

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

Hungarian Pining for Lost Violin 1957. 05.1–15.

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Limited 'Good Riddance' Policy

Hungary Opens Exit Gates To Small Flow of Refugees

By Robert N. Sturdevant

By Wireless to the Herald Tribune

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VIENNA, May 3.—A small but fairly steady number of Hungarians is being permitted to leave the Communist-dominated country, Austrian sources said today.

Despite the population hemorrhage which has drained more than 170,000 persons out of Hungary as an aftermath of the anti-Communist revolution, the government of Premier Janos Kadar appeared to be letting such citizens depart on "good riddance" terms or possibly for economic reasons.

Unemployment Factor

A spokesman for the Austrian Foreign Ministry said that private advices indicate that 10,000 exit permits have been granted by the Kadar regime to certain individuals and that 80,000 persons have applied. Only a few hundred of these have been able

actually to cross the border into Austria.

Representatives of voluntary agencies which handle refugee immigration to countries throughout the free world confirm that they have dealt with a small number of these legal departures from Hungary, but they profess to have no clear explanation for the movement.

Those choosing voluntary exile are usually men more than fifty, women past forty and children under sixteen. They appear at the border bearing a single, officially-stamped sheet of paper, authorizing their departure, and most are provided with Austrian transit visas. Moreover, most of them have obtained visas for immigration to other countries.

One theory offered to explain the puzzling movement is that the government of Hungary, having lost close to 2 per cent of the cream of its population now wants to "balance" its loss by ridding itself of so-called "dead

wood"—the old, infirm or others who are considered only a source of irritation to the regime.

Another possible explanation of the mystery migration finds substantiation in requests for assistance received by some welfare agencies from persons inside Hungary. These say that the individuals concerned are among many who have been fired from jobs in factories, the implication being that unemployment is so great that the government wants to unload these workers to prevent total economic collapse and possibly to forestall further revolutionary attempts.

Admittedly, the explanations put forth do not answer all questions. For instance, one woman is reported to have arrived in Austria, with a legal exit permit, bringing a grand piano along in a truck.

According to Austrian official sources, Hungarians leaving with valid permits must pay 1,500 forint (about \$30 at the official rate) for the document. This would seem to be reasonable enough, but in most cases departure is not authorized unless immigration visas have been obtained from some other country.

Jews Bound for Israel

It is said without confirmation that international Jewish agencies can obtain exit visas for Jews remaining in Hungary by payment of \$200 in American currency to the Hungarian government. These Jews presumably are destined for Israel.

There are an estimated 100,000 Jews in the Budapest area. Between 17,000 and 18,000 Jews escaped from Hungary in the mass flight which followed the anti-Communist uprising. Of these, 10,000 have already been placed in other countries, 4,000 of them in the United States.

In a general way, it would seem that those permitted to leave legally are persons whose departure will benefit the regime either by reducing the drain on the economy or by leaving behind them possessions and houses sorely needed by the hard-pressed population.

U.S. AID TO POLAND IS ASSAILED HERE

Knowland Asserts Proposed Assistance Would Help to Support Red Regime

The American people should not be taxed to give support of any kind to Governments behind the Iron Curtain, Senator William F. Knowland said here yesterday.

The California Republican spoke at the annual luncheon of the American Jewish League Against Communism, Inc., at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. He was one of two recipients of the league's annual award for distinguished pro-American accomplishment.

Mr. Knowland emphasized his opposition to a proposal to make \$100,000,000 available to Poland.

"I do not favor taxing the American people to support Communist economic or political systems abroad," he said. "I am against any plan to send pet fighting planes to Communist Yugoslavia.

"It just does not make sense to me that the United States and our free allies would embark on a program to rescue the Communist world for its own evil shortcomings." Mr. Knowland continued. He expressed the hope that international communism was beginning to crack.

He said there was evidence of crises of great significance in Communist areas overseas. He gave as illustrations rioting in East Germany, Poland and Hungary, the repudiation of \$65,000,000,000 in Soviet bonds, crises in the Chinese economy and the failure of agricultural and industrial programs in the Soviet Union and its satellites.

"While the Communist world is reaching a crisis in its economy and the failure of agricultural and industrial programs in the Soviet Union and its satellites.

"While the Communist world is reaching a crisis in its economic and political life, it is now proposed we open wide the doors of trade in both strategic and non-strategic material," he said. The United States should not be a party to any such plans, he asserted.

