

Hungary & Eastern Europe - Sixty Years Ago
A Press Review by a Hungarian Refugee

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1955. 09. 1-15.

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U. S. Demands Hungary Put End to Propaganda

By The United Press

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1.—The United States today accused Hungary of conducting a reign of terror against the American Legation in Budapest and ordered a halt to the Red regime's propaganda activities in this country.

The charges and reprisal action were disclosed in a note delivered to the Hungarian Legation here. The action was approved personally by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles before he left for a two-week vacation at his Lake Ontario retreat.

The State Department accused Hungary of spying on American members of the Budapest legation, including the minister himself, of unjustifiably jailing Hungarian employees of the legation and of harrasing Hungarian visitors to the legation. Christian M. Ravndal is American Minister to Hungary.

"The government of the United States considers these actions as particularly regrettable at this time in view of the emphasis placed at the recent Geneva conference on the development of contacts between East and West," the note said.

Asserting this country has exercised "utmost patience," the note said Hungary's conduct has blocked the exchange of ideas,



Herald Tribune—United Press

Christian M. Ravndal, American Minister to Hungary.

information and culture that would work toward "a new and healthy atmosphere for the pursuit of peace."

It said the ban on Hungarian propaganda will remain in force unless the Communist government "is disposed to reconsider

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Hungary

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its actions" and permit the American Legation in Budapest to engage in normal informational activities.

Officials said that until Hungarian secret police began their campaign of harrasment, the legation had been distributing several hundred Hungarian-language news bulletins every day. This distribution fell off sharply in mid-May when Red police interference became "particularly severe."

The ban on Hungarian propaganda will affect the magazine "New Hungary" which is believed to have a circulation of about 10,000 in this country.

Will End Film Showing

It also will end the showing of legation-supplied films to Hungarian-American and other groups in this country and the practice of sending speakers to address such groups. The films for the most part were about sports.

In addition to the arrest and disappearance of Hungarian employees of the legation, the Communists recently arrested

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Refugee Tells How Reds Tortured Mindszenty

MILAN, Italy, Sept. 3 (AP)—The independent Italian weekly "Oggi" today quoted a Hungarian refugee as saying that the Communists tortured Josef Mindszenty before his 1949 trial.

The refugee, Karoly Kovacs, said he was imprisoned and tortured by the Hungarian Reds at the same time as the Roman Catholic prelate.

Kovacs said that he, the Cardinal and two other persons were placed in a hermetically sealed cabinet about the size of a telephone booth, from which they could watch their torturers through glass.

The men, pressed together, were then alternately deprived of air and subjected to heavy air pressure.

"We fainted," he said, "but could not fall."

When air was pumped into the cabinet they again became conscious, but when the pressure was increased "our temples pounded, we became deaf and a tremendous weight pressed upon us," Kovacs continued.

Sometime later all four men were given pills that "made everything seem very strange. Everything seemed unreal and we seemed to have forgotten almost everything."

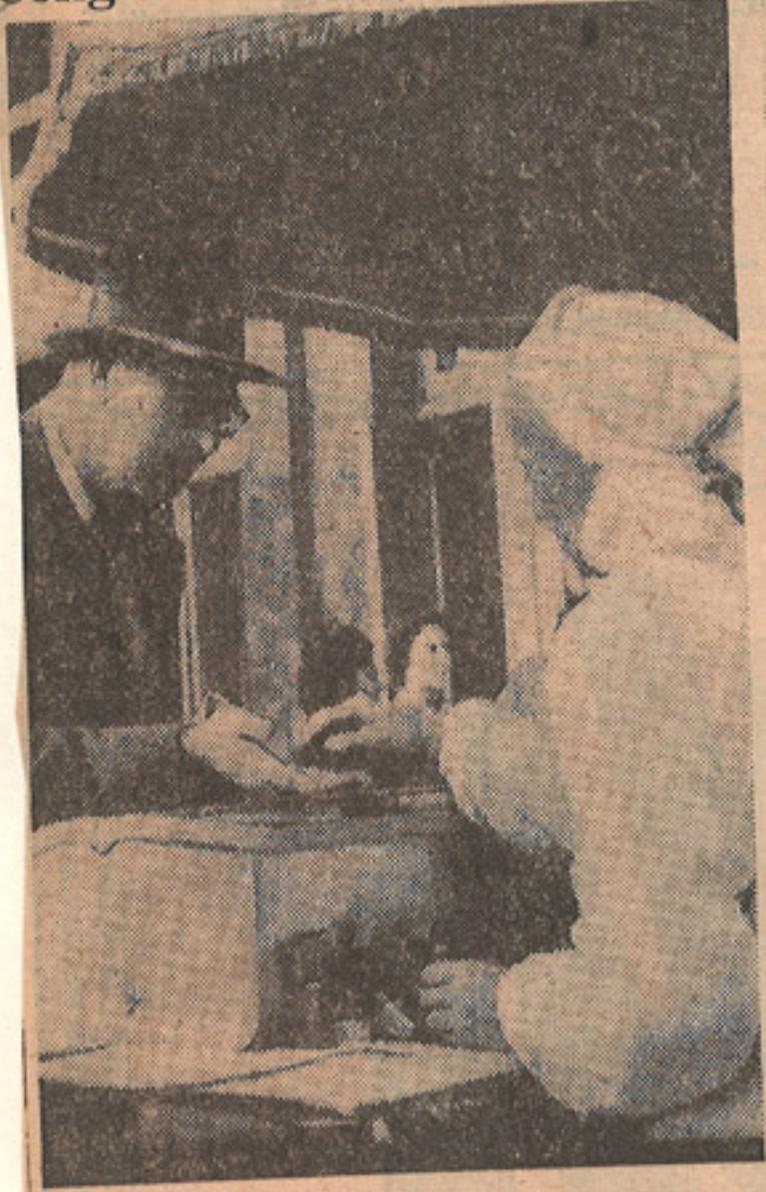
Then they were brought to trial, after being drilled repeatedly to "admit their guilt."

