

**COUNCIL FOR LIBERATION OF SOUTHERN HUNGARY**

# **A T R O C I T I E S**

**Committed by Tito's Communist Partisans**

in

**Occupied Southern-Hungary**

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## PREFACE

Tito, both as a staunch Communist and one of the foremost warriors of the Pan-Slav endeavours, used to want to kill two birds with one stone in the so-called "Southern-Hungary," that belonged for a thousand years to Hungary. One of his aims was to extricate the Hungarian intelligentsia which has been rejecting Communism, and, on the other hand, would never melt into the Slavic ethnics. Without these natural political-social leaders, he hoped to be able to force the Hungarian masses to fall in line, both politically and ethnically. His second goal was to "liquidate" the wealthier people—Magyars and Germans—to award their fortunes—particularly their properties—to his own partisans. By extricating many ten-thousands of Hungarians, and re-settling his reliable partisans on their places, he pulled the suffocating string quite close around the bleeding body of Trianon-Hungary.

Since Tito's genocide was so bloody, cruel and inhuman that nothing could be compared with it, we are still remembering it very vividly. And we call everyone's attention to it, on the eventual eve of Tito's visit to the "Land of Freedom and Humanity"—the United States.

Tito's system, while showing up in the robe of the respectably-sounding "Peoples' Democracy," represents the most cruel political dictatorship and economic "armed robbery." The latter follows from the previous one, since only Communism can cause such a general poverty and misery like in Yugoslavia. Just take a look at "Southern-Hungary"—Batschka and Banat—and you see the master-schedule of how to impoverish and de-level a once rich and fertile land. Perhaps you did hear about "Southern-Hungary," as having been the richest, best cultivated part of whole Central-Europe. They used to call it "the granary of Europe." It used to be, however, under the "exploiting and imperialistic" Hungarian regime. Now, thanks to Tito's "liberation"—they import food to prevent starvation. That's the only result that Tito's Communism and dictatorship brought about. In other words, this dictatorship, and the political-social system on which it has been built upon, can only be maintained by Western help. In plain English, it's the West that keeps alive the Communist dictatorship in Tito's land. Isn't that ridiculous? It certainly is. The United States has been fighting against world-Communism and, at the same time, it spends billions to keep it going in Yugoslavia. Just think it over. What can the subjugated people of Yugoslavia and of the other enslaved states think about Western policy? They must think that the West does not want a real change—at least, as to the system itself—and, so by and by they fall in line. Is this what the West wants? And, is this what the U.S. tax-payer cuts his own standard of living for? To salvage Communism which otherwise would collapse?

Now, we hear the counter arguments that this generous aid to a Communist country has a far-reaching goal—to weaken Soviet-Russia by dividing the Communist camp. Yes, it sounds very shrewdly and attractively. Only—it's a miscalculated—I might say—a very naive dream. Tito's system had been created exactly according to the Soviet pattern. Secret-police, prisons, executions, dependence, and—the reign of a few over millions. What's the difference, please? Nothing. However, there's no trace of reality in the other part of this wishful thinking, either, that is—that strengthening Tito means weakening Russia. It would be only true if strengthening Tito would mean separating him from Moscow. This supposition is, however, the most ridiculous mistake a statesman could make.

## INTRODUCTION

Look, would Tito fight against Moscow (or stay neutral) to help to defeat it, and, afterward—stay alone in the hostile, anti-Communist world as the only Communist Czar? You think he is as stupid as this? No, he is not. He knows very well, the collapse of Soviet Communism is equal to the prompt collapse of his own regime. First, from then on he couldn't count on Western billions. That in itself is largely enough to say good-by to his imperium. Second, the subjugated people of Yugoslavia would arise at the very instant that they saw Tito standing alone. And, besides that, could you figure that a Communist country—relatively small and basically weak—could exist in the Ocean of anti-Communist peoples? Well, you may say now, alright, he'll then, change his system into a nationalist-bourgeois regime. Would he? Could he? Could the wolf change into a lamb? However, let's assume he would and could. Why doesn't he change then now? Shall we unveil the "big secret"? Because he's a Communist, and, because he's an agent of Moscow. Yes, he's playing a role, just like the first Soviet-Finish war wasn't nothing else than a master-product of the Soviet movie-directors, meant exclusively for Western naive use.

You do not know Communism's real face for you've never meet it. And that's why you're willing now to receive Tito here, in your country, in the "Land of Freedom and Humanity," as a guest. The United States' guest, however, is your guest and my guest, too. In other words, you and I have to receive the staunch enemy of freedom, humanity, and God. You'll have to smile at, and cordially chat with the bloody-handed butcher of hundreds of thousands of innocent peoples. You'll have to cheer him, shake his hand, you'll have to be the host of the man who committed the most barbarian genocide ever marked down on the pages of world history.

And, by all that, you'll tacitly endorse Communism.

Is that what you are longing for, Citizen of the "Land of Freedom and Humanity"?