Mr. Knowland praised the late Senator Joseph R. McCarthy, Republican of Wisconsin, for his fight against communism. He said Americans must be taught that the menace of communism was still real here. "We must never again fall into the type of complacency that looks at Communists as agrarian reformers," he added.

Roy M. Cohn, who was legal adviser to Senator McCarthy during Congressional hearings on communism, eulogized the Senator. He said Senator Mc-

Hungary Reds Lose 600,000 Members

VIENNA, May 5 (AP).—The Budapest radio said today the Hungarian Communist party now has 300,000 members. Last October, before the revolt, there were 900,000. The broadcast attributed the figures to the Communist newspaper "Nepszabadsag."

Wash Post

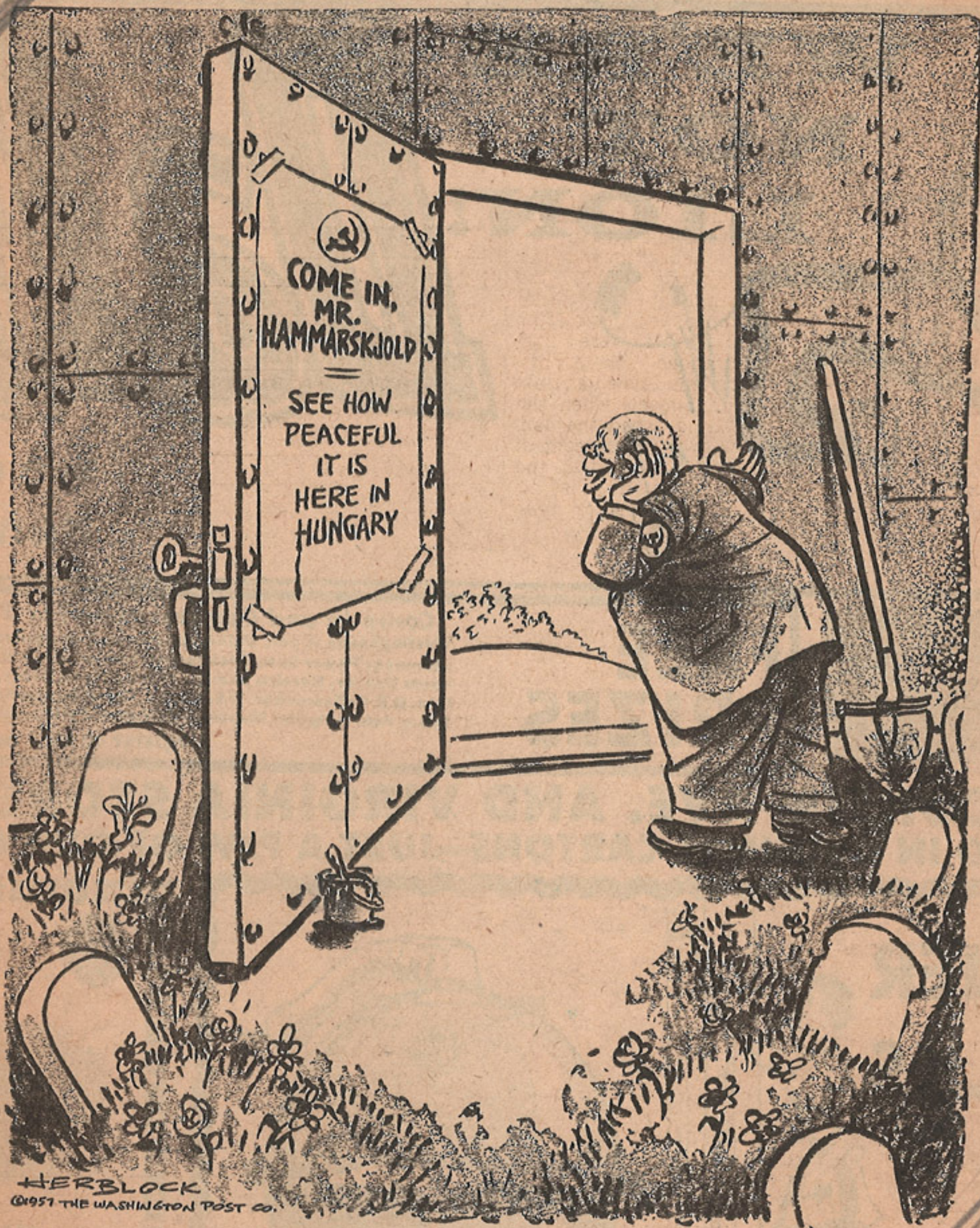
at Bonn, West Germany.

