

1956 valósága

Gyermekként nagy romantikus kalandnak tűnt az egész. Tisztában voltunk vele, hogy komoly eszmék állnak mögötte, de gyermekfejjel a lényeg az volt, hogy szüleink elképzelhetetlenül nehéz körülmények közt szülőföldjükről elmenekültek, akár mint egy regényben. Emlékszem, amikor meséltem róla osztálytársaimnak, de annál inkább az időnként érdeklődő felnőttek, borzasztóan izgalmasan hangzott az egész – micsoda merész vállalkozás lehetett! Az osztálytársaimat leginkább a térdig érő hó érdekeltte, de a felnőttek tekintetében láttam, hogy értetlenül próbálják felfogni, elképzelni, egyáltalán mi készíthet valakit arra, hogy ilyenre rászánja magát.

A forradalom következtében több mint kétszázezren szakították el magukat hazájuktól, hogy új életet kezdjenek idegen országban. Volt, akinek muszáj volt. Volt, aki kalandvágyból fogott neki. S volt, aki úgy gondolta máshol jobb életet tud teremteni magának, gyermekeinek. Az Egyesült Nemzetek Szervezete (ENSZ) Menekültügyi Főbiztossága (UNHCR) világszerte negyven befogadó országot tartott számon, aki új otthont nyújtott a magyar menekülteknek (lásd Auguste R. Lindt beszédét, 1957, . old.)

(Folytatás az 3. oldalon)

The Truth about 1956

When I was a child it all seemed like one big romantic adventure. We were aware that there were serious reasons behind it all, but in the mind of a child the main point was that our parents had fled from their homeland in unimaginably difficult circumstances, just like in a novel. I remember talking about it with my classmates, or in particular with the occasional interested adult, it all sounded terribly exciting – what a courageous thing to have done! My peers were mostly interested in the snow being knee-deep, but I could see in the adults' faces, that they were trying to imagine what on earth would bring someone to put themselves through such trauma.

As a result of the Revolution more than two hundred thousand left behind their homeland to start new lives in foreign places. There were some who had to leave. There were others who became caught up in the adventure of it all. And there were many who wanted to try and make a better life for themselves and their children elsewhere. In total forty countries took in refugees from Hungary according to the United Nations refugee agency, UNHCR, (see p. Auguste R. Lindt's address, 1957).

(Continued on p. 4)

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“1956” Oil on canvas, by Éva Borka

Gyöngyös Imre:

Ötven év után

Szabadságvágyunkat aligha hűtik
a közelmúltnak eseményei;
e fél évszázad túl rövidnek tűnik
küzdelmünket ünnepre kelteni.
évente így találkozunk azért,
hogy felidézük még az ifjúságunk
legáhíttabb igyekezetét
a szabadságért, melyre ma is vágyunk!
Történelmünkre hű szívünk vigyáz:
ez tisztelgés a hősök emlékére,
a feláldozott életükre gyász,
de ünnepünk is immár ötven éve.
Ötvenhatért magyarságunk fohásza:
„Szabadságvágyunkat az Isten áldja!”



Current unrest in Hungary (photos on left) reflecting dissatisfaction with current government.

The Revolution 50 years ago (photos on right) demanding the most basic of human rights: freedom.



Jobbra: Forradalom fotók forrása: 1956-os Magyar Forradalom Történetének Dokumentációs és Kutatóintézete Közalapítvány

Nagygyűlés, Budapest, 2006. október 6. Fenti fotók: Hellyer Zsófia

MARCH OF EVENTS IN WORLD CRISES

OCTOBER 23.—Encouraged by the success of Poland, which had gained a greater measure of independence from Soviet domination, students in Hungary presented a 16-point set of demands to the Hungarian Government. They demanded the recall of Imre Nagy (expelled from the Hungarian Communist Government in 1955 as a "right-wing deviationist"), the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Hungary, and a more representative Government.

OCTOBER 24.—Nagy returns to power. Soviet troops begin to move in to put down widespread disorders in favour of freedom.

OCTOBER 28.—Soviet troops reported to be withdrawing from Budapest and Hungary following savage fighting in which Hungarian troops fight on the side of the insurgents. In the third reshuffle in four days Imre Nagy still further broadens and liberalises his Government.

OCTOBER 29.—Israeli forces attack towards the Suez Canal on a 28-mile front to wipe out Egyptian commando bases. Soviet forces reported to be withdrawing from Hungary.

OCTOBER 30.—Britain and France deliver 12-hour ultimatum to Israel and Egypt announcing that they will occupy temporarily Suez, Ismailia, and Port Said unless both Egypt and Israel cease fighting immediately and both sides withdraw 10 miles from the Suez Canal. Prime Minister Anthony Eden announces that the ultimatum is designed to "separate the belligerents and guarantee transit through the Canal by ships of all nations." Israel accepts, Egypt rejects. Intense military activity at Cyprus and Malta. Arab nations rally to the side of Egypt. United Nations Security Council meets, but Britain and France use the veto to kill an American resolution calling for a cease-fire. Russia and America vote together in dramatic illustration of the split in the Western camp. Big concessions reported by the Nagy Government towards a more liberal form of government. Nagy denies he ever asked for Soviet troops and help.

OCTOBER 31: Anglo-French forces bomb key Egyptian airfields. Heavy fighting between Israeli and Egyptian forces with Israel claiming a great victory. Turbulent scenes in the House of Commons as Eden refuses to budge from announced policy. Nagy announces Hungary will withdraw from the Warsaw pact of Eastern European countries. Joyous scenes in Budapest as Russians withdraw. Revolution apparently a complete success.

NOVEMBER 1: Censure motion on British Conservative Government fails 255-423. In the Commonwealth only Australia, New Zealand, and Rhodesian Federation support Britain's action. India and Ceylon bitterly hostile. Mr. Holland expresses "full confidence" of New Zealand Government in Britain's intentions in moving into Canal but says he is gravely concerned at the split between Britain and France and U.S.A. Heavy bombing of Egyptian airfields and military targets. Big forces of Soviet tanks move towards Budapest. Nagy protests and calls for help of United Nations and great Powers.

NOVEMBER 2: An emergency session of the General Assembly of the United Nations calls for a cease-fire in Egypt and withdrawal of Israeli troops. Vote: 64-5 (Britain, France, Australia, New Zealand, and Israel), with six abstentions. American and Canadian support for a British suggestion that the United Nations send an inter-

national police force to keep peace in the Middle East pending a permanent settlement.

NOVEMBER 3: Mr. Eden broadcasts on TV and radio to explain why British Government considers urgent military action necessary in Egypt. Speech rebroadcast in New Zealand.

NOVEMBER 4.—New Zealand offers a contribution to any United Nations police force for the Middle East. Secretary-General of the United Nations called on to supply plan for an emergency U.N. police force. General Assembly votes 57-0 (19 abstentions) to create this force from small powers under command of Canadian-Palestine truce supervisor, Major General E. L. M. Burns. Savage fighting in Hungary as Soviet troops ruthlessly suppress liberal movement but insurgent radio still continues to broadcast Nagy Government reported under arrest. By 50-3 the General Assembly of the United Nations condemns Soviet intervention in Hungary. India and Afro-Asian nations surprisingly abstain from voting. Mr. Anthony Nutting, Minister of State of the Foreign Office resigns from the British Government as a protest against the British policy over Egypt. British and world-wide protests at Anglo-French action; and also at Russian intervention in Hungary.

NOVEMBER 5.—British and French paratroops land at Port Said following virtual destruction of the Egyptian Air Force on the ground. Some brisk fighting reported. Russia suggest that she and U.S.A. should intervene in Egypt is rejected as "unthinkable" by United States. Marshal Bulganin, Prime Minister of Russia, announces Russia's determination to crush aggression and re-establish peace in the Middle East and hints at rocket attack on Britain. Mr. Hugh Gaitskell, leader of the Labour Opposition, in nation and world-wide broadcast, demands resignation of Sir Anthony Eden and pledges support for a new Conservative Prime Minister who will order cease-fire in Egypt.

November 6.—Surrender of Egyptian forces at Port Said announced but withdrawn later following orders from Cairo to local commander. Threat by Russia interpreted as meaning world very close to major war.

November 7.—Cease-fire ordered by British and French Governments. Israel and Egypt agree to lay down arms unconditionally. Some fighting still going on in Hungary.

Industry Almost At A Standstill HUNGARY IN A STATE OF CHAOS

(N.Z.F.A. Reeler—Copyright.)

VIENNA, Nov. 20 (Rec. 11am).—Nearly 50,000 refugees are now believed to have left Hungary, where industry is almost at a standstill and chaos reigns in the administration.

Officially, 38,519 Hungarian refugees have registered with the Austrian authorities, the Austrian Cabinet was informed today by the Minister for the Interior, Herr Oskar Helmer.

It is known, however, that a great many have come over the frontier and immediately joined friends or relatives without registering with the Austrian authorities.

Nearly 7000 have already left Austria to find new homes abroad. They went to Britain, the United States, France, Belgium, Holland, Sweden and Switzerland.

A dispatch from Reuter's correspondent in Budapest said today that political activity between the Hungarian Prime Minister, Mr. Janos Kadar, and leaders of other parties seemed to have petered out. Instead of forming a coalition Government, with only a slight broadening of its membership.

The Hungarian Communist newspaper "Nep Szabadsag" said today that if the strike went on it might plunge the country into economic ruin and endanger the workers' power.

Between a quarter and one-third of the workers in Budapest factories went to work this morning, about the same number as yesterday, the correspondent reported, but they did little or nothing and stood chatting in the factory yards.

Western observers said today the situation now resembled a combined "hold-down" and "sit-down" strike.

Acute Shortages

The position was further complicated by shortages of raw materials, coal and electric power. Reports

said the majority of the country's mines were not in production.

An official of a mine near Budapest, where only 150 of 1000 workers turned up for work today, said: "We have only about a week's coal in stock."

"Nep Szabadsag" in an editorial entitled, "The Country is Asking For Coal," said that the country needed 70,000 to 80,000 tons of coal every day but miners were digging only 10,000 to 12,000 tons a day. Less than one-third of the electric power needed daily could be raised.

From all over the country came reports that coal, electric power and raw materials were short.

The Communications Minister, Mr. Byroeray Csanadi, warned in a broadcast tonight that the situation was serious. He called on railway workers to go back, otherwise conditions would seriously deteriorate and the country would be faced with inflation and hunger.

Fewer Tanks About

Soviet tanks and armoured cars are still patrolling the Budapest streets, but observers said their numbers seemed to have thinned considerably since the beginning of the week, although the Russian infantry were moving into Hungary from the Soviet Union continued to circulate widely, but observers in Budapest said none had been seen in the capital.

Reports of arrests and deportations of Hungarians by the Russian authorities appeared to have slackened in the last two days.

Antal Lökkös: Remembrance

Nothing had meaning any more and only
The memory of agonies remained in me;
But if I had to do it again,
I'd offer this heart once more.

Geneva, 1957

Adapted from Hungarian and Italian by Charles Guenther

HUNGARIAN REFUGEES CROSSING THE BORDER



A party of Hungarians crossing the border. After a rest they walked on to Hungary to continue the fight for freedom.

Source (left and top right): Evening Post, Wellington, November 1956

Source: The Times, 18 November 1956

200 Refugees Selected For N.Z.

VIENNA, Nov. 29 (Rec. 10am).— The Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration announced today that 200 Hungarians had so far been selected for emigration to New Zealand. The New Zealand immigration mission in London would return shortly to Vienna to interview more. The first group of Hungarians for New Zealand is expected to fly to Auckland in about 10 days. The first Hungarian refugees to be resettled in Australia left Vienna today by air. There were 61 in the party.

HUNGARIAN COUPLE TO WED



MISS MARY BAUER and Mr. Denes Siklosi, who had sent out wedding invitations when the Hungarian revolution broke out, will now get married at the Trentham Immigration Hostel on Monday. They arrived in New Zealand on Tuesday. Miss Bauer will probably wear her only dress for the wedding. Mr. Siklosi has a suit.