Mindszenty was sentenced to life imprisonment on charges of treason, espionage and illegal financial transactions.

Last July 16, on the eve of the Geneva summit conference, the Hungarian Telegraphic Agency announced the Cardinal's "state of imprisonment" had been suspended. Since then there has been no word of his whereabouts.

Times 6/19/55

Congressmen in Moscow Get First-Hand Soviet Data



Associated Press Radiophoto

Senator Estes Kefauver reaching for change as he purchased matches from Russian woman in Moscow on Sunday. Senator John J. Sparkman and wife in front of St. Basil's Cathedral.

By WELLES HANGEN
Special to The New York Times.

MOSCOW, Sept. 5—Senator George W. Malone called today for sharply reduced expenditures by the United States on propaganda directed to the Soviet Union. The Ne-

vada Republican is one of five American lawmakers now in the Soviet capital. The others are Senators Estes Kefauver, Democrat of Tennessee; William A. Purtell, Republican of Connecticut; John J. Sparkman, Democrat of Alabama,

and Representative John M. Robson Jr., Republican of Kentucky. After nine days in the country, Senator Malone, said he had found "no evidence the people are going to rise

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U. S. LAWMAKERS GET SOVIET DATA

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against the Soviet regime." He added that "therefore I feel the propaganda disseminated by the Voice of America and other United States agencies designed to increase dissatisfaction and promote resistance to the Soviet rulers is pointless and wasteful."

Senator Malone asserted the United States should also review its ban on trade in strategic materials with the Soviet bloc in view of the fact that "the Soviet Union and its eastern European allies can now be self-sufficient in all major strategic minerals and other raw materials."

He said he was convinced after studying data on mineral reserves here that the Communist world could supply its own requirements in critical minerals. He said he had relied primarily on information from "confidential American sources" but expected to receive official Soviet data as well.

"There is no evidence the Russians are preparing to go to war," Mr. Malone said today, "and in any case they think in terms of very long periods."

Therefore, Mr. Malone asserted, the United States should plan for a prolonged period of economic competition "during which the most important thing will be to make our economic system work."

Eased Taxes Urged

"To do this we must ease the crushing tax burden now imposed on our people," he continued. "We should concentrate on long-range research and development of new weapons rather than maintaining large standing forces and delivering obsolete arms to our allies."

Senator Malone's conclusions corresponded in some respects with remarks made Saturday in Vienna by Senator Allen J. Ellender, Democrat of Louisiana, after a visit to the Soviet Union, Poland and Rumania. Senator Ellender said his impressions "differ sharply" from those he has received from State Department information about the Soviet Union. He added "I saw enough and talked with enough people to confirm that the Russians don't want war."

Senator Malone, a mining engineer by profession, said he had heard during recent visits to Hungary and Bulgaria that both countries were developing their uranium resources. He said uranium production was already "well advanced" in Czechoslovakia and East Germany.

