the Russian border, where he owned three houses. Subject considered himself to be a white Ruthenian but at the same time boasted that his ancestors were Tatars.

Subject was a member of the Polish Parliament in the early 1920's and was arrested by the Polish Police because he belonged to a white Ruthenian organization called "Gromada" for farmers and laborers. The Polish Government outlawed this organization and arrested most of its members. Subject was placed in jail in Wilna, Poland, but was released after a few months for lack of evidence to convict him in a Polish court.

In 1939 when the Russian Army entered Stolpce, he organized a welcoming committee for the Red Army. When the German Army entered Stolpce, subject collaborated with the Germans and became Mayor of Stolpce. He later was appointed Chairman of a philanthropic organization in Minsk called the "Samopomoshchnik" which gave aid to poor, needy white Ruthenians. In January, 1944, subject was appointed Vice President of the Central Council of the White Ruthenians in Minsk. During the retreat of the German Army from Russia in June, 1944, subject was evacuated by the Germans to Berlin where he was again active in White Ruthenian circles.

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After World War II subject went to a Ukrainian Displaced Persons Camp, name unknown, under the name of SOBOLOWSKI, ALEXI, and later settled in a White Ruthenian camp in Michelsdorf. There he tried to organize a farmers and workers organization but failed. He was instrumental in the publishing of a newspaper at Michelsdorf called the "White Ruthenian Word" which denounced the ITO administration and Displaced Persons Camp leaders. Subject also engaged in writing false denunciatory letters to IRO on people who wished to immigrate. Subject prefers his close friends to know that he is an atheist.

The informant stated that MICHAEL IGNATOWICZ, born September 4, 1903, in Głębokie, Russia, formerly a White Russian National, presently stateless, Displaced Persons No. 653211, residing at Displaced Persons Camp Orlyk, Barchinogaden, was interviewed. Informant stated that the reliability of IGNATOWICZ is unknown and the truth of the information he furnished cannot be judged.

IGNATOWICZ stated that he knew subject as a national figure in Polish-White Russian politics in 1922; however, he first met subject in Slonia, Poland, in 1943 at a convention of the White Russian Self-Aid Association. Subject was the President of this association at that time. IGNATOWICZ was a speaker and delegate at this convention.

He did not meet subject again until 1947 in Displaced Persons Camp Michelsdorf in Cham and became a casual friend of the subject until the latter departed for the United States. IGNATOWICZ stated further that subject was one of the White Ruthenian representatives to the Polish Parliament from 1922 to 1927. All White Ruthenian representatives of the Polish Parliament were members of the "Gromada," a radical national White Ruthenian farmer and laborer organization. All members of this organization were arrested by the Polish Police in 1926. Among those arrested were:

ANTO LUCKWICZ, White Ruthenian Political Leader;
PAWEL ASTROWSKI, Director of the White Ruthenian School in Wilna, Poland;
(fnu) WETELA, Polish Parliament member;
(fnu) PARASZKOWICZ, Polish Parliament member.

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The Polish newspaper at that time stated that all White Ruthenian members of the Polish Parliament were either Communists or sympathetic to the Soviet Union. Subject was also among those arrested and was confined for nearly two years while investigations and trial concerning the "Gromada" and Parliament members were in progress. Some of the individuals arrested were shot; some were set free. Among those released were some who went to Russia, but the subject and the persons listed above remained in Poland.

IGNATOWICZ is of the opinion that many of the White Ruthenians were sympathetic to Russia because the Soviet Union offered a large degree of national and cultural freedom to them. This sympathy changed in the early 1930's because the Soviet Union began to deny White Ruthenians their liberties. IGNATOWICZ stated that he did not know whether subject was affiliated with the "Gromada" members who were sympathetic to the Soviet Union, but he is of the opinion that subject was not sympathetic toward the Soviet Union because he remained in Poland after his release from the Polish Prison. The fact that subject was not shot by the Polish Government is an indication that the Polish Government possessed no proof linking the subject to a pro-Soviet group or organization.

IGNATOWICZ further mentioned that subject was not, nor is, a Communist since subject's wife and son were arrested and deported to the Soviet Union in 1941 during the occupation of Eastern Poland. Subject was always recognized as a member of the ASTROWSKI Clerical-Political Group of White Ruthenian National Socialists. This ASTROWSKI Group is differentiated from other White Ruthenian political factions in that this group advocated and practiced cooperation with the Russian Orthodox clergy outside of the USSR who had emigrated from the USSR to other European countries during the early 1920's.

IGNATOWICZ stated that subject was a surveyor, that he was the Mayor of Paronowice, Poland, in 1942-1943 during the German occupation, and that he was a member of the

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Ruthenian Central Council in 1944 in Minsk, Russia. The Ruthenian Central Council was formed in Minsk in 1944 by ASTROSKI with the permission of the German occupation authorities. Its members were selected by ASTROSKI and his selections were confirmed by a congress of White Ruthenian delegates who met in Minsk. IGNATOWICZ was the delegate at this congress from Sienia, Poland. His knowledge of subject's activities in Germany was confined to the directorship of the INCA in Displaced Persons Camp Seneledorf.

The informant stated that JURI SOCOLEWSKI was an official in the White Ruthenian Government headed by ADOLPH ASTROSKI. During the years of the Russian German conflict ASTROSKI, SOCOLEWSKI, VASILY RAGULA and DEINA PRASNOVICZ took over administrative control of the White Ruthenian people. They set up a police force, controlled the economy and aided the Germans by combatting the pre-Communist partisans who were harassing German rear areas and causing havoc, fear and terror among the residents of white Russia.

The informant stated that subject was allegedly Director of the White Russian Workers' Assn. Party (WRWP) and was also Mayor of the city of Baranovics, formerly Poland, now USSR, during the German occupation of that area. This latter information was obtained from a source considered usually reliable and the information itself is probably true.

From a source of unknown reliability the informant obtained information, which is possibly true, that subject was associated with SANHA CHARTON, a Gestapo agent in Baranovics. Both subject and CHARTON were instrumental in the execution of many Poles who took part in the shooting of several thousand Jews. During 1945 and 1946, the Polish and Soviet radios as well as various newspapers were speaking of subject as a war criminal.

- P E N D I N G -