A selection of clippings from the Evening Post, Wellington and the New Zealand Herald, Auckland, about the first Hungarian refugees to come to New Zealand.



From left:
Erzsébet, Judit Boros, Árpád Boros
and Imre Gyöngyös

FIRST REFUGEES FOR N.Z. REACH AUSTRALIA

DARWIN, Dec. 13 (Rec. 9.30am).— Sixty-six Hungarian refugees arrived at Darwin this morning in a chartered French airliner en route to New Zealand.

They are the first refugees for New Zealand to pass through Darwin, and all are anxious to know of the country and conditions.

Like earlier parties coming to Australia, many of the refugees possessed only the clothes they wore, and one, a fitter, was still wearing his soiled overalls.

A handshake and cheery words of welcome greeted each refugee as they left the Customs hall.

The greetings were given by members of the Darwin Hungarian community.

The party later flew on to Brisbane.

Hungarian Refugees Quietly Welcomed

HUNGARIAN refugees who arrived in Wellington by train from Auckland this morning soon found themselves among friends and expatriates.

Local Hungarians had rallied under a red, white, and green flag—the hammer and sickle absent from the white section—to give the refugees a quiet, understanding welcome.

Out of a special coach filed the newcomers, mostly young men and women. They threaded through the waiting Hungarians, exchanged brief words of greetings, and accepted handshakes with the same slightly-dazed and self-conscious smiles.

Occasionally there were tears, and New Zealanders gazing on were also moved by the scene.

Most of their luggage they carried in their arms—paper bags and parcels, shirts wrapped in newspapers, some airline bags, and some labelled "United States Escapee Program."

Taken In Buses

Immigration officers of the Department of Labour, long trained now in this type of work, helped usher the refugees into buses waiting to take them to the Trentham Immigration Hostel.

Both the Secretary of Labour (Mr. H. L. Bockett) and his deputy (Mr. H. Parsonage) were at the station.

Uniformed Red Cross women distributed cigarettes and chocolates and the Secretary-General (Mr. M. S. Galloway) was there to welcome the arrivals.

The spokesman for the resident Hungarians—who preferred not to have his name published—quickly found that there was a refugee from the same street in Budapest, which he left some years ago.

"I am still waiting to hear about my mother and father, but the news he gives me does not sound good," he said.

About half of this morning's group which totalled 54, will leave for work in the South Island by ferry tonight.

The rest will be placed in employment around Wellington.

No Children Coming Alone

FUTURE drafts of Hungarian refugees are not likely to include any unaccompanied children. In response to an inquiry today, the Department of Labour said that the Commissioner for Refugees in Geneva had stated recently that with certain isolated exceptions children were in the hands of agencies specialising in child care. Unaccompanied children were, therefore, not a problem, and offers to take children did not help relieve the total situation. Refugees so far in New Zealand are single men and women and married couples. Most are in the 16 to 30 age group.

HOMES FOR 110

The National Council of Churches has found accommodation for 110 Hungarian refugees in addition to that offered to the Government, and more offers are being received daily.

The general secretary of the National Council of Churches (Mr. A. A. Brash) said contributions to the work of the World Council of Churches for Hungarian relief have already been sent, and are continuing to be sent, through his organisation in Christchurch.

8 THE EVENING POST, FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 1957.

IN COUNTRY FOR FORTNIGHT . . . Hungarian Refugees Now Have A Kiwi

AT 9.50am today the wife of one of Hungary's now-famous "Freedom Fighters" gave birth to a 6lb 8oz baby girl in the maternity ward of the Wellington Public Hospital.

The baby—tiny dark-haired Maria—is the first Kiwi to be born of parents who came to New Zealand as a result of the recent fighting in Hungary.

Maria's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sandor Kovesskali arrived in the first batch of Hungarian refugees to reach this country and have been living in Wellington for only a fortnight.

With eight other Hungarians who escaped across the Austrian border they are living with Mrs. A. M. Muhary, in her State house at Rakihau Place, Titahi Bay.

Mrs. Muhary has told them they can stay with her till they find more suitable accommodation.

Mr. Kovesskali, who is 22, is working as a lineman with the Post and Telegraph Department.

Escaped Over Border

Both he and his wife, who is 17, fought in the very early stages of the fighting in Hungary and during the first lull escaped over the border into Austria.

With them went Mrs. Kovesskali's sister Eve Baranyai, who is also staying with Mrs. Muhary at Titahi Bay.

To get to the border they had to walk a good many miles, sometimes hiding in ditches or anywhere where they could find protection from both their enemies and the extreme cold during the day and walking mostly at night.

Once over the border they went to

a refugee camp and were then given clothes and assistance by the Austrians and when a New Zealand Government representative visited the camp they told him they wanted to come here.

Despite everything Mrs. Kovesskali had been through, there were no complications to the birth of her baby and only two hours after Maria's birth she was able to hold her up and smile for "The Post" photographer.

Complete Layette

When Maria was born this morning she had nothing at all to wear. Her parents had had no time to prepare for her arrival and Mrs. Muhary appealed to the Red Cross on their behalf. The result was that the Red Cross has supplied a complete layette for the baby.

This was delivered to Mrs. Kovesskali in hospital at noon.

Mr. Kovesskali, who worked in an iron foundry in Hungary, and his wife lived with his wife's parents before their escape and are concerned that their parents were unable to escape too.

Mr. and Mrs. Kovesskali are both unable to speak English and Mr. Kovesskali wants to get a working knowledge of the language as soon as he can, because of a determination to continue his training as a boxer.

He told a "Post" reporter through an interpreter this morning that he had trained as a boxer in Hungary, but there would be no use his trying to join a club here until he was able to speak the language.



MR. AND MRS. SANDOR KOVESHKALI with their two-hours-old baby, Maria, photographed in Wellington Hospital today. A few minutes before, Mrs. Kovesskali had received a parcel containing a complete layette for the baby—a gift from the New Zealand Red Cross.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Memorandum prepared by the United Nations
High Commissioner for Refugees,
Mr Auguste R. Lindt,
for submission to the Committee on
Social and Humanitarian Questions of the
Inter-Parliamentary Union
(Nice, 24 April 1957)



(Excerpt)

By 5 April 1957, 171,694 Hungarian refugees had arrived in Austria and 18,799 in Yugoslavia, making a total of 189,893. By the same date 128,921 refugees had emigrated from Austria and only 890 from Yugoslavia. Further, 4,394 refugees had been repatriated voluntarily from Austria and 2,124 from Yugoslavia. On 5 April 1957 there were still 37,779 Hungarian refugees in Austria and 15,785 in Yugoslavia. There has been a considerable falling off in the number of refugees arriving each day, which now amounts only to a few dozen.

It was on 28 October 1956 that Hungarian refugees began to cross the Austrian frontier, and the Vienna Government announced at once that it was prepared to grant asylum to these refugees without any reservations, but that it could not meet its international obligations without assistance from other countries. To date, the Austrian Government has spent about \$10,000,000 on providing housing, assistance, maintenance and transport for Hungarian refugees.

The Government of Yugoslavia likewise gave the refugees a warm welcome and did everything in its power to provide suitable accommodation for them. However, the cost of maintaining Hungarian refugees in Yugoslavia amounts to \$25,000 - \$30,000 per day, and this expenditure is too heavy for the Government of that country to defray on its own.

On 9 November 1956 the United Nations General Assembly, after considering the situation in Hungary, requested the Secretary-General "to call upon the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to consult with other appropriate international agencies and interested governments with a view to making speedy and effective arrangements for emergency assistance to refugees from Hungary". On 21 November the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner to make an immediate appeal both to governments and to non-governmental organizations to meet the minimum present needs of Hungarian refugees, and authorized them to make subsequent appeals on the basis of plans and estimates made by the High Commissioner. As a result, a joint appeal for \$10,000,000 was launched on 30 November 1956 and the governments to which this appeal was addressed were asked at the same time to admit Hungarian refugees into their countries in larger numbers.

"HOW'S THAT FOR SIZE, MASTER VARGA?"



THIS TWO-YEAR-OLD WAS ONE OF 309 HUNGARIAN REFUGEES who arrived in the Dutch ship *Sibajak* at Wellington yesterday. While his father holds him, a Red Cross worker fits a knitted jersey against him to measure for size but, for the moment, the boy, Varga, was more interested in the camera.

Source: *The Dominion*
14 May 1957

In response to this appeal, a sum of nearly \$7,000,000, including contributions on kind, has been received. An additional \$415,000 was sent direct to the Austrian government. It has been estimated that between now and the end of the year about 15,000,000 will be required for Hungarian refugees in Austria and about \$8,000,000 for Hungarian refugees in Yugoslavia. The Executive Committee of the United Nations Refugees Fund approved these estimates at its last session early in February and authorized the High Commissioner to launch a further appeal after consultation with the Secretary-General. This appeal has recently been sent to the various governments. The Executive Committee also expressed the unanimous opinion that responsibility for the refugees should be borne by the whole world, each country making a contribution according to its means. The Executive Committee thus made it clear that the solution of the Hungarian refugee problem was a matter for the community of nations as a whole and that it would be iniquitous to leave the responsibility for looking after the refugees solely to those countries - i.e. Austria and Yugoslavia - which had been the first to grant them asylum. Many countries have responded to these appeals, and the annexed table shows the number of refugees admitted by various countries up to 5 April, the total being 128,921.

These striking results, which have been achieved with the help of the Inter-governmental Committee for European Migra-

tion (ICEM) which arranged and paid for the transport of all these refugees, show that the quickest and cheapest way of solving the problem of Hungarian refugees is to enable them to emigrate, a solution depending for its success on the solidarity of all nations. Many of these refugees have already found work and accommodation in the receiving countries; others who have found refuge in European countries, still cherish the hope of emigrating to American countries or to Australia. It is essential, therefore, that the laws of these immigration countries should enable governments to regard the continent of Europe as a transit country, so that refugees wishing to emigrate may be allowed to do so. They will not impose any financial burden on the countries that are prepared to admit them, for the great majority are capable of working and are anxious to make a new life for themselves. In a period of economic expansion such as to the present, an influx of labour of this type, if it is well-organized and properly distributed, can help to promote a country's economic development.

The danger of leaving refugees too long in the receiving country is illustrated by the following facts. Figures supplied to us by interested governments show that the maintenance of 1,000 refugees costs \$37,500 a month of \$450,000 a year, while the cost of sending 1,000 refugees to other European countries amounts to \$25,000 - \$30,000, to the United States \$180,000 and to Australia \$320,000. Hence the cost of sending 1,000 refugees to the farthest countries is less than three-quarters of the annual sum required for their maintenance.

The Hungarian refugee problem can and must be solved in 1957, and it is to be hoped that every government will continue

to lend its support to the work undertaken by the High Commissioner. The number of refugees still in Austrian and Yugoslavia is relatively small and, now that satisfactory arrangements have been made for the transportation, reception and distribution of refugees in new countries, the goal which we have set ourselves can be reached, provided the support already given is continued for another few months.

The lessons learnt from the resettlement of Hungarian refugees apply equally to "old" refugees, some of whom have been waiting more than ten years for a solution to their problems. The cost of maintaining these refugees over a long period and then trying to resettle them afterwards is much higher than the expenditure which would have been necessary if a comprehensive solution had been sought at the outset. The sums spent in this way during the last ten years would have been enough to resettle nearly all those refugees, at present about 200,000, the cost of whose maintenance still has to be borne by the international community.

This long period of waiting creates psychological as well as material difficulties. In the first place, the refugees grow older and become less and less fit for work. Their health deteriorates and there is an ever-increasing number of difficult cases, i.e. those who can no longer find work. Further they become afflicted by the camp psychosis described in every report writ-



SOME OF THE HUNGARIAN REFUGEES arrival in Wellington today on their way to station of the uprising photographed after their also fled their country during the Soviet repression interim accommodation at Trentham camp. (Report on page 15.)

ten by social workers at the camps. Those who are still in camps, and they number nearly 50,000, are both physically and psychologically handicapped. These refugees have been unable to settle down anywhere and many of them, particularly the elderly ones, suffer from a chronic "homesickness". They are bewildered by the fate which destiny has meted out to them and they continue to believe in magic remedies. This state of mind, combined with the idleness which is prevalent in many camps, promotes delinquency, and in some cases, even criminal tendencies. It often happens that the people living in towns near the camps will have nothing to do with the refugees, whose sense of isolation is thereby made more acute. These conditions are particularly regrettable in the case of children who have no regular work, develop bad habits and turn into potential delinquents.