No, Kadar Tells ILO

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., May 5 (INS)—The puppet Hungarian regime has rejected an International Labor Organization request to conduct an on-the-spot investigation of trade union conditions in Hungary. The Janos Kadar government charged this was interference in Hungary's internal affairs.

W ash Post 5.6.57

"Did I Hear Somebody Knock a Few Months Ago?"



Wark Port

Events Bare True Russia, Dedijer Says

(Reuters)

STOCKHOLM, May 6
Vladimir Dedijer, a former close friend of President Tito who fell from grace three years ago for criticizing the Yugoslav regime, declared tonight Russia's attempt to integrate Central and Eastern Europe had ended as a complete fiasco.

In an address to the Swedish Institute of International Affairs, he said Russian imperialism had "bared itself to the skin" in Hungary and Poland, where the Russians have had to lift the mask of socialism and rely on brute force.

Dedijer, 43, a professor of law and author of the official biography of Marshal Tito, was given a six-month suspended sentence in 1956 for defending Milovan Djilas, former Vice Premier. This is his first trip abroad since then.

Dedijer went on to criticize "conservative circles in the West, especially in the United States," whose propaganda for the liberation of Eastern Europe and a return to things as they were before had made things easier for the Russians.

Europe, Dedijer continued, has become a kind of no-man's-land between the twin giants of the United States and the Soviet Union and exposed to the whims of both of them.

He said each is trying to achieve European integration for its own ends, Russia by introducing her technology in her satellites and America through the medium of NATO, the construction of strategic bases, and selective allocations of economic and military aid.

N Y Times

RUSSIAN DENIES ROLE IN HUNGARY REVOLT

Special to The New York Times.

BONN, Germany, May 6—Dr. Vladimir D. Poremsky, president of N. T. S., an anti-Communist Russian émigré organization with headquarters in Frankfurt, denied today that his group had broadcast "flagrant statements" inciting the Hungarians to revolt last November.

Assertions that the National Alliance of Russian Solidarists (N. T. S.) had broadcast such statements were made recently by officials of Radio Free Europe.

Dr. Poremsky said broadcasts of his organization had been directed primarily at Soviet troops urging them to assist the rebels. N. T. S. also broadcast to the

rebels urging them to accept defectors from the Soviet Army.

However, Dr. Poremsky said, a misunderstanding might have arisen from a broadcast on Oct. 30 by a Hungarian émigré group that used N. T. S. radio facilities.

"One sentence in the broadcast could possibly have misconstrued," Dr. Poremsky said. "This was the statement 'material help of the Western world has already been dispatched to you.' The 'help' referred to Red Cross aid, he said.

N. T. S. is an organization working toward overthrow of the Soviet regime both by means of broadcasts and by agents in the Soviet Union.

Big Change in Rail Names

Of the 464 railroads in the United States in 1860, only sixteen are still operating under the same names as then.

N Y Times

582 Hungarians Land In Dominican Republic

The Dominican Republic welcomed yesterday 582 Hungarian refugees who disembarked from the Italian ship Franca C at Ciudad Trujillo, it was announced by the Dominican Republic Information Center here. The group is the first contingent of an expected 20,000 Hungarian refugees who will settle in the Dominican Republic.

Most of the newcomers listed their occupation as agriculture and will be sent to newly constructed farm homes in interior agricultural provinces. Luis Mercado, Dominican Minister of Agriculture, said the new farm communities are modern and well equipped. A total of 6,000 acres of irrigated land has been allotted for the refugees.

About 100 will be placed in industrial jobs. Maj. Gen. Alexander Kovaks, himself a former Hungarian refugee and now chief of the Dominican Army Technical Section, welcomed the refugees and said they would have unlimited opportunity to prosper. He described what he called "Generalissimo Trujillo's open-door immigration policy" and cited the success of the

Jews, Japanese and refugees from Iron Curtain Countries and Communist China.

"The door to the Dominican Republic will always be open to non-communist victims of persecution," Gen. Kovaks said.

Venezuela Taking 5,000

From the Herald Tribune Bureau

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., May 6.—Venezuela announced today that she will accept 5,000 Hungarian refugees during the current year.