Anthony J. Lelbach, M.D.

President of the Council for Liberation  
of Southern Hungary.

It was, surprising enough, Nikita S. Khrushchev, who declared in his speech on February 23, 1956, that Joseph Stalin, father, teacher and leader of all people forced under the Communist yoke, who was referred to as "Uncle Joe" by the Allied leaders during the Second World War, was no less than an ordinary criminal who trampling over the dead bodies of millions, including his closest co-workers, succeeded in establishing himself as the supreme dictator and lord of the Soviet Empire.

"It is Stalin, the monster, who murdered honest Communists and endangered Soviet power, that Khrushchev, exposes. But murder and terror are not repudiated. Khrushchev lauds the use of these instruments by Lenin against actual class enemies'. Here we have the answer for all who may harbor new illusions about a new birth of democracy and freedom in post-Stalinist Russia."—Stated correctly The New York Times in its editorial of June 5, 1956.

But the above conclusions of The New York Times apply as well to Titoist Yugoslavia as to post-Stalinist Russia for Tito and his partisans have forced their rule with the same kind of "Leninist" methods upon the peoples in the territories seized by him.

It is the purpose of this study to point out the use of these "Leninist," "Stalinist" and "Titoist" methods by Tito in occupied Southern-Hungary, whose region is a part of the natural whole, the Carpathian Basin, and whose territory has been part of Hungary for a thousand years, only to force this region into Yugoslavia and to enforce his Communist rule over it. At the same time Tito was determined to establish a Slav majority in this non-Slavic region to assure this territory permanently for Yugoslavia.

The truth of the above quoted opinion of The York Times was fully proved by the Hungarian national uprising of October, 1956. It became evident that the Communist systems, in their Khrushchevist or Titoist versions, are ready today to use the most radical Stalinist methods to maintain their power over the peoples delivered to them.

In connection with the Hungarian events Tito in his speech at Pola, on November 16, 1956, posed the question: "Which is the lesser evil: chaos, civil war, counter-revolution and a new world war, or the intervention of the Soviet troops that were there"? And Tito's answer was the following: "The former is a catastrophe, the latter saves socialism (Communism) in Hungary. Thus comrades, we will be able to say . . . that the Soviet intervention was necessary."

## 2. HOW TITO SEIZED SOUTHERN HUNGARY AIDED BY SOVIET RUSSIA

Rumania changed its allegiance in August, 1944. By becoming an ally of the Soviet Union they laid open the Balkans to the Soviet Communist forces.

Joseph Broz Tito, secretary general of the Yugoslav Communist Party, who as a bloody-handed commander of the Yugoslav Communist partisans used the most barbarous and cruel methods against the anti-Communist Serbian and Croatian nationalist patriots, and who supported by W. Churchill after the Conference of Teheran was acknowledged by the Allies as Commander in Chief of the Balkan forces, recognized instantly the importance of the Rumanian turn-over, and realized the opportunity for seizing Yugoslavia was at hand.

On September 21, 1944, he flew to Moscow without consulting his Western allies. According to Dedijer's book, "Tito Speaks," the decision to go to Moscow was his alone. And he had very good reasons for doing this. His partisan forces were shattered badly, and scattered all over by the last German offensive, in the summer of 1944. He, himself, barely escaped with his headquarter's staff to Italy. In September of 1944 the partisans hadn't yet recovered from this terrific beating. Only in the military vacuum left by the withdrawal of the German forces were they able to reorganize themselves. Even in February of 1945 the Brod-Sarajevo-Mostar line was still in the hands of Germans and Croatians. While the forests of Serbia were held by the royalist Chetniks of Mihajlovich.

Tito knew that there was but one way for him to seize power over Yugoslavia, and that was by calling in the Soviet forces. That is why he flew to Moscow.

Belgrade, the capital, was to be occupied first, and after that was in their hands, then apply the old but effective Communist methods of terror, and force himself and Communism upon all the people who lived in Yugoslavia before 1941.

### ADVANTAGES GAINED BY THE SOVIET IN AIDING TITO

Stalin was not only very pleased to comply with Tito's request, but approved heartily of his plan to use Russian troops in Yugoslavia, for the following reasons:

- a. The Soviet Leader could break the pact made earlier with England for making Yugoslavia a neutral state.
- b. The Soviet sphere of influence could be extended over Yugoslavia.

- c. Easy access could be gained to Budapest by bypassing Hungary's strong natural defense-line, the Carpathian Mountains, Transylvania, and the region east of the Tisza river. All of these were superbly and successfully defended by the heroic Hungarian army. Approach to Budapest from Southern Hungary could be made easy through the flat lands lying between the Danube and Tisza rivers.
- d. Easy approach to the oil-fields of Southwestern Hungary could be gained by way of the Drava river.
- e. Easy approach to Northern Italy and Trieste could be gained by way of the Ljubljana Gap.