A typical example is the case of two elderly refugees, each of them living in a camp and looking after a child. In the hope of improving their living conditions they decided to set up house together but, even so, they were unable to give the children a proper education. Poverty, jealousies and the demoralizing atmosphere of the camp have embittered these two youths, who are both under twenty. They have obtained casual employment as unskilled labourers, but they have never had any education and the little money which they have earned has usually been wasted. As yet they have not embarked on a career of crime but they have already had several brushes with the police. Suitable vocational training and a steady job might be their salvation, but up to now we have not had enough social workers to look after this camp properly.

An encouraging feature, on the other hand, has been the settlement of families from the Banat in the small township of la Roque-sur-Pernes, near Avignon. Ten refugee families were settled here in 1950. They rebuilt dilapidated houses which had been abandoned by their former owners, cultivated the land and became part of the local community.

We wish we had the resources to carry out a number of other projects of this nature. We wish above all that the governments of countries offering asylum to refugees would help us to empty the camps and resettle all the refugees as quickly as possible. For that we need large numbers of social workers who would get to know each of the refugees personally, assess their abilities and their requirements, and prepare them for resettlement. Young people must have vocational training or, if they are sufficiently intelligent, they must resume their studies at school or in a university. The oldest refugees must be provided with accommodation and a job which enables them to earn their living. The programme at present being carried out is sub-divided into a number of separate projects designed to meet these different needs.

It is the duty of all countries, therefore, not only to continue their efforts on behalf of Hungarian refugees but also to help the "forgotten" refugees. They too have the right to receive as soon as possible the assistance which they need to bring their troubles to an end. Moral considerations apart, it is to the advantage of all governments to offer this assistance, for, if substantial aid is forthcoming in good time, not only will an unhappy situation be brought to a speedy end, but much unnecessary expenditure will be avoided.

Hungarian refugees in Austria (5 April 1957)

Numbers of refugees accepted as immigrants by country

I. European countries

Belgium	3,193
Denmark	1,105
Federal Republic of Germany	11,586
France	9,033
Iceland	52
Ireland	541
Italy	3,811
Luxembourg	203
Netherlands	2,971
Netherlands (in transit for Canada)	1,531
Norway	1,034
Spain	14
Sweden	4,925
Switzerland	10,334
Turkey	443
United Kingdom	20,530
Sub-total	71,306

II. Countries outside Europe

Argentina	475
Australia	5,677
Brazil	415
Canada	16,075
Chile	162
Colombia	78
Costa Rica	3
Cuba	2
Israel	1,727
New Zealand	922
South Africa	1,225
United States of America	30,783
Uruguay	3
Venezuela	68
Sub-total	57,615

Grand total **128,921**



**Notes for the address of the
UN High Commissioner
for Refugees,
Mr. Auguste R. Lindt, to the
Third Committee of the
General Assembly
on 4 November 1957**

(Excerpt)

The Hungarian refugee problem

The influx of the Hungarian refugees into Austria and Yugoslavia virtually ceased several months ago. Of the total of 199,000 refugees who left Hungary during the last twelve months, approximately 179,000 went into Austria and 20,000 into Yugoslavia. This refugee problem was recognized at the very beginning as an international responsibility by the General Assembly and many nations co-operated in offering assistance in two main forms. First of all immigration opportunities were offered extensively: a total of forty countries in Europe and overseas have accepted nearly 165,000 Hungarian refugees. This mass movement has been achieved to some extent by Governments directly and in most cases with the help of the Intergovernmental Committee for the European Migration, which proved its outstanding efficiency in this rapid operation. Many countries relaxed immigration regulations, many countries dispensed almost entirely with formalities which would have slowed down movement. It has to be said, however, that the organization of mass emigration from Yugoslavia, through no fault of this country, took considerably longer than from Austria and was somewhat delayed in starting.

The second way in which international action manifested itself was in the provision of financial assistance. The concept has been developing for a long time that a country of first asylum which opens its frontiers to refugees should not be left to carry the financial burden, but that this financial burden, imposed by geography and assumed for humanitarian reasons, should be shared by the international community. Indeed, the trend has been to consider refugees within my mandate not as a national problem but as an international responsibility. As far as the Hungarian emergency is concerned, this principle was not only recognized but also realized and implemented in practice. Austria and Yugoslavia received some direct financial aid and also received assistance from the League of Red Cross Societies which took over care and maintenance of refugees in camps in Austria and, through the Yugoslav Red Cross, provide food to Hungarian refugees in Yugoslavia. The Nansen Medal for 1957 was awarded to the League of Red Cross Societies and through the League to all national societies, in recognition of the prompt, efficient and humanitarian manner in which it responded to the needs of the Hungarian refugees. Financial contributions, and I include here bilateral assistance to the Austrian Government received in answer to appeals made jointly by the Secretary-General and myself, totalled more than twenty million dollars, of which more than half was paid or promised directly to my Office or the Secretary-General. This money has been used in accordance with the wished of the donors. In addition to the aid provided through official channels, the voluntary agencies themselves made a considerable contribution to the welfare of the refugees.

Thanks to this assistance from many sources, most of the expenses incurred by the Austrian Government in respect of Hungarian refugees will be covered by the end of this year. On the other hand, Yugoslavia has been helped to a much smaller extent and the Government has incurred uncovered expenses in respect of Hungarian refugees which it estimates will amount to some seven million dollars by the end of this

year. It seems to me that international solidarity has not manifested itself sufficiently on behalf of Yugoslavia. I am still making every effort to see whether this situation can be adjusted.

With all refugee problems there is the question of repatriation. Efforts have been made to ensure that Hungarian refugees who voluntarily wished to return to their country were able to do so. When repatriation missions visited Austria or Yugoslavia, my Office was represented on these missions by a neutral observer whose duty it was to make sure that the refugees were not put under pressure from any side and that their final choice was a free choice. According to the latest available figures, some 6,700 Hungarian refugees were repatriated directly from Austria (including an estimated 1,300 unrecorded repatriations) and 2,700 from Yugoslavia. In addition, according to figures available to my Office, more than 4,000 Hungarian refugees have been repatriated from countries of second asylum. The total number of repatriated Hungarian refugees thus approximates 13,400. The Government of the People's Republic of Hungary notified my Office of a number of cases of refugees desiring repatriation. I have intervened through diplomatic channels with the authorities of the countries of residence of these refugees with a view to facilitating their repatriation.

The situation today in the countries of first asylum – Austria and Yugoslavia is that there remain some 23,500 Hungarian refugees, which is approximately twelve percent of the total number who left Hungary. The position in Austria is that there are 20,380 Hungarian refugees, of whom 9,800 are in camps. In Yugoslavia there are some 3,200 in camps. I had hoped that it would be possible for all those Hungarian refugees wishing to emigrate to be able to do so by the end of this year. There is still a possibility that the refugees in Yugoslavia will be able to do so, but it is already clear that in Austria the majority of the remaining refugees will have to wait until next year and we are making efforts to obtain immigration possibilities in 1958. Austria, for years heavily taxed by many refugee problems, should not be obliged to give permanent asylum to an undue proportion of Hungarian refugees.

For those wishing to remain in Austria, my Office is already implementing a \$3,500,000 integration programme, which will help settle an estimated 5,000 persons.

The Hungarian refugee problem has now been reduced to manageable proportions. That this could be achieved within twelve months is due to an outstanding humanitarian action on the part of the international community. But there are still these thousands of Hungarians in Austria and Yugoslavia who would like to emigrate and, as I said before, the will of the refugee should be the determining factor. No "new" Hungarian refugee should be allowed to become an "old" refugee.

That it has been possible to do so much for the Hungarian refugees is due, it seems to me, to two factors. First of all there is the speed with which the problem was tackled; secondly, the burden was shared by many nations. This has clearly demonstrated that the only satisfactory way to deal with a refugee situation is to find permanent solutions for the problems of the refugees without delay, before illness or camp psychosis have sapped their energy and morale. It is also the most economic way of approaching the problem, for the high cost of care and maintenance does not achieve any permanent solution. Nor do I need to stress the significance of speedy action in terms of human happiness. Help must come quickly from many directions to relieve the heavy burden on the country of first asylum and to give the refugees a better chance of resuming a normal life without their having to pay the penalty of indefinite delay. □

1956-os konferencia Budapesten

To commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution of 1956, the Embassies of Australia, Canada, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States of America, as well as the International Centre for Democratic Transition, the Regional Offices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the Italian Institute of Culture, with the cooperation of the Embassies of Denmark and the United Kingdom, organized an international conference on September 28-29, 2006.

The conference entitled "1956 and Hungary: The Memory of Eyewitnesses - In Search of Freedom and Democracy" was held at the Italian Institute of Culture, which served as the home for the first Hungarian Parliament between 1866 and 1902.

The conference reviewed the events of the 1950's era from the point of view of participants and was based on the personal experience of those who left Hungary after the Revolution, who found a new home in the countries represented, and have contributed to their development. The premise was reinforced that remembrance and vision of the future are the keys to the interpretation of the events that shook the world, a memento of international solidarity provided for those who fight for freedom and democracy.

Below is President László Sólyom's address given to open the conference.

Sólyom László köztársasági elnök részt vett és beszédet mondott az 1956-os forradalom és szabadságharc 50. évfordulója alkalmából „1956 és Magyarország: A szemtanúk emlékei – A szabadság és a demokrácia keresése” címmel megrendezett nemzetközi konferencia megnyitóján az Olasz Intézetben.

Tisztelt Nagykövet Asszony és Urak! Hölgyeim és Uraim!

Örömmel fogadtam el meghívásukat az „1956 és Magyarország: A szemtanúk emlékei – A szabadság és a demokrácia keresése” nemzetközi konferenciára, amelyet a budapesti amerikai, ausztrál, francia, holland, kanadai, olasz, svájci és svéd nagykövetség, az ENSZ Menekülügyi Főbiztossága magyarországi képviselete, a Nemzetközi Vöröskereszt Regionális Irodája, a Demokratikus Átalakulásért Intézet és az Olasz Kulturális Intézet hívott össze és szervezett meg a dán és a brit nagykövetség közreműködésével. A színhely jelképes: az első magyar parlament falai közt vagyunk, ahol a polgári demokrácia keretei 1867 után kialakultak és megerősödtek.



**Sólyom László
köztársasági elnök**

Hálás vagyok, hogy éppen azoknak az országoknak a miszsiói, amelyek 1956-ban oly sok magyar menekültet fogadtak be, ilyen nagyszabású, magas színvonalú konferenciával és rendezvénysorozattal emlékeznek a forradalomra. A magyar nép nem felejtette el segítségüket, s a rendezvények méltó-

képpen irányítják rá a közvélemény figyelmét erre a tényre.

A konferencia nem tudományos elemzéseket kínál, hanem beszélgetéseket személyes emlékek és vallomások nyomán. Nem fog szó esni tehát a tágabb történelmi és politikai környezetről, az ötvenes évek első felének Európájáról, Ausztria semlegesítéséről, sem Suezről, sem a nagyhatalmak politikájáról, amely eleve a status quo érinthetlenségéből indult ki. 1956 októberének jelenidejében maradunk tehát. Szívből üdvözlöm ezt a módszert.

Az én korosztályom 1956-ban 14-15 éves volt; a legfiatalabb azok közül, akik tudatosan élték át a forradalom napjait és az utána következőket. Azok a szemtanúk, akiket itt az ötvenedik évforduló ünnepi alkalmá összegyűjtött, mind idősebbek nálunk. Nagyon meg kell becsülni a lehetőséget, hogy a résztvevőket hallhatjuk. A forradalom mindkét ága jelen van itt: a fegyveres szabadságharcosok, és azok, akik a politikai eseményeket formálták. A későbbi értelmezésekben – és önértelmezésekben – nem egyszer megbomlik e kettő összhangja. Hadd fejezzem ki örömemet, hogy itt és most, mint akkor, együtt vannak.