The announcement was made by Dr. Santiago Perez-Perez, permanent Venezuelan delegate to the U. N. He said the government will provide \$200,000 to help defray the transportation costs of the refugees.

The number of refugees to be accepted constituted an increase of 3,500 above a pledge made by Venezuela in the U. N. General Assembly last fall.

Dr. Perez-Perez also announced that his government will donate 1,000,000 bolivars (approximately \$300,000) to the sanitary department of

5.7.5.7.

Hungarian Pining for Lost Violin

By Tony Gieske
Staff Reporter

Zoltan Szabo hasn't had much time to do all the things he's done—he's only 17.

He's an accomplished violinist and one of the youngest students ever admitted to Budapest's Bela Bartok Institute of Music. He escaped from Hungary after a short imprisonment. After he got to the United States, he took on and beat chess champion Samuel Reshevsky.

Zoltan, who hopes to make a career in music, if he can get his talented fingers on a good violin, has been studying English at Georgetown University's Institute of Language and Linguistics since March 5, and he's learning fast. He hopes to speak the language fairly well when he completes the course this June.

His main regret these days is that he didn't bring his violin when he escaped from Hungary last Nov. 28 with his sister and brother-in-law, Denes and Agota Bardos. Devoted to music, he was admitted to the Bartok Institute when he was only 12, and plans more music study in this country.

A big event in his life was his chess match with Reshevsky. The champion, who played 34 opponents simultaneously, lost to one of them—Szabo. Reshevsky has played as many as 56 persons simultaneously without defeat.

Talking amiably about his life in Hungary and here, the young, dark-haired musician and chess player recalled his escape attempts. He and his sister and brother-in-law, both 19, were captured by Russian border patrols as they scrambled down a dry creek bed in an effort to hide. They were released after two-and-a-half days because so many other captured escapees were being imprisoned.

"It was a small prison," Zoltan explained.

The Rev. Bernard McConnell, Georgetown mathematics teacher and moderator of the chess club, said the National Catholic Welfare Conference will attempt to obtain a music scholarship somewhere for Zoltan.

"We feel he probably can become an outstanding violinist," Father McConnell said, "but I'll be sorry to lose such a good chess player."



By Jim McNamara, Staff Photographer

Violinist Zoltan Szabo relaxes behind a chess board.

Kilmer's Last Refugees Tell of Escape by Bribe

The last of the Hungarian refugees to be processed at Camp Kilmer—a family of three who bribed Russian soldiers with whisky to make good their escape from Budapest late last November—arrived here last night at Union Station to make their home in the District.

Their departure from the New Jersey installation a few hours before marked the formal end of the emergency refugee program the United States instituted after the Hungarian revolution early last fall.

Gyorgy Pelbath, a 23-year-old painter, his wife, Anna, 20, and their son, Gyorgy, jr., 3, were the last of some 18,000 refugees processed at the camp. They arrived in the District at 7 p.m., and were taken in hand by representatives of St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 1772 Church street N.W., which will see to their needs until they're settled.

Also at the station, to act as interpreters, were a refugee couple who came to the District earlier this year.

Through the latter, the youthful looking Mr. Pelbath and his attractive blond wife recounted their hectic escape across the Hungarian border into Austria.

They set out, the painter said, on November 21. With them, of course, was the boy.

They made their way out of Budapest with a group of some 300. They were captured twice,

first by Russian soldiers and then by Hungarian border guards.

The Russians detained them for hours, Mr. Pelbath said, but agreed to let them go after accepting bottles of liquor as a condition.