For recompensation, Stalin, as Commander in Chief of the Soviet Army, assured Tito that the civil government of the territories, which belonged before 1941 to Yugoslavia and were to be seized by the Russians, would be entrusted to Tito's Communist partisans.

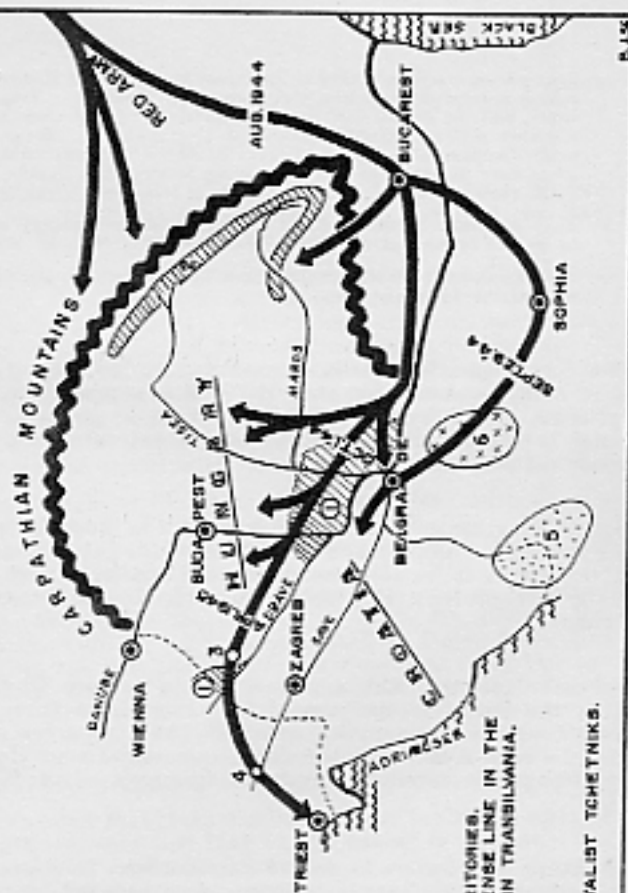
By this agreement, the boundaries of the Yugoslavia of 1941 were again assured and the wishes of the inhabitants of the territories to be reincorporated to Yugoslavia were flagrantly disregarded again, just as they were by the Treaty of Trianon.

In accordance with this agreement made between Tito and Stalin, the Soviet troops crossed into Yugoslavia from the East through Bulgaria on September 29, 1944, and a few days later, the first days of October, from Rumanian Banat (formerly Hungarian territory given to Rumania after World War I).

Hungary was unable to defend her southern frontiers because nearly all of Hungary's forces were engaged in a life and death struggle along the Carpathian Mountains, which encircle the country in the north and east, and in Transylvania, after her ally, Rumania, deserted her, and thus left open the south-eastern entrances to Hungary.

Consequently the Soviet troops coming from Banat entered with ease into the defenseless Baecska region, and the Serbian partisans, Tito's Communist hordes followed in their tracks. Thus the fate of Southern Hungary—which was for a thousand years Hungarian prior to 1918, and was restored to Hungary in 1941—was sealed again by coming under Tito's Communist Yugoslavia.

TITO-STALIN AGREEMENT AND  
THE INVASION OF THE CARPATHIAN BASIN.



1. SOUTHERN HUNGARIAN TERRITORIES.
2. THE HUNGARIAN ARMY'S DEFENSE LINE IN THE CARPATHIAN MOUNTAINS AND IN TRANSILVANIA.
3. THE HUNGARIAN OIL FIELDS.
4. LJUBLJANA GAP.
5. TITO'S PARTISANS.
6. MICHALOVITCH'S SERBIAN ROYALIST TCHETNIKS.

### 3. ATROCITIES COMMITTED IN SOUTHERN HUNGARY After the Yugoslav Communists Seized Control

#### 31. MURDERS—MASSACRES

The bloody butchering of Hungarians by the Titoist partisan groups began immediately upon their entry into the plains stretching between the Danube and Tisza rivers, in the province of Bacska, inhabited mostly by Hungarians.

The crimes committed in the first days consisted of lootings, violence and vengeance. The first night the quiet was broken by the agonized shrieks of women and girls being raped by drunken Soviet soldiers and Titoist partisans; the cursing of soldiers; the sound of guns discharged here and there; the moaning of those dying.

The systematic massacre of the Hungarians of Bacska started as soon as the local People's Liberating Committees, the local branches of the dreaded secret police, the OZNA, and the local groups of the Communist militia were organized. "War Criminals"

Hastily composed lists of so-called "war criminals," and of "enemies of the people" were made. Armed partisan guards, or squads of the militia went from house to house to gather those whose names appeared on the lists. In cities, several thousand people were thus forcibly amassed, in large towns hundreds, while in smaller places it varied between 50 and 100 persons. The Communists took mostly men, but there were places where women and even children were taken. The real reasons for having a person's name on the list varied. If those making up the list had a grudge against a Hungarian, or he had a competitor in business that was enough to brand him a "war criminal" or an "enemy of the people." Names of others were put on because a Titoist partisan or militia member wanted a certain Hungarian's house, land or other property.