Különösen az utánunk felnőtt generációk számára kivételes ez az alkalom. Hiszen az, hogy az 1956-os forradalom hogyan válik a nemzet emlékezetének részévé, hogy milyen lesz a végleges kánon, rajtuk múlik. Fájdalommal kell ugyanis megállapítanom, hogy sem az egykori forradalmárok generációja, sem a következők nem voltak képesek a nemzeti ünnep megteremtésére, s ez a hiány immár '56-tól elválaszt-hatatlan. 1956 hosszú csendjének a Kádár-rendszer alatt számos oka volt, melyeket nem itt kell fejtegetni. De itt kell tisztelni azokat előtt, akik az emigrációban őrizték és hirdették a forradalom emlékét, s azok előtt is, akik itthon, akár családi vagy más szűk körben, nem engedték azt kialudni. S nem feledkezhetünk el azokról sem, akik '56 emlékét a rendszerváltás aktív tényezőjévé tették. Az 1990 utáni tapasztalatok fényében mégis abba kell belenyugodnunk, hogy majd a mai fiatalok keresik a maguk igazát 1956-ban, s teszik azt 1848. március 15.-hez hasonló ünnepé.

Subjektív történeteket lehet tehát várni a konferenciától; ebben lesz varázsa, ettől lesz élőbb és hitelesebb, mint bármely protokolláris megemlékezés, vagy elvont teória. Bármilyen sokféle is visznek az egyes emberek emlékei, mégsem félek attól, hogy nem fog kirajzolódni 56 egyetlen nagy igazsága. Itt mindenki saját magáról beszél, arról, milyen volt ő 1956-ban, s akkor – a neveket látva – senki nem kételkedett abban, melyik oldalon áll, s melyik a helyes oldal. E a tiszta beszéd nagyon elkél ma, amikor különös gonddal kell ügyelnünk az ötvenedik évforduló méltó megünneplésére.

Sok okunk van tehát arra, hogy reménytelni várakozással üdvözlöljük a konferenciát. Ennek jegyében köszöntöm valamennyiüket, és nyitom meg a konferenciát.



Jánosi Katalin, Nagy Imre unokája (bal oldalt) és Gyenes Maléter Judit, Maléter Pál özvegye szintén részt vettek a konferencián.

Találkozás Wittner Máriával

Mária Wittner was condemned to death for her role as a freedom fighter during the Hungarian Revolution, but ended up spending 14 years in prison. The friend she is pictured with in what has become a famous photo of the Revolution was not so lucky.

I had the privilege of spending a couple of hours with Mária in her home in Dunakeszi in July. I was struck by the intensity of her seemingly tireless passion. It was perfectly clear that she believes the reason she survived, was because she has a cause to fight, and that is to ensure the perpetrators of the crimes against freedom fighters of the Revolution are held accountable.

Wittner Mária Budapesten született 1937. június 9-én. A neve '56-os körökben igen ismert, mondhatnám elismert. Amikor júliusban otthon tartózkodtam, nagy örömmre nyitottan fogadott, és meglátogathattam dunakeszi otthonában.

Wittner Mária élete nem volt könnyű, de életének kezdete sem: kétéves korában a karmelita rend vette gondjába, anyját csak tizenegy éves korában ismerhette meg, de hamarosan állami gondozásba adta kislányát. A gimnáziumot félbehagyva gépirónőként dolgozott Szolnokon, később Kunhegyesen, a járási tanácscon. 1955-ben fia született, akit egyedül nevelt. Fél évre rá Budapestre költözött vissza és alkalmi munkákból élt.

Az 1956-os forradalom eseményeiben az első naptól részt vett. A Rádió ostroma közben csatlakozott a harcoló felkelőkhöz. Október 24-én a Corvin közben megismerkedett Havrila Béláné Sticker Katalinnal és együtt segítettek a sebesültek ellátásában.

A Vajdahunyad utcai csoporthoz csatlakozva már a fegyveres összetűzésekben is részt vett. Elfoglalták a X. kerületi rendőrkapitányságot, hogy fegyvereket szerezzenek. A november 4-ei szovjet támadás során az Üllői úton repeszektől megsebesült és a Péterfy Sándor utcai kórházba került.

November 9-én sikertelenül próbálta meg elhagyni Magyarországot. Letartóztatták, de ekkor még elengedték. Sikerült Ausztriába szökönie, de pár hét után gyermeke miatt hazajött és segédmunkásként tartotta fenn magát. 1957. július 16-án letartóztatták és

„fegyveres szervezkedésben való részvétel, illetve az államrend megdöntésére irányuló fegyveres szervezkedés, többrendbeli meg nem állapítható gyilkossági kísérlet, fegyveres rablás, disszidálás” miatt 1958. július 23-án első fokon halálraítélték.

Kétszáz napot töltött börtönben halálraítéltként, a másodfokú bíróság azonban 1959. február 24-én életfogytiglanra változtatta az ítéletet. (Sticker Katalint közben kivégezték.) 1970. március 25-én szabadult nemzetközi nyomásra.

Börtönből kikerülve varrónő, majd takarítónő lett, 1980-ban átesett egy gerinc műtéten, ami a forradalom végén szerzett sebesülés következményeként következett be, és utána rokkantnyugdíjba küldték.

„A PARLAMENTI BESZÉD”

Megilletődve állok a magyar Országházban, ahol történelmünk kimagasló személyiségei a magyar nép javára alkottak törvényeket, mint Tisza István, Klebelsberg Kunó, Hóman Bálint, de itt alkottak törvényeket egy hamis eszme nevében is, mely egy jobb sorsra érdemes nemzet elvesztésén munkálkodott.

Ma, a kommunizmus áldozatainak emléknapján megidézem az áldozatokat - élőkét és holtakat -, hogy együtt vádoljuk a szocializma kúntömbé hűtőházaikat.

Vádoljuk őket, mert a lenini utat nagy igyekezettel honfitársaink csontjaival kövezték ki. A világ legdrágább, legfájdalmasabb útja ez, s a továbbhaladásunk térje milliónyi emberéletet volt.

Vádoljuk őket, mert a nemzetünk kiváló polgárait küldték bitófára és gyalázták meg holtukban is.

Vádoljuk őket, a Gulágon embertelen körülmények között elpusztult honfitársaink nevében.

Vádoljuk őket, az otthonuktól megfosztott és kitelepített polgárok nevében, kiknek kiszemelt otthonába betelepítettek, elraboltva egy élet munkáját.

Vádoljuk őket, a rekesi haláltáborban megkínzott megalázott emberek nevében.

Vádoljuk őket, a munkaszolgálatosok nevében.

Vádoljuk őket, a 298-as parcella halottainak nevében, az ÁVH, mint erőszakszervezetük által fogva tartott, megkínzott és agyonvert emberek nevében.

Vádoljuk őket, a 6 millió meg nem született magyar gyermek nevében.

Vádoljuk őket, a „legdrágább kínos” a gyermek nevében, akitől elvették az apát, az anyát, az otthon melegét.

Vádoljuk őket, a „legfőbb érték” az ember nevében, akit egy tollvonással küldtek bitóra vagy zártak börtönbe, hosszú évekre.

Vádoljuk őket, a megalázott, megkínzott honfitársaink nevében.

Vádoljuk őket, a sortűzek áldozatainak nevében.

Vádoljuk őket, mert kiölték az emberekből a hitet, a reményt, a morált, egy emberibb, tisztább élet reményét.

Vádoljuk őket, Mindszenty bíborosért. Az Istenhez hű papokért, akiket börtönbe zártak hitükért, mert erkölcsre, hazaszeretetre nevelték népünket.

Vádoljuk őket, mert kifosztották az országot, hogy a dolgozó magyar nép munkájából - elveiket megtagadva - lettek vörös kapitalisták.

Vádoljuk őket, a magyar parasztok nevében, akiket megfosztottak földjeiktől, életterüktől, így téve kiszolgáltatottá őket.

Vádoljuk, a nyugdíjasok nevében, akiket elrabolták a hosszú dolgozó élet gyümölcsét, bizonytalanná téve biztos nyugdíjas éveiket.

Vádoljuk őket, történelmünk meghamisításáért.

Vádolnak az élők és vádolnak a holtak. És vádoljuk őket, mert hitünkben megsértették, meglópták.

Ezért megállapítom az áldozatok nevében, soha nem lesznek képesek arra, hogy magyar politikusként egy nemzet felemelkedése érdekében cselekedjenek.

Itt teszem fel a kérdést: milyen morál alapján ülnek a magyar parlamentben még most is és alkotnak törvényeket egy áltudok tönkretett, kifosztott, megalázott nemzet számára?

Ezért a Szent Korona tanú és a magyar nemzet nevében erkölcsi hullává nyilvánítom őket.

Elbűgött a Magyar Parlamentben, a Kommunizmus Áldozatainak Emléknapján, 2001. február 23-án.

Wittner Mária
52.4559 sz. volt halála utáni



Havrila Béláné Sticker Katalin és Wittner Mária
1956. október végén a Vajdahunyad u. 41 előtt.

Forrás: 1956-os Magyar Forradalom Történetének Dokumentációs és Kutatóintézete
Közalapítvány

A Magyar Köztársaság Nagykeresztjével tüntették ki 1991-ben. A kommunista rendszer bukása óta számos 1956-os szervezet munkájában vett részt, következetes és kemény antikommunizmusáról vált híressé.

A 2006-os országgyűlési választásokon a Fidesz országos listájáról parlamenti mandátumot szerzett. Az Országgyűlés foglalkoztatási és munkaügyi bizottságának tagja.

Wittner Mária főszereplője volt annak a vitának, amely arról robbant ki 2006-ban, együtt ünnepeljék-e a volt 1956-os forradalom 50. évfordulóját az MSZP vezette kormányzat képviselőivel. Az október 23-ai évfordulón több alkalommal füttyülték ki és bírálták az ünnepségek baloldali résztvevőit, mert sokan a forradalom leverői örökösének tartják őket, mások viszont tiltakoznak az ilyen minősítés ellen. Az 50. évforduló előtt a legtöbb 1956-os szervezet és volt forradalmár - az elsők közt Wittner Mária - kifejezte, hogy nem kívánnak a hatalommal együtt ünnepelni, és bírálják a felállítandó hivatalos 1956-os emlékművet, amely szerintük inkább az elnyomást, mint a szabadságvágyat fejezi ki.

Személyes találkozás után nem nehéz megérteni, hogy Wittner Mária miért áldozza életét a számonkérésre.

Szentirmay Klára (Wikipédia segítségével) □

Gyöngyös Imre: Ötvenhatról

Ötvenhat hamvas, kristály szirmai
a környék láp undok iszapja nyelné;
az áldozat emléke nem vakít,
mocsári súlya süllyeszthetné szennyé!

A bőrét vedlő kígyó álbarát,
negyvenkilenc év ádáz ellensége;
szabadságunkra szórja rossz sarát
s reménykedik, hogy szenny az eszme vége.

A hit a szívünk mélyén igazabb;
a kígyónyálka szennye messze tűnhet:
örök-tisztító, hős véraldozat
árán szabadságeszménk örök ünnep!

Új-zélandi magyarok emlékei '56-ról

The book *New Zealand Hungarians' Memories of '56* is a work in progress, which we expect to have available by 15 March 2007. It is a collection of extracts from oral history interviews conducted in 2006 and will be a bilingual publication put out by the Magyar Szó and Püski kiadó.

The sample below is Magdolna Ladvenszky's recollection of that day full of hope, 23 October 1956.