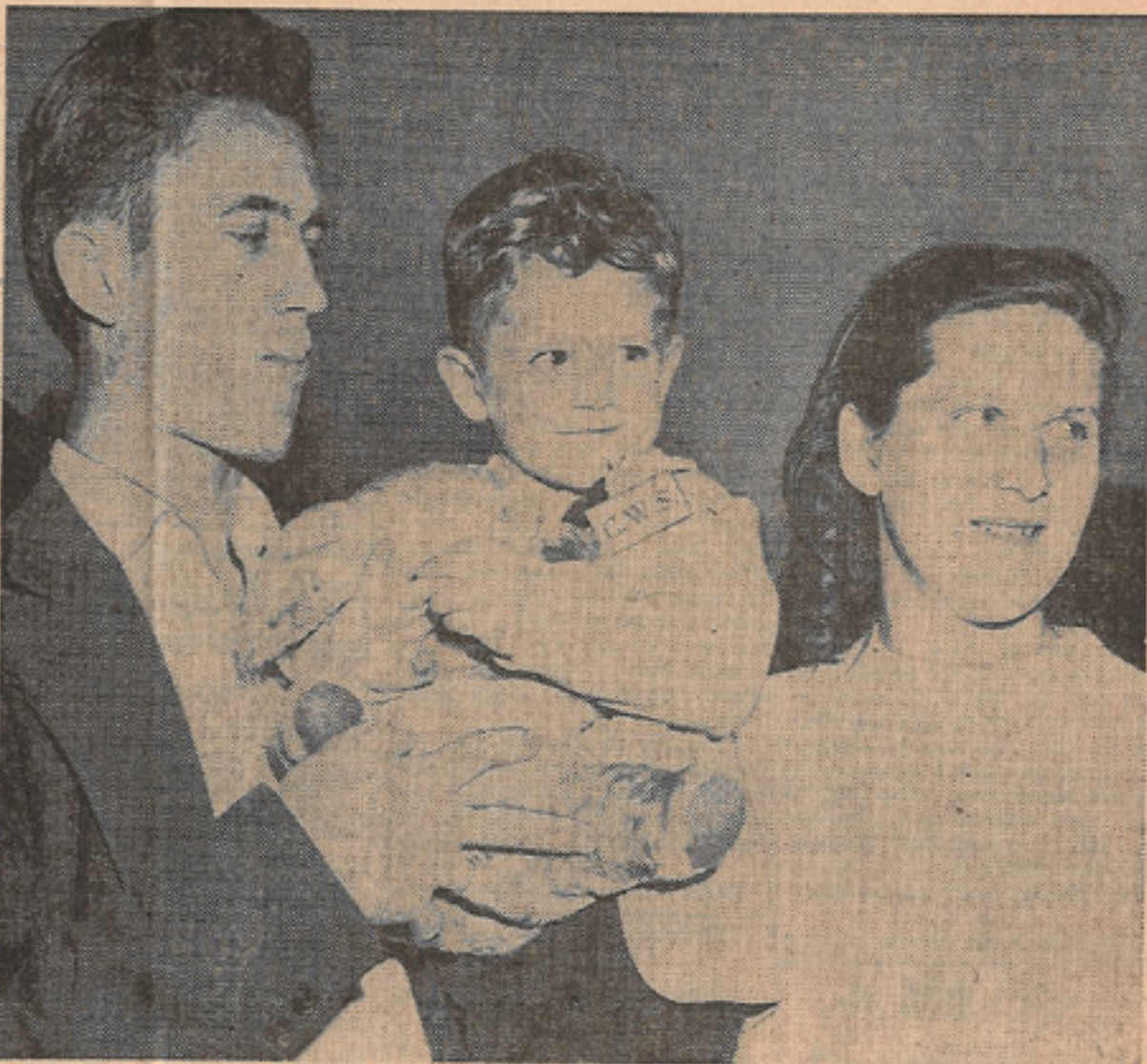
"You couldn't blame them," he added. "They didn't have enough to eat and even less to drink."

The Pelbaths remained in Austria for more than three months. They arrived at Camp Kilmer on March 29.

Soon after their arrival, physicians discovered the painter had contracted diabetes. He was hospitalized for two weeks. Following his release, the family was assigned to the District. A few of his fellow countrymen, still unassigned, were billeted last night in New York pending their placement.

Mr. and Mrs. Mauricio Markmann of 6005 Thirty-second street N.W., met the family at the train on behalf of the church.

The congregation, they said, has found a job for the painter



LAST FROM CAMP KILMER—Gyorgy Pelbath, his wife Anna, 20, and their son Gyorgy, jr., the last Hungarian refugee family to pass through Camp Kilmer, have a look at Washington on arrival at Union Station.—Star Staff Photo.

at the Adams Renovating Co., 1823 M street N.W. He will begin work immediately.

Until the church can find them Pelbaths will live at the Episcopal Home for Children at 5907 Utah avenue N.W.

NY Times 51457

RUMANIA ASSURES MAGYARS' RIGHTS

Hungarian Minority Has Use of Own Language in Schools of Autonomous Region

By ELIE ABEL

Special to The New York Times.

TIRGU MURES, Rumania, May 13—The Hungarian Autonomous Region affords a fresh insight into the problems of Rumania and the go-slow methods these have imposed upon the ruling Communist party.