#### 311. Group Executions

The people thus dragged from their homes were taken to some large building in the community, a school, a townhall, a deserted factory, barracks, into private homes, or into the yards of such buildings. The following nights, from these places of collection, they were taken in smaller or larger groups to the edge of some forest or to the tide-lands of the Danube, or Tisza rivers. Here they made them dig their graves, then shot them through the back of the head. Elsewhere the bodies were thrown into the rivers. In some places these amassed people were killed within a few days, in others, the executions were drawn out through weeks.

a. In Ujvidék (Novi Sad):

On October 24, 1944, the Titoist armed squads dragged approximately 3000 persons, mostly Hungarians, to the so-called "military" island next to the strand on the shore of the Danube.

"... The captives were not allowed to talk. The whole day passed without a sound. Ominous silence beset the air"—related later one of the eye-witnesses. "By night, starved and thirsty these unfortunates awaited with apprehension of what the night would bring for them. About 9 P.M. they called out the names of a hundred of them. Guards escorted them to a spot. In a quarter of an hour the ack, ack of machine guns was heard from not too far away. Then, to drown out the shooting they raced the motors of their trucks. That did drown out all other sounds. Terror paralyzed their hearts. Now those left behind knew what fate awaited them. . . ." And this performance was repeated night after night.

"About 1500 people were murdered on this island within the first two weeks. Most of the bodies were disposed of by throwing them into the Danube; some were heaped and buried behind the slaughter house in the area known as "Shanghai" which is located between the road leading to the town of Kács and the Danube river." (1)

b. In Szenttamás:

"... In October of 1944, when the town of Szenttamás came into Tito's hands, not less than 3000 Hungarians were killed and deported. Tito's partisans took the Hungarians to the town hall and there divided them into smaller groups, marched them out to the old Serbian cemetery. There they were forced to dig their own graves. When that was finished, the partisans killed them. The next group that was brought here had to bury these, and then dig their own graves in turn. These mass executions proceeded the next four or five days. Nightly two or three groups were murdered. One such group consisted of 150-200 persons. . . ." (2)

c. In Csurog:

"... Toward the end of October, 1944, as soon as Tito's partisans entered Csurog, they commenced to gather the Hungarians one by one and started their mass executions. These bloody days continued to the end of January, 1945. According to the best information available, they executed 1500 Hungarians, among them women and children. Their bodies were interred in six mass graves in the burial ground reserved for beasts. . . ." (3)

d. In Zsablya:

In Zsablya the partisans forced 20-30 people daily into the cellar of the town hall. Their hearings started every evening between 10 and 11 o'clock, and were accompanied by the most horrible torturings. "... I had to dig the graves in the cemetery. Into one of these mass graves we dumped 14 wagon loads of corpses of murdered Hungarians. That was about 150 people. Among those killed were young and old, some 13-14 year-old pupils. The executions were carried out with machine guns. Women had to strip naked before they killed them. . . ." (4)

e. In Temerin:

In Temerin they ordered all men between the ages of 18-60 to report in front of the church. Out of those gathered here, they selected 250-300 persons. Some were called out by name from a list previously prepared, others were told that if they had served in the Hungarian army a year, or a half a year, or if they were assigned to the border guard, to step out of the group. All so selected were executed within two consecutive days. In these cases, too, they had the victims dig their own graves. The mass graves are in the cemetery of Temerin. It happened here that when reading the list, one Mathias Varga was called. Three by the same name stepped out. They killed all three. (5)

Thus they proceeded in the whole of Baeska. Hungarians in all walks of life were executed by the thousands: intellectuals, peasants, factory workers, those who were active in public life and nameless little people. . . . All executed for one reason, and one only . . . that they were Hungarians.

And it was not only in Baeska, but some weeks or months later in Baranya, in Muraköz (Medjomurje) and in the Wend-Region (Prekomurje).

f. In Muraszombat: (Wend-Region)

Thus at Muraszombat the Titoist partisans drove their victims together during bright daylight, had them dig their graves and killed them by shooting them in the back of their heads. . . . Joseph Benkó, a meat packer, Joseph Titán, a teacher, Joseph Turk, a restaurant keeper, and Gyula Bölcs, a druggist, were among the victims." (6)

### 213. Mass Murders

It happened also that all those gathered were not led off in groups but killed together at one time.

a. In Ujvidék under the pretense of calling men for compulsory labor they gathered the members of the Hungarian Cultural Association and the members of the Hungarian Legion at the sport arena and when about 1200 had been so gotten together the partisans turned their machine guns on them till they killed all of them. (7)

### 313. Sadist Murders

Elsewhere the chosen victims—especially priests—were tortured by the most sadistic methods.