2007. március 15-re tüztük ki az Új-Zélandi magyarok emlékei '56-ról könyv megjelenését. A kétnyelvű könyv a Magyar Szó és Püski kiadó közös kiadványaként jelenik meg. Íme egy kis izelítő Ladvenszky Magdolna wellingtoni lakos emlékeinek részével:

LM - Mikor bementem, és akkor mindenki beszélt, mindenkinek volt mondanivalója, még mosolyogtak is! Volt aki nevetett, vagy mosolygott! Szóval egészen más volt a hangulat. És mondom: "mi történt, mi történt?" "Hát menj csak le a Rákóczi útra!" Ott volt a Rákóczi út a közelben. Le is mentem a tanácsukra, és ott láttam, hogy egy fa körül több ember csoportosul, de csendben vannak, nem szólnak semmit se, csak olvasnak valamit. És az az olvasott cikk egy fehér, egy ív papíros volt, géppel írva, a magyarságnak a kívánsága, többek között az, hogy "Oroszok, menjetek haza!" Nahát, ilyen nyíltan megírni, hát ez valami csodálatos dolog volt! Azután következett... ez volt az első lépés, az első óra, mondjuk, a forradalomnak az első órája. Mikor... láttam ezt az első órát is ...és később kifejlődött belőle... Estére már nem volt ilyen... Akkor már a Sztálin szobor a földön volt, firkálva a fejére krétával, hogy "Postarabló". És énnekem pedig ott volt egy létra, ami alkalmas volt mászásra! (---nevet---) És arra rögtön felmáztam. Mert az hova vezetett? Egy emelvényre, ahol a Sztálin szobor állt. Egy ledöntött katolikus templom, romba döntött katolikus templom helyére tették azt az alapzatot, olyan alapzatot, ahol a nagyurak május elsején és más kommunista ünnepeken szemlélhettek bennünket - felülről. És, ha akartunk, integethettünk, de hát nem. Inkább nyelvet öltöttünk. Nagyon veszélyes volt, mert akárki lefényképezhette vagy videózta. Nem tudom, akkor volt-e videó, de ha azt meglátnák, azért nagyon nagy büntetés lett volna. Nem lennék Új-Zélandban biztosan, hanem már valahol a temetőben! (---nevet---)



A Sztálin-szobor talpazat szétverése, 1956. okt.24.

Forrás: 1956-os Magyar Forradalom Történetének Dokumentációs és Kutatóintézete Közalapítvány

SzK - Tehát a létrán felmáztál?

LM - Felmáztam a létrára, mindenki kiabálta utánam, hogy "Ne tessék menni, ne tessék menni! Veszélyes!" De én csak... engem vitt... Egy másik hang, azt hallottam: "De viszi a lelke! De viszi a lelke!" Hát úgy is volt: hogy én nem

néztem semmit se, se létrafokot, se semmit, csak mentem, és repültem! Repültem! (---sír---) Egyszer csak ott voltam a magas csizma... csak a csizma volt ott, a két csizma, a feje az lenn volt, meg a törzse, lent a földön - ott jó helyen volt! - és.... csak a két csizma volt ott, amit nem tudom milyen megfelelő tűzszerszámmal olvasztottak le onnan. Olyan nagy volt a csizma, hogy kinyújtott karommal csak éppen a tetejébe tudtam belenyúlni, megkapaszkodni. És ekkor, ekkor köp-tem egy nagyot rá. A gyilkosra! Sok millió... és magyar gyilkosára! Aztán, hogy hogyan jöttem le, azt nem tudom, és a további dolgokat valahogy úgy elfelejtettem, a többi kimosódott. Ezek élénken

“On the occasion of the presentation of the Nansen Medal to the League of the Red Cross Societies... may I as United Nations Commissioner for Refugees express my most heartfelt personal gratitude for the magnificent effort of your Society... who so readily dedicated their time and energy to help Hungarian Refugees...”

- extract from message sent to New Zealand Red Cross in late 1957.

Do you recognise any of these men?

One of them is Mihály Polyák, the others are Gabi and Rudolf...



Please contact the Editor, if you can shed any light on the surnames of Gábor and/or Rudi, or if you knew Mihály Polyák, who we know was based in Dunedin in 1957.

Reflections on Revolution by István Ladányi

I wasn't born in 1956. But I'm told my father considered returning from his newly adopted homeland (New Zealand) to the land of his birth, to help the freedom fighters who took to the streets of Budapest in October of that year.

Was he serious? But more particularly, what had driven him to “desert” his homeland in 1949 and sail half way around the world to a new life? Was it the same motivation that finally drove Hungarians onto the streets seven years later?

In recent years many Hungarian history books have become available in English. This has allowed me to learn (albeit “second hand”) something of the flavour of the times faced by my father (and his daughter) in the Hungary of the late 1940s.

In the closing stages of World War II a provisional National Assembly had been established but this was overshadowed by the Allied Control Commission. In addition, Soviet influence led to the emergence of Communist Party controlled police and security organs which would play a key role in shaping post-war Hungary.

A General Election in November 1945 resulted in the Smallholders Party gaining 57% of the National Assembly seats. Two key questions were of immediate concern to the politicians: the threat of famine and the future form of the state - monarchy or republic?

While the Smallholders Party expected to enjoy executive power proportionate to its electoral mandate, a Left Bloc emerged to frustrate the elected majority through civil disturbances driven by mob sentiment. The Bloc used methods that pushed the legislature into the background while itself dominating the executive positions of state.

Frustration with the illegal methods of the Communist Party dominated Bloc led to a progressive withdrawal (often through resignation) of more moderate National Assembly deputies. This had the effect of strengthening the Communist's legislative power. Were the moderate politicians “spineless” or was their “withdrawal” understandable?

A new General Election was called in August 1947. Despite widespread Communist gerrymandering they still did not win an absolute majority. A subsequent Electoral Commission review was interfered with leading to the invalidating of 49 non-Communist seats. Thus by the autumn of 1947 the Communist Party, as a result of

two years of obstinate struggle, had achieved both electoral and executive dominance.

In June 1948 the Hungarian Workers Party (MDP) was established with Mátyás Rákosi as its General Secretary. The following five years have been described as one of the blackest periods of Hungarian history, and as a period of lawlessness based on the cult of personality.

This period of one party dictatorship has also been described as a totalitarian reign of terror that flouted all the accepted norms of civilised society. Coming hard on the heels of six years of war, one can only imagine the anguish of the average Hungarian.

The head of the Hungarian Catholic church, Archbishop József Mindszenty, was abducted on Boxing Day 1949, charged with espionage and foreign currency speculation, and sentenced to life imprisonment. This effectively broke the will of the Hungarian churches to resist the Communist political regime.

János Kádár had been appointed Interior Minister in 1948 and immediately began promoting the role of the political police. In September of that year the dreaded State Security Authority (ÁVH) was established and made responsible for “economic surveillance” and the control of passports.

Daily newspapers and literary periodicals were closed down; book publishing was brought under state control; schools were interfered with; the Hungarian Academy of Sciences was “reorganised”; theatres and cinemas had their programmes laid down by the state authorities.

In mid 1949, the first of many “show trials” (starting with László Rajk) began which would result in the execution or life imprisonment (or suicide) of many public figures based on political charges.

Given this background, I have some understanding of why my father chose to leave his homeland and come to New Zealand. I guess he was lucky to have this choice. Many did not and would pay with their lives either during the cruel political regime or the violent struggle that finally erupted in October 1956.

And I guess we are lucky here in New Zealand too. Lucky that the closest we appear to come to political “corruption” is arguing over whether or not some election advertising is within the allowable limits for political party spending. □

Reflections of an old KIWI – „magyar-Kiwi”

on the background setting in New Zealand of the
Historical Drama of the
Hungarian October Revolution
fifty years ago on 23 October 1956

- by **István Steven Szirányi**

Veterán wellingtoni „magyar-Kiwi” Szirányi István feleleveníti emlékeit az 1956-os forradalom ötvenéves évfordulója alkalmából.

Saját élettörténetének vázlatát elmondja, hogy a kommunizmusnak a kényszeres beleásása Magyarország földjébe azonnal megkezdődött amint a Vörös Hadsereg elfoglalta az országot. A saját emigrációban töltött életének gyökerei is onnan erednek.

A következő ötvenéves harc kiinduló pontja a Kereszténység és a Kommunizmus közötti világnézet csatája volt. Ennek a harcnak Mindszenty József Hercegprímás volt és maradt messze a legkiemelkedőbb történelmi alakja, megtestesítve az igazi mártír szerepét.

Azok a Nemzet fiataljai, akik előfutárai voltak az 1956-ban kiáramlott 200,000 magyar menekülteknek felismertek és magukra vállaltak egy életfontosságú feladatot: felvilágosítani és megértetni a „Nyugat” elfásult közvéleményével a kommunizmus tetteit és terveit

Mindszenty mártírsága és az 56-os felkelés hősi tetteinek útján Magyarország jó neve és fogalma biztosította az Új-Zélandba érkező magyar politikai menekültek szerető és nagyrabecsülő fogadtatását.

Ezért most – a forradalom ötvenedik évfordulóján alkalmából - hálás köszönetet mondunk.

Interconnections

Reaching the milestone of 80 years is a mixed blessing: the eyes and ears have become a bit blunt and the already grey hair is getting thin and sparse, but somehow the memory of a major event 40 or 50 years ago remains sharp and many complex interconnections of causes and consequences become clear.

In order to try to describe truthfully the New Zealand scene and the background of the stage on which most of the 1956 Hungarians found themselves, I have to go back even further and try briefly to describe how and why I came to New Zealand five years earlier.

I arrived here in September 1951 after having spent three years of my life as political refugee in various western European countries for, the three years before that (1945-48) being spent after WW II in Rákosi's People's Democracy. My exit from the Soviet Army-occupied and the Communist Party-governed Hungary was sudden, dramatic and illegal: I escaped from ÁVÓ custody after days of beatings and endless interrogations in an attempt to soften me up to betray fellow students who participated with me in anti-communist resistance activity.

Back in the Red People's Paradise, throughout the years 1945-48 the communist state had turned its full fury on the one remaining resisting force left standing – the Catholic Church: they confiscated, closed and reopened as state schools all Catholic and other Christian schools; disbanded, jailed or just scattered all the teachers, priests and members of religious orders as well as any remaining resisting Christian politicians.

In December 1948, the dreaded political secret police, the ÁVÓ arrested the head of the Catholic Church in Hungary, Cardinal József Mindszenty and took him and others to their infamous “Andrássy út 60” headquarters, where he was tortured for weeks on end, physically and mentally crushed beyond endurance, before putting him as a common “criminal” and “an enemy of the people” on a show trial.

Shelves could be filled with the books and studies written of this trial, the manufactured evidence of all the Cardinal's “crimes” and the parading of the brainwashed and intimidated witnesses – all leading to a “guilty” verdict and a life sentence. The real issue was the head-on clash of two diametrically opposed belief systems – Christianity versus Communism – which, with the presence of the occupying Red Army in Hungary, Christianity could not win.

Thus a symbol of the subjugation to communism of a small but proud nation was born through the martyrdom of Cardinal Mindszenty.



Cardinal József Mindszenty (middle row second from right) with his family, including his parents to his right.

Source: Time magazine, 14 February 1949

The storm of the combating forces created conditions in which peoples lives – like the autumn leaves of trees - were just uplifted and carried, but always towards “the West”. The escape was very risky, if it failed, it was disastrous, but the rewards were so huge in terms of gaining one's freedom that nothing seemed to be too high a price to pay.

And so - after escaping from my torturers - by the time I waded through the shallow creek representing the border between Hungary and Austria during the middle of the night, I was not alone but a part of the increasing wave of fleeing young Hungarians, men and women, often carrying their children on their back.

On arriving into safe territory (i.e. occupied and administered by any of the three World War II western allied powers) we were interviewed, checked out, given a status of “political refugee”, and often just the bare minimum of food and shel-

ter. But because we were young and penniless and only spoke languages other than Hungarian at a level we had reached during our schooling, we were not depressed for long. Contacts were soon established with groups of other young Hungarians eager to hear news from home and willing to share even the barest minimum they had. We also discovered that there were international agencies in the field, set up to ease the burden of refugees and try to assist them to put together their shattered lives.

One of the most bewildering discoveries on getting to know and understand the views, beliefs and the general mind-set of "the West" was to realise how limited their knowledge was of what was really going on behind the Iron Curtain in Hungary and elsewhere in Eastern Europe.