Tirgu Mures, a pleasant town of 79,000 persons, is the capital of the Hungarian (Magyar) Autonomous Region established five years ago and seldom visited by foreigners. The character of the town and of the surrounding countryside is overwhelmingly Hungarian.

There are 570,000 ethnic Hungarians in the region compared with 146,000 Rumanians and 14,000 Germans, Jews and Gypsies. In Rumania, as in other Communist countries, Jews are regarded as an ethnic group.

This part of Rumania has been spared many of the agonies of forced-draft industrialization. Collectivization of the land has also moved forward more slowly here than in the rest of the country. Only 18 per cent of the land area in the region is organized in state or collective farms, compared with a national average of about 25 per cent.

All Groups Represented

In composition the local people's councils and the regional council at Tirgu Mures reflect the population mixture in nicely adjusted proportions. The same is true of the schools. Hungarian is the basic language in 560 schools. In 210, classes are conducted in Rumanian. There are four German-language schools. Some schools are mixed, but parents have the right to choose the language in which their children are taught.

The basic curriculum is com-

mon to all the schools, including compulsory Russian-language instruction in the higher grades. In Hungarian schools, Rumanian is taught as a second language beginning with the third grade. Hungarian is not a required subject for Rumanian children.

The region has its religious cleavages as well. The Hungarian majority is predominantly Roman Catholic, but it includes Unitarians and Reformed Calvinist communities. The Rumanian minority is divided between the Rumanian Orthodox and Uniat churches.

State Pays Priests

The state pays the salaries of all priests and ministers regardless of denomination. As in the rest of Rumania, churches seem to have reached an accommodation with the Communist regime. The state in turn tolerates Churchgoing as an unfortunate remnant of the past.

In two weeks' travel through Rumania this correspondent found churches were drawing larger crowds than the so-called houses of culture, which are a combination of social club and political indoctrination center.

Tirgu Mures is a quiet place, its tempo in keeping with the clip-clop of the horse-drawn droshkies that serve as taxis. Its business is mainly agricultural and pastoral.

To hear the Communist leaders of the autonomous region tell their story, the old national rivalries fanned by political parties before the war have now subsided thanks to the enlightened minority policy of the present regime.

"Until 1944," said Endre Bodor, deputy chairman of the regional council, "the National Government tried to divide the minorities and to sharpen differences between them. After twelve years of the new policy we begin to see some results. Intermarriage between Hungarians and Rumanians is becoming not at all uncommon. We are establishing a new sense of national citizenship and of brotherhood among the communities on the basis of respect for their distinctive customs, tradition and culture."

M. Bodor acknowledged that there had been "isolated cases" of national feeling running over when Hungary rebelled against communism last October. "There were no organized disturb-

ances," he insisted, "but some of our Hungarians asked questions about the events across the frontier."

He contended that this reaction was uncommon. "In some enterprises Hungarian workers wanted to go to Hungary and help to fight the counter-revolution," he said.

Neither in the autonomous region nor in Transylvania generally was this correspondent able to confirm reports current last autumn of demonstrations by the Hungarian minority in sympathy with their kinsmen.

NYHT Tribune 5 15 57

Eisenhower Disbands Unit For Hungarian Refugee Aid

WASHINGTON, May 14 (AP). —President Eisenhower today disbanded his Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief but promised that this country's efforts on behalf of Hungarians "here and abroad" will continue.

Mr. Eisenhower acted after receiving a final report from the fifteen - member committee which he appointed in December to co-ordinate efforts of government and voluntary agencies in resettling those who fled from Communist Hungary.

The committee said 32,075 Hungarians have reached this country and said this apparently was the largest "mass movement" into the United States in so short a period.

Only Five Deported

The group, headed by Lewis W. Douglas, former Ambassador to the Court of St. James's, said only five of the refugees "have had to be deported as security risks."

"While Russian tanks were firing on Hungarians," the report said, "United States military planes and ships were carrying many thousands of them to the safe haven of our free land. Like the Berlin airlift, the meaning of this operation was not lost on the peoples of the world."

The committee proposed its own dissolution on the ground that machinery now is in operation to help refugees "on a normal rather than an emergency basis."

Voicing agreement, Mr. Eisenhower said the action does not mean that "America's work for the Hungarians — here and abroad—is over."

Irish Oyster Tests

Tests in County Mayo, Eire, may lead to restoring Irish oyster beds to the renowned position they held a hundred years ago.