a. In Magyarakanizsa a priest from that district was brought in, his knee cap cut out with a knife, then stabbed him with a butcher knife and at the end they left him there till he died amidst excruciating agony. (8)

b. In Obesea they beat up Msgr. Petrányi at his home by tying together his feet, laying him on the floor, then stretched out and nailed his arms to the floor. Then partisans, among them some women, jumped from his desk onto his abdomen until his intestines come out. (9)

- c. In Ujvidék at the end of October the partisans surrounded and broke into the little monastery of the order of the Franciscan Fathers and beat them up till they were unconscious. "... They took off their clothes and threw their bodies among the other corpses already on the wagon. The abbot, Krixston Korosztos and one of the monks, Christopher Kovács died a martyr's death, but the third succeeded in escaping." (10)

### 314. Disgracing of Hungarian Women and Girls

- a. In Ada, as elsewhere the Titoist partisans gathered together the most beautiful girls and young married woman and raped them. They kept them for a while, later they threw them out. In Ada among the girls carried away were the two daughters of the organizer of the local National Guard, the executed J. Kovács. Due to these atrocities, the daughter of Mrs. T. lost her mind. (11)

### 315. Deportation and Extermination of the Hungarian Inhabitants of Whole Towns

In the angle formed by the Danube and Tisza rivers where the towns of Csurog, Zsablya, Mózser (Musorin) and Sajkásszentgyörgye (Gyurgyevo) lie, between October, 1944 and January, 1945 the majority of the Hungarian population was killed.

Those who still remained alive were taken to concentration camps in January, 1945.

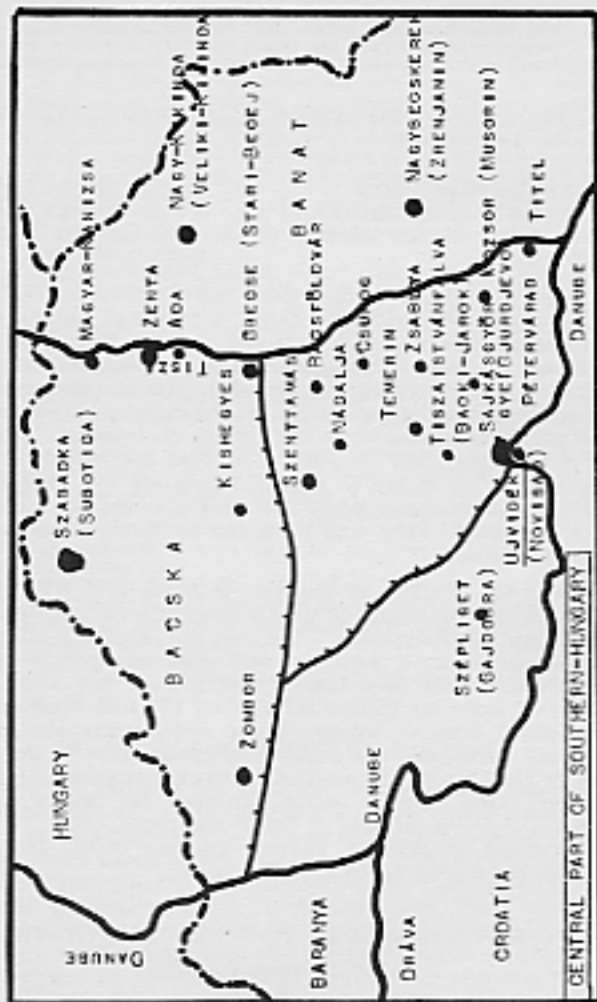
When in the fall of 1945 the concentration camps for Hungarians were dissolved, the Hungarian inhabitants of the above given towns were not permitted to return to their former homes. Furthermore, their houses, lands, and other possessions were confiscated without compensation.

### 316. The Persecution of the Hungarians Continues

After the mass murders perpetrated the first few weeks the systematic persecution of Hungarians continued throughout many months that followed. The change was from previous, so to speak, public spectacles, to the shutting out the audience, now, and the sordid jobs were confined to the darkness of the night. They were taken from their homes furtively. The aim was to intimidate the Hungarians, to keep them in continual terror.

- a. A typical example is the tragedy of a business man, named F. I., of Ujvidék.

They broke into his house on the night of December 6, 1944, and amidst wanton cursing and profane swearing dragged the man, his wife and their daughters to the Communist headquarters. Though they threatened to kill them, they let them go, but hardly had they taken 20-30 steps in the total darkness when the partisans fired a series of shots after them with a machine-pistol. Fortunately, only one of their small daughters was slightly injured. Finally, they reached their home. For months after this they did not dare to go out, but lived behind locked doors. . . . On May 30, 1945, F. I. was arrested again, beaten almost to death and then thrown out into the street. From 11 o'clock in



the morning until late at night, he lay unconscious in the street for no one dared to go to his aid. Late at night his wife, who learned from someone what happened, came for him and helped him back into their house. But he was so badly injured that even the best of care his family provided could not save him. He died after six months of suffering, on November 9, 1945. (12)

### 317. The Forced Establishment of the "Petöfi"-Brigade and Its Annihilation

One of the most diabolical plans for massacring the Hungarians was the establishment of the "Petöfi-Brigade" (Petöfi was a famous Hungarian poet of the 19th Century), and its annihilation.