On discovering and understanding this widespread misconception that the "cleansing of Nazi dictatorship" was a pre-emptive for the conversion of an independent NATION into a SATELLITE of the Soviet Union, it became collectively our task to set about convincing the free and democratic "West" that under the Rákosi style of "people's democracy" Hungary was neither free, nor a democracy, but a ruthless dictatorship.

The confrontation at Berlin between the former Allies in the early years of the COLD WAR, when the Red Army had encircled the former German capital and the USA built an air bridge to save the city from being swallowed by the Soviets marked for me the turning of the tide in the recognition process of what the real issues of those years were.

Further such major East- West conflicts like the Korean war (1951), the flaring up of Communism in Chile and Malaya and Indonesia, topped with the Cuban missile confrontation (1962) – have all dramatically altered the perception of the West about what the real intention of the Soviets was: world domination.

Cardinal Mindszenty's martyrdom became the living proof of this quest to dominate the world, but the full impact of it only became evident to me, after I arrived in New Zealand in 1951, some three years into the imprisonment of the Cardinal.

While Hungary as a nation, or even as a geographical entity hardly registered on the average New Zealander's radar screen, there were students at Wellington's Victoria University and elsewhere, who became interested and involved in assisting refugees to come to New Zealand as an expression of their sympathy, translated into charity, inspired by the stature of the jailed Cardinal.

I was one of the beneficiaries of their action: I received an entry permit as a "stateless" refugee; when I arrived there was a bed waiting for me and a job to start as well as a network of friends to turn to in need.

There was a war going on in Korea, and a strike on the wharfs of Wellington as our migrant ship "M V Skaubryn" sailed the Indian Ocean towards Australia. On arrival into the Pacific Ocean region, the international political atmosphere felt anything but "pacific". This tension, the foreboding anxiety about the escalation of any regional conflict between East and West into another war became a hallmark of the next five years. No wonder therefore that when the news of some student

demonstration in Budapest first hit the headlines, we here in New Zealand, Hungarians and Kiwis who had a growing concern about the possibility of a third World War, crowded around our radios intensely listening to every word of every news report from Budapest – mainly through the BBC. We received the news of the proclamation of a new free, independent and democratic Hungary with mixed feelings of elation and anxiety. We were certain of the early recognition of this by the Western Allies, but very doubtful of the chances of receiving the "help" (military - of course!) requested.

It became a major tragedy – and a deadly blow to the chances of success of the Uprising - when at exactly the same time the British, French and Israeli military forces in joint action invaded the Suez Canal. This resulted in a major split with the USA and resulted in instantly dividing the West. It also diverted the attention of the non-communist world from what was going on in Hungary and paralyzed their ability to think and decide clearly how to take advantage of the situation: we had cracked a hole in the Soviet wall and the West didn't know what to do with it!



Quite the opposite is characteristic of the Soviet decision and move which followed. Claiming the moral high ground and loudly condemning the Capitalists for the aggression in Suez against Egypt, they at the same time declared the Hungarian Uprising as „a mere reactionary counter-revolutionary plot” and big brother Krushchov quietly ordered the Soviet tanks to crush the Hungarians. And we, the bystanders here in New Zealand, like everyone throughout the Free World, witnessed all this with stunned disbelief and bitter grief for the lack of opportunity to do something!

In a matter of a few weeks the great Hungarian Uprising of 1956 was over, and on the sound tracks of the BBC News – straight from Budapest - the roar of the Soviet tanks and the explosions of their guns were replaced by reports from the Austrian side of the Hungarian border of the mass exodus of some 200,000 people fleeing the country: the young, healthy, educated mobile "cream" of the nation, which had just been recaptured into a bloodier than ever Soviet Russian subjugation.

As with any other "modern" current disaster of international scale like the Balkan War or the Indonesian Tsunami, the Western World instantly gets the message via the news media. And so we almost instantly knew the scale of the damage inflicted, especially on Budapest and became alerted to the unfolding human drama of the flood of refugees pouring out of Hungary through the hole punched in the Iron Curtain by this new October revolution.

The Red Cross, Caritas and a whole range of relief agencies swung into action to provide a roof – or maybe just some

canvas – over the heads of thousands arriving daily in Austria: to relieve the pressure and to make room for the next group arriving. The camps which were slowly depleted through the emigration of the World War II refugees were quickly filled up again.

On the international level through the United Nations, those governments on the western side of the Iron Curtain - motivated both by their sympathy and their guilt over the lost cause of the Hungarian Revolution opened up their borders and made generous contributions towards the cost of resettlement of the victims over the following few years...

The first few Hungarians who arrived in New Zealand in the late 40s and early 50s came in small groups and were welcomed into the new country not as "refugees" or "immigrants" but as new settlers in a land which – while it had some similarities to the old homeland – was so very different. We soon found that by the time we learned to stand on our two feet and started to rebuild our shattered lives, we were helped by connecting into a robust economy, overly full employment and a friendly and accommodating society. We also found time to go out and build new relationships at

whatever level we connected with in our neighbourhood.

The new wave of the 1956 Hungarians was

received by both the existing local Hungarian community and by New Zealand society as a whole – with open arms. Hundreds of families invited young single people into their homes, to have a home, learn to speak English, get to know the ins and outs of life in New Zealand, and to get a job and become financially independent.

For married people with children existing establishments like the Polish Girls' Hostel in Lyall Bay, Wellington, were opened up enabling them to use inexpensive shared facilities and save for a deposit on their first New Zealand home. To assist with learning the language of the land, volunteers prepared Hungarian-English "teach yourself" booklets and organised evening language classes.

... Tributes and thanks seem to be appropriate now that I come to conclude my attempt to describe some features of the face of New Zealand, when my fellow countrymen and women and I arrived here fifty or more years ago.

The tributes are due on the one hand to you (or may I say us) Hungarians who against all the incredible odds and difficulties, rolled up our sleeves, worked hard and created a new home for ourselves and our families. But credit and a heartfelt thank you is due to the average Kiwi neighbour, workmate or fishing partner, whose tolerance and understanding and occasional helping hand made our task just that bit easier: it made us feel welcome in New Zealand.

On behalf of all of us, the early and later arrived Hungarians of New Zealand I express our heartfelt thanks. And I, this old Hungarian-born Kiwi, after more than fifty-five years of happy life in New Zealand, I thank God – not only for having given me Hungary as my country of birth - but also for giving me New Zealand as my second home. □

Levél Magyarországról



István Pekár, entrepreneur, writer and former president of the Hungarian Duna TV, brings us this issue's letter from Hungary. He paints a picture of the current climate in Hungary of disappointment, anger and anxiety about the future. It seems the average person is completely fed up with politics and there is little faith in either the ruling coalition or the opposition. The 50th anniversary commemorations of the Revolution are being anticipated with considerable bitterness by the majority of those who actively participated, with strong resentment at the perpetrators of the injustices that have never to this day been apologised for. István Pekár sees the media as portraying the '56-ers in a derogatory light, instrumental in feeding the general public's misconceptions. He believes the basis of the world's sympathy with Hungary was built on 1956 and that the powers that be underestimate the importance of this.

The results of the recent local elections reflect the general mood, but in practice won't change much. And the persistent demonstrations continue every evening on Kossuth Square in front of Parliament - a quiet determination of a significant number of Hungarians who don't accept that politicians should like by a different set of ethics to the average person.

Rég volt ilyen szép, napsugaras ősz az óhazában, mint az idei. Ez azonban kizárólag a meteorológiára vonatkozik, a társadalmi légkör inkább valami ménkö csattogásos égháborúra emlékeztet. Csalódottság, elkeseredettség, düh, a bizonytalan jövőtől való félelem szorongatja az emberek lelkét. Most tudatosul a társadalomban, hogy az egykori keleti blokk országainak eminens tagjából a sereghajtók egyike lettünk. Az emberek zöme a kormányzó koalíciót hibáztatja, de az ellenzékkel szemben is erős a kiábrándultság.

A szeptemberi tüntetések idején a Kossuth téri és az ország-szerte jelentkező megmozdulások szónokai gyakran fogalmazták meg, hogy egészen a fundamentumig le kell bontani a rendszerváltás lázában és bizonytalanságában létrehozott politikai struktúrát, és új téglákból újat kell építeni. A politikai pártok besározódtak az elmúlt másfél évtizedben, nem képesek arra, hogy saját érdekeiken felül emelkedjenek, és az ország javát szolgálják. Egyre erősebb a polarizálódás, mindkét politikai erő csak a fél országban gondolkodik, a másik oldalt ellenségének tekinti.

Az emberek értetlenül nézik a fejleményeket, találgatják, hogy miként juthatott ide az ország. A politikusok részéről eligazodásra, tárgyilagos helyzetértékelésre nem számíthatnak. A napi sajtótájékoztatók csak tovább fokozzák a káoszt.

A miniszterelnök nyilvánosságra került beszéde volt a gyűjtőszikra a megszorító intézkedések nyomán felzaklatott közhangulatban. A békés, de vezető nélküli spontán tüntetések közül az egyik aztán zavargásba csapott át. Az atrocitásokat minden politikai erő elítélte, csupán a Kossuth téri résztvevők legradikálisabb magja nevezte az eseményeket forradalomnak, vagy zendülésnek. Az összecsapásokban résztvevők közül többen az eseményeket az 56-os forradalommal hozták összefüggésbe, ezt a párhuzamot az egykori szabadságharcosok kevés kivétellel visszautasították.

1956 résztvevői egyébként keserűen várják az ötvenedik

évfordulót, így élték meg a rendszerváltás óta eltelt éveket is. Korántsem részesültek abban a megbecsülésben, amit helytállásukért, meghurcoltatásukért megérdemelték volna. El kellett viselniük, hogy hóhéraik a legkisebb felelősségre vonásban sem részesültek, a forradalom eltipróinak utódai koszorúzzák bajtársaik sírját. Mindez természetesnek tűnik a közvélemény számára, bár közülük sokan nem tudnák elképzelni, hogy jó száz évvel ezelőtt Hajnau unokája a magyar miniszterelnök feleségeként október 6-án az aradi vértanúk emlékművénél tiszteljen! Ma ezt az abszurditást '56 hőseinek el kell viselniük, ahogyan azt is, hogy a média nagyobbik része tüntetéseken öklüket rázó, rossz ruházatú öregemberekként mutatja be őket, akik ismét hőzöngenek, „köztiszteletnek örvendő közéleti személyiségeket” vádolnak megalkuvással, áruállással. Szemükre vetik, hogy képtelenek megbocsátani kízóiknak, akik egyébként még soha bocsánatot nem kértek tőlük.

Mindezek következtében a kereskedelmi médián, a bulvársajtón szocializálódott tömegek nem érzik, nem érezhetik '56 súlyát, fontosságát. Azt, hogy a nagyvilág hazánk iránti szimpátiájának jó része e forradalomból gyökerezik. Hogy volt egy maroknyi nép, amelyik a világ egyik leghatalmasabb és legbrutálisabb birodalmával szembeállt, azt megtorpanásra készítette. Az elkövetkező nemzedékek számára a 20. század Magyarországból csak ez marad fenn a világtörténelem rostáján, de nem tudjuk megbecsülni ezt sem. Hiábavaló lett volna minden? Bizonyosan nem. Tudjuk, hogy a kallódó generációkat feltörekvők követik, akik a történelemben megtalálják azokat a pontokat, amelyekben megújulhatnak. A magyarok vére sem folyt el hiába.

1956 ötvenedik évfordulójához közeledve esténként ezek gyülekeztek és gyülekeznek a Kossuth téren. A szónokok folyamatosan váltják egymást, petíciókat írnak, követeléseket fogalmaznak meg, amelyeket közjogi méltóságok titkárai átvesznek, majd elhárító, semmitmondó válaszokat küldenek vissza. A politikai, gazdasági hatalom rossz rosszallóan szemléli őket, az ellenzék is kényeskedve közelít, méreget, a hússzázéék körül lézengő kulturális elit hallgat, vagy fintorog. Majd elfáradnak és hazamennek - mondják szenvtelenül a politikai elemzők.