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Nielsen Beaten by Inches

Hungarian Sets World Record in 1500 Meters

OLSO, Sept. 6 (AP)—Hungary's Laszlo Tabori, one of the world's five four-minute milers, bettered the listed world record for 1500 meters by a full second tonight as he nosed out Denmark's Gunnar Nielsen in a spectacular finish to a thrilling race.

The lean, 24-year-old Hungarian charged from behind to beat the flying Dane by inches in 3:40.8. Nielsen also was given the same time over the lightning fast Bislett Stadium track.

John Landy of Australia holds the record of 3:41.8 for the metric mile but Hungary's Sander Iharos, who watched tonight's thriller, has a 3:40.8 clocking up for recognition. He turned in that time in Helsinki, July 28.

Norway's Audun Boysen, owner of the world 1000-meter mark, was third in 3:48.4 and England's Alan Gordon fourth in 3:48.6, in the eight-man field.

Erik Sarto of Norway set a 400-meter pace in 56.5 and another Norwegian, Ragnar Anderson acted as the "rabbit" for the next 400. The time for the half was 1:58.

By the time the runners reached the 1200-meter mark Boysen was leading. Then Nielsen and Tabori, in that order, flew past him going into the last curve.

In the final five meters, Tabori shot past the slender Dane to break the tape first in an almost deadheat finish.

St. Catherine's Wins Midget Championship

St. Catherine's won the Montgomery County Midget League baseball championship yesterday, defeating DeMario, 11 to 3.

Compiling a record of 14 victories against three defeats, St. Catherine's had a season batting average of .342.

Times 8 IX 95

Hungary Will Cut Army By 20,000 by Dec. 31

Special to The New York Times.

VIENNA, Sept. 7—Hungary announced tonight a reduction in her armed forces. She thus followed the example set by the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Poland and Albania.

According to the Budapest radio, the Hungarian Army will be cut by 20,000 men before the end of this year. This step is being taken "in the interest of a better understanding between the peoples," the broadcast added. Those demobilized will be employed in industry and agriculture.

Hungary's armed forces, including all auxiliary units, have been estimated at a total of 300,000 men. Even if the announced cut is made, Hungary's army will be far larger than the 1946 Hungarian peace treaty permits.

Concerning Star WITGAT

Oxnam to Get Degree From Budapest College

Methodist Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam of Washington leaves today on a trip that will take him behind the Iron Curtain to receive an honorary degree from the Budapest Theological Academy in Budapest, Hungary.

Bishop Oxnam, along with leading Protestant churchmen from Scotland, France, Germany, Switzerland and Ceylon, will receive an honorary doctorate in theology on September 17. The occasion will be the 100th anniversary of the founding of the academy.

The following day, Bishop Oxnam will address the Calvin Square Reformed Church in Budapest, which will be observing its 125th anniversary.

Immediately preceding the Budapest award, Bishop Oxnam will be at Berchtesgaden, Germany, where he will help lead a retreat of all Methodist chaplains stationed in Europe. Also scheduled to be present at the retreat, beginning on Monday, are Bishop Gerald Kennedy of Los Angeles and Bishop Hazen

G. Werner of Columbus, Ohio.

Bishop Oxnam will discuss international and ecumenical affairs. He will also give the keynote address at the opening of the retreat.

Bishop Oxnam will visit Salzburg, Vienna and Paris before returning to Washington on September 23. Mrs. Oxnam will accompany her husband. The Oxnams live at 100 Maryland avenue N.E.

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Hungary Refugee Wins Libel Action

A judgment of \$100,000 in a libel action brought by Dr. Bela Fabian, member of the refugee Executive Committee of the Hungarian National Council, against "Egyleti Elet," former Hungarian-language newspaper published at Wallington, N. J., was handed down in Supreme Court yesterday by Justice Irving H. Saypol.

Dr. Fabian, former Hungarian Minister of Justice who escaped to his country when the Communists took over Hungary after World War II, brought suit against the newspaper and its publisher, Charles Brown, for two articles published in December, 1949, and January, 1950, stating that Dr. Fabian, while a prisoner in a Nazi concentration camp, had acted as a Nazi undercover agent. Justice Saypol made the \$100,000 award after defense counsel failed to appear in court.

Dr. Fabian said the two articles falsely conveyed the impression that he "was and is a traitor to Jewry" and that he was "a foreman of forced laborers in the Buchenwald Nazi concentration camp." In his complaint Dr. Fabian claimed he was a "statesman of international repute" and a Jewish communal leader. He said he was the author of many books. Among them, "Cardinal Mindszenty."