At the end of November, 1944, the Communist Partisans Headquarters ordered Steve Varga, a native of Bacská and a Communist comrade of Tito in the Spanish Civil War, that he should organize a Hungarian brigade. Varga started immediately to carry out his assignment. His commissars used such as the following persuasion for the reluctant Hungarians: "Let us, Hungarians, show our loyalty to Comrade Tito and the new Yugoslavia. Anyone who does not volunteer is a Fascist, and an enemy of people, whom we will annihilate." And the Hungarians came "voluntarily" so that their families might be saved. They well knew the partisans' threats were not empty words.

During the last days of the War, in April, 1945, Tito's Communist leaders thought the time appropriate for getting rid of the Hungarian "partisans." Without any special military objective, these poorly equipped and even less poorly trained men were set up in a line of battle near the small community of Bolmány (Slavonia) against the well equipped and experienced German troops. These unfortunate Hungarians could not surrender, nor could they escape over to the other side for they knew Tito would take out his vengeance on their families. This unequal battle continued for nearly a week with a loss of 90 per cent of the Hungarians.

Tito could be satisfied, indeed, his plan to kill thousands more of the Hungarians succeeded. (13)

### 32. HUNGARIANS IN TITO'S CONCENTRATION AND LABOR CAMPS

In October and November of 1944 many Hungarians, especially from Ujvidék and surroundings were taken into concentration or labor camps, where they received most inhuman treatment.

Such concentration camps were located at Ujvidék (Novi-Sad), Pétervárad, Titel, Tiszaistvánfalva (Bacs-Jarok) and Szépliget (Gajdobra).

- a. Tito's partisans took a person whose initials we give only as S. M., from Temerin, his hometown, to the internment camp at Ujvidék. Here the Hungarian and German prisoners were treated in the most terrible manner. Hardly any food was given them. On November 19th, S. M. along with 60 other prisoners was taken to Matka farm, where he and the others had to do forced labor until January 28, 1945. The armed guards, treatment of them was inhuman and bestial. From early morning till late at night they had to work in bitter cold, in mud, in snow, and even if they were hungry or sick. If one refused, or was unable to work, he was shot to death. S. M.'s brother and brother-in-law were taken to Pétervárad. There for three days in the terrific cold, they all were kept out in the open on the bank of the Danube. They had to sleep on the frozen ground without covers. If anyone attempted to leave his place, he was shot on the spot. Those who remained alive after the three days were driven to do forced labor. (14)
- b. Those few who still remained alive on the farms around Temerin and Caurog, they placed in the camp at Bacsjarok. This camp was set up on January 9, 1945, and was closed in September of the same year. In the beginning the number of Hungarian prisoners was 245. For all these the total food ration per day was as follows: 35 lbs. of cornflower, 3 onions, and 2½ quarts of sunflower oil. Once in a while they substituted potatoes for the flour. Those who took ill were taken to the "hospital" from which no one came out alive. At the other side of the town where Germans were held in a camp, typhoid fever broke out at the end of January, 1945. About 100 persons died daily. The dead were stripped of all their clothing, thrown on a wagon and then to frighten those still alive, they carried the corpses through the town heaped up in a pile, to the cemetery where they stuffed them into the mausoleums of once well-to-do Germans. (15)

### 33. TRIALS BY PEOPLE'S COURTS

In the third stage of the so-called "consolidation" the chosen victims were not simply massacred, were no more executed without any formal process, or deported into forced labor camps, but they were taken before the so-called People's Court made up of delegates sent out by the Communist Party or of people terrorized themselves from the Communists. They were accused of the most unbelievable, trumped up charges. The trials were sham procedures, and the judgements were always predetermined by the Communist Party. The aim was to get rid of all those who opposed the Communists or who might obstruct them in the future. The most important objective, however, was to deprive the Hungarians of their present or possible future leaders and of those who sympathized with the Hungarians, or who were Hungarians at heart.



- a. The editor of the "Zagreb Hungarian News" would not submit to Communism. So he was accused by the Communists of spying for Hungary and was sentenced to 25 years in jail. The real reason for sentencing him was that the Communists wanted to silence the competitor of their newly started newspaper, called "Magyar Szó"—"Hungarian Word." (16)
- b. A druggist was accused of influencing the youth not to "volunteer" for service in the partisan troops. His sentence was 15 years in jail. (17)
- c. Imre Pogács, a veterinary surgeon was found guilty of greeting the Hungarian troops when they entered Csurgo in 1941. He received the death sentence for this and was executed. (18)
- d. Márton Hegyi, a police lieutenant in Ujvidék (whose father was also a policeman in Ujvidék for life) was sentenced to death because he remained in service after the Hungarians reoccupied this region during World War II. He was publicly executed at the Fish Market in Ujvidék. (19)

#### 34. FERENC NAGY'S GOVERNMENT RETURNED HUNGARIAN REFUGEES FROM TITO

It is an unforgettable blot on the government of Ferenc Nagy, a collaborator of the Reds, that those who fled for their safety to Hungary from Tito, could not find haven in Hungary.