Valószínűleg így is történt volna, ha nem jönnek a választások, hegyomlászerű átalakulásokat hozva. Az emberek megbüntették a kormányzó pártokat, bár a győzelemnek koránt sincs olyan súlya, mint ahogyan a nyeres pillanatában látszott. A kivérett települési önkormányzatok, a már jóval korábban kiüresített megyék nem rendelkeznek igazán hatékony eszközökkel.

Hatásában minden várákozást felülmúlt azonban a köztársasági elnök rövid beszéde, amely sok embernek, különösen a mellőzött, megkeseredett, a politikából kiábrándult értelmiségnek adta vissza a hitét: nem igaz, hogy a politika erkölcsé más, mint a kisemberé. Persze a politikusok reakciója ugyanolyan hazug volt, mint eddig. Mindenki magának citált egy kifordított fél mondatot, s lehet, hogy ők nem vették észre, de egyre többen látjuk, hogy a politikai profizmus nem a hazugság művészetét jelenti.

A rendszerváltás idején többen idézték Márainak azt a mondását, hogy a bolsevizmusnál csak egy rosszabb van, ami utána jön. Ezt akkor nem értettük meg, mert nem tudtuk, hogy mi jön utána. Azt hittük, hogy 1994 körül már tagjai leszünk az Európai Uniónak, de ez tíz évre rá következett be. Sokan úgy gondolták, hogy már nem is lesz unió, amire a felvétel kapujába érünk. Most az euróra tekintünk ilyen várákozással és hitetlenséggel.

S talán megcélozhatjuk a bolsevizmus utáni időszak végét is! Pekár István □

Across the Iron-Curtain to Down-Under

Extract from Karl (Karcsi) Németh's memoirs written for his family (in Nelson).

“... I met some friends to discuss what was happening in Budapest. Some of my friends said there was going to be a march there in the main street in Zalaegerszeg and would I like to come. Our march was not so much anti-communist, or anti-Russian - it was pro-democracy and against the one party system. Many people who joined the revolution were ex-communist with a socialist rather than a capitalist philosophy. But whether you were involved in politics or not, it rather depended on how much you were aware that you lived in a prison-like society rather than your personal philosophy. For me, like for many others it was distasteful that I could not make a choice for which I would vote, it being a one-party system.

My parents, because of their religious convictions were very anti-communist but were quite upset that I got involved in the revolution. Not because they thought it was wrong, but they were afraid for me, terribly afraid, but at 19 or 20 you don't think of that. Because of what they had gone through, they had learned to keep their mouths shut. I think that quite a few people did not get as involved as others because they didn't get carried away with the spirit of the moment. They were perhaps more realistic than others like myself. They weren't happy with the system but they weren't dreamers any more - I was...

... Our march started at 8 in the morning and went on all day. It ended in front of the district communist party headquarters about 4pm, where the protestors demanded the resignation of the district council and the declaration of free, democratic council elections. A request was made by the delegates to meet with the council leader. All of a sudden the windows opened and the secret police that were guarding the building opened up with machine gun fire at the demonstrators.

There were about 2,000 people in the demonstration, mainly young people, but other workers too from the oil refinery and local industry had taken the day off to join the march. There were some rumours, one person was killed and several injured. With that the marchers quickly dispersed and that was the outcome of our hoped-for negotiations.

About 60 or so of us decided to try and form a political group, “The Local Committee for Change”, I think we called it. We thought at least we may be able to negotiate with the local police when necessary, for things were changing very rapidly, and the secret police had gone into hiding. The local police declared they were on the side of the new freedom government. Some ex-army personnel were prepared to give some army training to people so they could guard the railway station, electricity transfer station and other strategic buildings in case Russian soldiers or secret police returned.

We camped in a hall in the council building with some sleeping in chairs or on mattresses on the floor. About midnight on 29 October, all the doors into the hall suddenly opened and Hungarian army officers from the local barracks, dressed in riot gear with helmets on and carrying machine guns and hand grenades, burst into the hall. After searching us all, and searching the building, they marched us out into the rain and into open army trucks and drove us to the army barracks. We were pushed into solitary punishment cells, a

tiny cell with one seat and we were convinced we were going to be shot.

It later became known that similar uprisings occurred in other towns and in one place, 100 demonstrators were shot. To the general populace the enemy at that time seemed to be the secret police and some of the army who still supported the secret police. But demonstrations in various towns were all in support of the call for a free Hungary.

Well, there I was in a tiny army prison cell, confessing all my sins to God and waiting for death. About 4.30 in the morning the door of the cell opened, gently this time, and a soldier invited us to go to the mess room, as the general wanted to talk to us. To our surprise we found we were offered a "humble breakfast", sandwiches and things, and then the general entered. He apologised for the "misunderstanding" and said that of course he realised now that the protestors were just advocating a free Hungary, the same as the army. He hoped we would accept his sincere apology. (I feel that the general had just received orders from his superiors who had only then decided which side they would be on. I am almost certain I wouldn't be alive today, if the timing had not been just right. If it had happened 24 hours earlier I am convinced we would have been shot.)

So we had 4 or 5 days of freedom and relative peace. Then on 4 November the Russians returned to quell the rebellion and entered every town and village in Hungary in a combined attack.

The tanks drove through the main street of Zalaegerszeg. They started arriving at 6am and at 10 o'clock they were still corning. There would have been enough tanks to fight a world war. Our group of about 100 had some old pre-World War Two rifles given to us by the police, with which we thought we were going to defend the city! Looking back now I realise that the Russian's show of strength probably saved our lives, for who could resist all those tanks? Unless you wanted to commit suicide you threw your rifle away..." □

My year at 'the Balassi'

I was full of insecurities about this scholarship when I left New Zealand in January, but I soon realized it was definitely the right choice to make. The Balassi Balint School is not about endless hours of studying or cold hallways – my year here has given me some of the closest friends I've ever had, opportunities to discover Hungary and Europe, and lessons in life as well as Hungarian culture. The atmosphere between the students is open, relaxed and fun, and the way the classes are structured gives you time for experiencing Budapest too.

The range of language knowledge starts from people of Hungarian origin who don't speak a word of Hungarian, to people who have diplomas in Hungarian Language and Literature and speak like natives. The lessons are tailored to try and fit everyone and the teachers are all qualified and very apt at what they do. Living in the college becomes familiar and friendly very quickly, and of course everyone gets out of it what they put in, but the community there can easily become some of the people closest to your heart. My year at 'the Balassi' is one I'll never forget, and has undoubtedly been one of the best, most exhilarating years of my life. I wouldn't hesitate for a moment to recommend it to everyone who has an interest in their Hungarian-ness.

Zsófia Hellyer

Applications for 2007 close on 30 November 2006.
Details available at: www.bbi.hu
(or contact the Editor for further information: 04-9737507)

"As I Remember"

**Extract from Elizabeth Kainer's memoirs
written for her family (in Auckland).**

"... I was very happy with my studies, those years were wonderful. This time was the hard swatting year, good friends, and intelligent environment. I hardly could wait to complete my degree and be with patients. However things turned out differently!!

The revolution

It was sudden; it was short lived but powerful. We were sitting 400 of us in the lecture room of the Surgical Clinic, listening to Prof. Sebestyén teaching us about Thoraco - plastica in cases of stubborn lung tuberculosis. This was my favourite subject; I was so sure then that I will be a Surgeon one day. Suddenly the professor and the lecturers walked out - we could not believe it. It was only 10:30 am. Why? What happened? The next moment two young men and a woman appeared. They wore thick ribbon of the Hungarian tricolours from their shoulder to their hip and across their back. We sat in great silence, and were scared as it was not desirable to show anything Hungarian in those days: you could finish up in jail.

They addressed us "Honfitársak" (fellow countrymen) - this was against the rules too. What's happening? They told us they are leaders of the revolution against soviet rules, they read out 10 points demands. They informed us there will be a new government headed by Imre Nagy, with the help of the leader of the army's Pál Maléter.

The 10 points the way I remember them:

1. dissolution of the AVÓ Secret Police
2. formation of a multi-party system
3. free elections
4. freedom of speech
5. Soviet troops to leave Hungary,
6. Hungary's withdrawal from the Warsaw Pact
7. Hungary to become neutral
8. Free all political prisoners
9. Get our land back from neighbouring Countries
10. No compulsory Russian language

Unbelievable!!! Is it true, did we hear correctly? We did, and suddenly we felt almost free. The revolutionaries also told us that there are delegates out talking at factories, offices, high schools, other universities, army, police and people on the streets at this very minute informing them about the revolution – great!

They instructed us, we must all march to the Parliament Square and meet about 2-3 pm with the other young people of Budapest.

The Campus

Üllői u. 26 and the Clinic buildings are built to form a large square park, where students can sit outside, walk, study between lectures. Between the buildings on the street side are very high wrought iron fences and gates. The gates are closed at night.

The other faculties of medical, dental and pharmacy students were also released at the same time from their lecture rooms this day, so the park was filled with people. We wanted to march to the parliament but the gates had been locked on us. It took about an hour to get the chains cut

open. By this time the revolutionary feeling was very high: "we want freedom, we want freedom" was what thousands of students chanted. We marched in the middle of the road, ten in a row and started singing Hungarian songs which was not allowed because it could "wake up revolutionary feelings".

Songs like: "Kossuth Lajos azt üzenté..."
 "Gábor Áron réz ágyuja..."
 "Horthy Miklós katonája vagyok..."
 "Csaba vezér sittyá népe..." etc

The road looked like a river of people. There were no buses or cars on the road, just people and more people. From the shops, older folk came out, waving to us happily. The windows of the houses had Hungarian flags flying, people yelling "God bless you, young people of Hungary! Freedom, freedom!" I never saw such happy faces, nor so many of them. Tears of joy were in their eyes and they were throwing kisses to us, our people, we Hungarians. We felt great power, great happiness and we are kept marching on to Parliament.

About 2pm we arrived to Petőfi Square where the statue of Petőfi stood - he is a very loved Hungarian poet. We stopped for a short time and someone recited a poem (Talpra magyar...), then we continued to the Parliament Square - we already felt free from Russia!

We arrived about 4pm, the large square was already filled with people from other universities and factories. We waited for a little while when some delegates came to the parliament steps, they were the leaders of the revolution; they read up the 10 points and talked about freedom. The government officials locked the parliament doors and did not want to meet the student delegates, so we waited again. We were singing the National Anthem and the Szózat. The road lights which were controlled by the Russians and some communists did not light up. It was dark now, no moonlight. We got out our note books and burned them as torches, singing and waiting.

The parliament square was bordered by government-office buildings – all of a sudden from their windows Russian soldiers and hard line communists opened machine gun fire on us. People screamed, yelled, cried and tried to run into side streets. This was a most frightening chaos; so many people were injured and dead. I tried to run, but I was rather carried with the closely packed body of people. Somehow I got on the opposite side of the Parliament so I had to try to get across the bridge over the Danube to Buda, to run home where we lived nearby. As I mentioned there was no traffic on the roads, only running and screaming people running for their life away from the flying bullets. It was dark but sometime the moon gave us light from the moving clouds. The air was frosty. In this hopeless moment I heard my name "Csöpi" being yelled. (This is my family nick name, not so common.) Oh - I knew Eri my husband was there somewhere, and I yelled back. We found each other, he was with his best friend, Paul Sipka, they were combing Buda looking for me. They held me on both arms and ran into the nearest street away from the machinegun fire. Bullets were coming from all directions but we got home safely. Absolutely exhausted and terrified... " □

FORINT

Rates as of 16 October 2006 . Base currency is HUF.

<u>Currency Unit</u>	<u>HUF/Unit</u>
EUR Euro	265.80
USD United States Dollar	212.10
GBP United Kingdom Pound	394.72
CAD Canada Dollar	186.45
AUD Australia Dollar	159.84
<u>NZD New Zealand Dollar</u>	<u>139.70</u>
CZK Czech Republic Koruny	9.39
HUF Hungary Forint	1.00
PLN Poland Zlotych	68.45
ROL Romania New Lei	75.84
RUR Russia Ruble	7.87

Kenneth Klára

Anyu, tüntetni megyek!