The government of Ferenc Nagy gave its consent to a group of Yugoslav Communist secret police to enter Hungary in order to search for those Hungarians who escaped here from Yugoslavia. . . . The Yugoslav secret police's commission arrived in Budapest on May of 1946, and from then on, acting as a legal body, worked together with the Hungarian secret police officials (made up mostly of non-Hungarians) on Hungarian territory till December of 1946. . . . This joined committee collected together about 3500 refugees from Communist Yugoslavia. And this took place with the consent of the Hungarian government under Ferenc Nagy. Those collected were not given trials to defend themselves but were arrested simply when their identity became established. Then in locked police wagons they were transported back to Yugoslavia." (20)

There they were mistreated, severely sentenced to jail, to forced labor and even to death. Their properties were confiscated. And their only guilt was that they were Hungarians, who loved their homeland, and who did not like Communism.

#### 35. COMMUNIST YUGOSLAVIA'S NATIONALITIES POLICY

Losses in Hungarian lives in Southern Hungary ran to at least 30,000 persons in the first few months that followed October of 1944, when Tito came into power. This number does not include those deported and those who escaped. (Confidential reports to the Yugoslav Desk of the Hungarian For-

eign Ministerium estimated the dead even as high as 40,000. (21) Another 30,000 escaped leaving behind their ancient family homes to save their lives. About 25,000 of them fled to Hungary, and only about 5,000 were able to escape to the West.

The Germans who lived in Southern Hungary lost nearly 90 per cent of their number—150,000 died. Another 150,000 escaped. (22)

The blood baths, the mass executions, the concentration camps, which accompanied the snatching of power by the Communists, served but one aim, namely to weaken the Hungarian population, to annihilate the Germans, to reduce the non-Slavic majority of Southern Hungary to a minority, and thereby assuring for Yugoslavia the possession of this territory permanently. The colonization policy of the prewar Yugoslav government was continued by Tito. He shifted large masses of Slavs from the mountainous section of the Balkans up to Southern Hungary. Balkan herdsmen and shepherds were placed in the homes of Hungarians and Germans who were killed, dragged into concentration camps, or who escaped.

In the census figures for 1948, for the first time, an absolute Serbian majority has been attained in Southern Hungary.

Even completely new nationality groups appeared in the nationality picture of this territory as Macedonians (1.8 per cent), Montenegrionians (.05 per cent) and Slovenians (0.4 per cent). (23)

These herdsmen did not know how to farm on the flatland and consequently the crop failures brought on repeated famines on the richest, most fertile plains of Southern Hungary. The establishment of the collective farms disliked intensely by the native population also aided in the bringing on of crop shortages.

The various Balkan nationalities used to create a Slav majority in Southern Hungary were also the same elements that formed the stronghold of Tito's Communist regime. This fact stood out so during the peasant riots in 1953 that American correspondents covering these events could not help but notice it. (24)

#### 36. PERSECUTION OF THE FARMERS OF SOUTHERN HUNGARY

Hounding of the Hungarians did not cease upon the consolidation of the Communist forces but was continued systematically even thereafter. Persecution was focused now, upon the Hungarian peasants, not only because they wanted to de-

prive them even of the small parcels left in their possession after the "land-reform," or because they wanted to force them into the collective farms, but chiefly because they wished to reduce the Hungarian race by making it almost impossible to even eke out an existence. The plan for attaining this aim was to impoverish the peasants in the following ways.

1. They took most of their livestock away.
2. They taxed them very heavily.
3. They were asked to deliver to the state crops in excess of what they produced.
4. Extra taxes, surtaxes, additional deliveries of crops were imposed if and when they fulfilled the above demands.
5. If a farmer was not able to fulfill what Tito's Communists demanded, then he was immediately called to the town-hall, threatened, and often physically maltreated. Many Hungarians died of injuries so received.
- a. In the village of T., a farmer whose initials were V.T., whom they had tortured on several previous occasions when ordered to appear once more before the Communists, rather than go through such torturing again, he jumped into the well. He was rescued but contracted pneumonia and died. (25)
- b. In the same town, another farmer whose initials are T.L., was kicked down the cellar steps by the Communists when he appeared in response to the summons sent him. He was injured in rolling down and smashing against the concrete floor. Sprawled out on the cold concrete floor for a long time he chilled to the bone. Within a few days he died of his bruises and exposure. (26)

#### 4. YUGOSLAV RUSE . . . TITO OFFERS HAVEN TO HUNGARIAN REFUGEES FROM "STALINIST" HUNGARY

When in June of 1948, to all appearances, there seemed to be a break between the Soviet Union and Tito on account of the decision of the Kominform, it was only to be expected that the Soviet dominated satellites' relation with Yugoslavia would also follow that pattern. Tito, knowing of the dissatisfaction of the subjugated countries of Hungary, Bulgaria, Rumania and Albania, and of the seething discontent with the Soviet domination, started a radio campaign directed at these enslaved peoples, urging them to escape to Yugoslavia. It was said, that from Yugoslavia they would be free to proceed to Western countries, if they did not care to stay in Yugoslavia.

Thousands of each of the nationalities mentioned above believed the beguiling propaganda and fled to Yugoslavia, only to be disillusioned when caught in the trap set for them by the false promises made by radio.

At the very first interview following their entrance into Yugoslavia, it was hinted that it would be desirable for them to join the UDBA, the Yugoslav Secret Police, as its agents; or take active part in propaganda in behalf of Tito by joining the Hungarian Political Refugees' Organization in Ujvidék. If a refugee refused to be so "persuaded" he was declared a dangerous anti-Communist. Some of them were thrown back over the border into Hungary at the mercy of the Communists. Other were put into jail, or confined to an internment camp. Internment camps of this type were located besides others at the following places: Nagybecskerek (Zrenjanin, Gorove, Petrina. . . . Some were kept prisoners for many months, others for many years at these camps were they lived under the most unhygienic and most inhuman conditions. From these camps great numbers were taken to the mines of Serbia, Bosnia and Slovenia. Only a few succeeded in gaining their freedom and took jobs elsewhere. Many who were kept in prison and concentration camps contracted tuberculosis and died. Those who succeeded in escaping after most hair-raising adventures reached the West in rags, broken physically and spiritually. Out of those who reached Trieste after many vicissitudes a number lost their minds and had to be confined to insane asylums.

Even today many suffer under Tito and live in fear lest they be handed over to the Soviet-Hungarian secret police, if the reconciliation policy between the Soviet and Tito should make it unavoidable.

Many had been killed on the Yugoslav-Italian border-zone by the Yugoslav border guards; often this was planned entrapping by Yugoslav agent provocateurs. (27)

- a. The Reverend Dr. D. L., a Roman Catholic priest, was captured when he attempted to escape West through Yugoslavia. At first he was taken to Nagybecskerek (Zrenjanin), later he was transferred to the Yugoslav-Greek frontier to do forced labor. He and the others were forced to do the heaviest manual labor. A prescribed amount of work had to be done. If this assignment was not completed they received no food that night. For trying to escape once, he received 21 days in solitary confinement in a dark cell. On July 9, 1949, he succeeded in escaping to Greece. (28)
- b. M. L., a Protestant minister, swam across the Mura River in order to proceed from there to the United States, where he intended to continue his studies under a scholarship he had been awarded. Despite documents and certificates in his possession the Yugoslav authorities jailed him from August 2, 1949, to April 25, 1950. The chief officer of the UDBA who examined his papers at Bjelevarac remarked sarcastically that Yugoslavia was not a transition depot to the "imperialistic" Western countries. (29)

- c. S. J., a Hungarian refugee, while escaping from a forced labor camp toward the West was captured. An officer of the militia, equipped with a machine pistol, escorted him back to the camp at Jesenica. For no reason, whatsoever, he shot S. J. in the foot. Thus, S. J. had to be taken to the hospital. There his bloody clothes were exposed to public view to frighten the rest. After his release from the hospital, he was sentenced to one year in jail, for trying to escape. He was confined to the Mitrovica prison. After the year was up he was subjected to forced labor. (80)
- d. In January of 1953, a Hungarian refugee was interned in the camp at Brus, because he wanted to go West through Yugoslavia. After several sessions with the police interrogators, he was confined to the UDBA prison on February 24, 1953. He never got out alive. The UDBA officially made the statement that V. J. hung himself in prison. The other prisoners on the other hand testified later that V. J. was tortured to the extent that he couldn't even talk. They knocked out his teeth, and tore out his hair in bunches while trying to extort a "confession" out of him. (81)
- e. Another Hungarian refugee, M.K., was freed only at the end of March of 1954 from the underground prison of Gorve concentration camp. There he was confined to a single concrete cell for seven months because he refused the offer of the UDBA to spy for Yugoslavia. He was beaten till he nearly bled to death. After his release from the prison he had to do forced labor. (82)

All these things are happening in Communist Yugoslavia which is aided by the United States. All these things are happening under Tito's system which is pictured by many even today as a democratic form of Communism, and which is proposed as a correct formula for the "liberation" of the peoples forced behind the Iron Curtain.

Has the Western World forgotten the promises made in the Atlantic Charter by Roosevelt and Churchill? Has the Western World forgotten the document, in which the Allies have promised "Freedom from Fear" and the undisturbed and complete possession of the human rights for all people?

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