*Tegnap még, selymes szőke hajad
 Simogatta szelíd anyai kéz...
 Ma fegyverrel a kezekben
 A barikádra mész...*

*Tegnap még féltél az iskolában,
 Hogy a leckét nem tudod jól...
 Ma? Orosz túlerővel szemben
 A géppisztolyod szól...*

*Csak tizennégy éves voltál
 Vézna, kékszemű gyerek,
 Bekiáltottál a konyhába:
 Anyu, most tüntetni megyek!!!*

*Olcsó mackóruhát viseltél,
 Megtalpalt iskolacipőt.
 Emléked azóta már
 Csodás legendává nőtt...*

*Mert soha, soha a világon
 Még nem harcolt ilyen sereg,
 Halált megvető bátorsággal
 Ennyi gyerek, magyar gyerek!*

*Szemben az orosz tankokkal
 Mely mint dübörgő halál
 Pillanatonként százakat
 Irgalmatlanul lekaszál!*

*Drága kis testeken gázol
 Páncélszőrnyek hernyótalpa
 Szovjet tankokra vér tapad
 És ott feküsztek halva. Halva!*

*Megölték a gyerekeinket
 A hősokeket, mert szembeszálltak...
 Bolsevista bitangok hada
 Nemzetgyilkossá váltak!*

*Ezt a vért nem mossa le
 Évezredek istélőszéke
 És egy napon fegyvert ragad
 A világnak minden népe!*

*Példát vesz Rólad kisfiú,
 Te vézna iskolásgyerek,
 Aki beszóltál a konyhába:
 Anyu, most tüntetni megyek!!!*

A költő 1957 írta, az októberi szabadságharc első évfordulóján, a legifjabb hőseink emlékére.



„Bosszút állunk érted” szól a felirat.
 (We will revenge your death - says the sign.)
 Forrás: Kyriák Privát Gyűjtemény

October in Hungarian History



- Paul Hellyer

It seems almost inappropriate to write about October in Hungarian history in this month in which we celebrate and commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of 1956 Hungarian Revolution. So much has and will continue to be written about the events of this month that there is little I can add. The readers of the Magyar Szó range from those who were active participants to those who have only read or heard about this momentous event in books or film. But all recognise that the month of October holds a unique and sacred place in the history of Hungary. I don't propose to detail the events of the Revolution: these are canvassed elsewhere in this issue of the Magyar Szó and in many other publications. However, the importance of the events of October 1956 to modern-day Hungary can not be over-estimated. Put simply, the events of October 1956 were the greatest deed of the Hungarian people in the twentieth century.

It comes as no surprise that the new, post-Communist Republic of Hungary came into existence on the 23rd of October 1989. This is an explicit statement that the foundations and very legitimacy of post-Communist Hungary are founded on the events of October 1956. The current Hungarian political, legal and constitutional system has a direct and unadulterated link back to 1956. This linkage can clearly be seen in the very first Act of the newly elected Parliament of 1990 when they passed the so-called Law XXVIII in May 1990. This short Act declares 23 October to be a national holiday that commemorates both the events of October 1956 and the establishment of the Republic a few months earlier.

Without the events of October 1956, the current Hungarian state would not make sense and would not exist.

If 1956 was the greatest event in 20th century Hungary, then the revolution of 1848 was the greatest in the previous century. And, as so often in Hungarian history, we find linkages between these two great events and the month of October is no exception. October 6 is the day that commemorates the execution of 13 generals of the Hungarian revolutionary army in 1849 in the town of Arad, now in Romania. The defeat of the 1848 revolution had occurred a few weeks earlier when Görgey had surrendered at Világos and it was time for punishment and reprisals. These were led by the Austrian commander Haynau, known as the 'hyena of Brescia' for his earlier acts of brutality. He once boasted that 'he would see to it that there should be no more revolutions in Hungary for a hundred years'. Incidentally, the date of the executions was chosen to mark the anniversary of the mob lynching of Austria's Minister of War, Latour, in Vienna one year earlier.

But for many, October 6 is a day to commemorate those that died for Hungarian freedom. In 1956 it would also be the day chosen for the public reburial of László Rajk, a former communist leader who had been executed by Rákosi in 1949.

Another great event took place in Hungarian history in October was in 1552 and this time it was a victory – at least in the medium term - for it was at this time that the Turkish siege of Eger was defeated by Captain István Dobó, the

defenders of the castle numbering less than 2,100 people, including women and children. The Turks on the other hand numbered some 80,000! These heroic deeds are the subject of the novel all Hungarian children read, *Eclipse of the Crescent Moon* (Egri Csillagok) by famous 19th century Hungarian writer, Géza Gárdonyi. The Turks returned over forty years later in 1596 with a much bigger army and captured the town in a week. But the deeds of Dobó and the citizens of Eger live on in the Hungarian imagination. Their deeds are also captured in one of Hungary's most famous paintings:



"Women of Eger" by Bertalan Székely.

October 15, 1944 was a dark day for Hungary. On that day Horthy declared an Armistice and sought to remove Hungary from the war. He realised that a German victory was impossible saying "Today it is obvious to any sober-minded person that the German Reich has lost the war". On his orders negotiations with the Soviet Union over the terms of an armistice had taken place and as part of the plan to ensure the success of this Armistice, a plot was underway to arrest key members of the far-right. But events unfolded rapidly and in a short time Horthy was forced to abdicate and hand over power to the leader of the Arrow Cross, Ferenc Szálasi. A key factor in Horthy's change of heart was his son: he had earlier been kidnapped by the Germans and promised that his son would be able to join him in a safe place in Germany.

On October 4, 1896 Emperor Franz Joseph opened a new bridge across the Danube. Now known as the Freedom Bridge (Szabadság híd) it was then named after the emperor himself. For many people, this is their favourite bridge in



Budapest. Measuring some 330 metres long, the top of the four masts are decorated with large bronze statues of the Turul, a falcon-like bird, prominent in ancient Hungarian mythology. On the Pest side of the bridge there is the large

market hall (Nagycsarnok) and on the Buda side of the bridge there is the famous Gellért Hotel.

In October 1937 the Hungarian scientist, Albert Szent-Györgyi, received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine "For his discoveries in connection with the biological combustion process with special reference to vitamin C and the catalysis of fumaric acid". During World War II he joined the Hungarian resistance movement. Although Hungary was allied with the Axis Powers, the Hungarian Prime Minister Miklós Kállay sent Szent-Györgyi to Istanbul in 1944 under the guise of a scientific lecture to begin secret negotiations with the Allies. The Germans learned of this plot, and Adolf Hitler himself issued a warrant for the arrest of Szent-Györgyi. He escaped house arrest and spent 1944 to 1945 as a fugitive from the Gestapo. Of the many Hungarians who have won the Nobel prize, he was one of the few to do so while actually working in Hungary. He died on October 22, 1986.

In October we celebrate a number of birthdays for prominent Hungarians including the well known nineteenth century politician Ferenc Deák, born October 17, 1803; the writer Gyula Krúdy on October 21, 1878; Bálint Balassi, universally acknowledged as Hungary's first major poet was born in Zólyom (now Zvolen in Slovakia) on October 20, 1554; the musician Franz Liszt was born on October 22, 1811 and lastly, the most famous war photographer of the twentieth century, Robert Capra (born Endre Ernő Friedmann) was born on October 22, 1913 in Budapest. His famous injunction to photographers was "If your pictures aren't good enough, you aren't close enough."

In October we also mourn the passing of notable Hungarians such as the writer and poet Ernő Szép on October 2, 1953; Imre Madách on October 5, 1864; the composer Ferenc Lehár on October 24, 1948; and lastly, the poet János Arany died on October 22, 1882.

Postscript

After I wrote this article, political events in September and October 2006 in Hungary took a dramatic turn. After a recording of the Prime Minister was made public in which he is heard saying that he had lied by not telling the Hungarian people the truth of the economic situation in order to win the election, there were large scale demonstrations, the first of which turned violent. One of the largest took place on October 6, the day the Parliament held its first motion of no-confidence since the change in the regime. The governing Socialist party won the vote and tens of thousands of people demonstrated outside Parliament in Kossuth tér. This date is rich, of course, rich in symbolism and serves to remind us that October is very much a month in which Hungarians fight and struggle for their freedoms. □

Magyar Millennium Park



The Magyar Millennium Park (Hungarian Garden) Trust became incorporated as an independent charitable trust in July 2005. The Trust is responsible for maintaining the trust funds to enable continuing maintenance of the Park, in particular the Kopjafa and Székely Kapu, and occasional upgrades to the Park.

The Wellington City Council Parks and Gardens looks after the greenery in the Park, including trees, flowerbeds and the lawn area.

The trustees, currently Klara Szentirmay (as consul), Steven Szirányi, Peter Stipkovits and Thiam Szentirmay (secretary/treasurer), work closely with the Wellington City Council to ensure as smooth as possible procedures in both the ongoing work and the one-off jobs.

Apart from maintenance work on the wooden structures, over the past 18 months, the Trustees have been working on Phase II of the project to raise funds for and implement improvements to the Park. Some of these have been deemed necessary because of lessons learnt from "Phase I" – for example in conjunction with the WCC we have installed an irrigation system which will improve the survival rate of the plants. We have also installed special lighting, designed to turn on at the same time as the street lights, which will light up the Kapu and the Kopjafa.

The demand for new pavers has been surprisingly low, so it has taken some time to build up enough to place an order – they are made in and shipped from Australia. The new engraved pavers will finally be unveiled as part of the 50th anniversary commemorations of the Hungarian Revolution on 23 October. Thank you to all those who have been waiting patiently, in some cases nearly three years, for their paver to be laid.

Unveiling of the planned Phase III, which will include a notice board, a time-capsule and a flagpole is scheduled to happen at the commemoration of March 15th, 2007.

We take this opportunity to express our thanks to all those who have bought pavers and made donations. We are also indebted to the Lion Foundation, Trust House and the Southern Trust for their generous grants enabling improvements to the Park as mentioned above. And of course we appreciate the on-going support from the Wellington City Council.

The Magyar Millennium Park (Hungarian Garden) Trust takes pleasure in hosting the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution at the Magyar Millennium Park on 23 October. We look forward to seeing many Magyar Szó readers there!

Magyar Millennium Park (Hungarian Garden) Trust □



The Unconscious - Dr Endre Maurer



I have often referred to the concept of Unconsciousness in my writings. In some ways we all pay lip-service to it but it does not mean that we wholeheartedly accept its existence in us. As a matter of fact, the idea that it is the keeper of the 'animal' in us, has produced moral outrage in some circles.

Sigmund Freud laid the foundations of psychotherapy, (his version is known as psychoanalysis) some seventy years ago. In 1899, he published the book "The Interpretation of Dreams" which presented a set of revolutionary ideas about our psychological make-up. Based on his observation of his patients he constructed a personality theory of three elements: the driven id, the moralistic super-ego and the ego, the latter being the go-between the two. His analytic theoretical concepts also included the unconscious process of dreaming, and various 'defence mechanisms', among them repression being the villain responsible for the existence of the unconscious.

Defence mechanisms are mental processes. A few of them are conscious functions, e.g. when we deliberately deny the existence of disturbing thoughts or feelings (I am not worried, I am not scared of you, etc.), but most of them operate outside of awareness, mainly to deny the existence of those early traumatic events which, if breaking into our consciousness, cause mental suffering. The methods Freud devised to gain access to that repressed material were the techniques of 'free association' and 'dream analysis'. The former is better known by its 'nick-name' of 'talk-therapy'. Freud told his patients to relax on the couch and challenged them to tell him whatever came into their minds. These utterances being seemingly innocuous, meaningless, escape the attention of the gate-keeper of the unconscious (called the censor). They are 'analysed' by the therapist as they are regarded as messages in disguise. Learning the true meaning of these produces insights into the nature of the patient's problems, or a cathartic release of disturbing emotions.

The basis of his dream theory is that the visions we have while asleep are partial glimpses of our unconscious wishes. When asleep our censor becomes drowsy too, and to further bypass its awareness, these wishes appear in distorted forms. The remembered part of the dream is called the 'manifest content'; the bizarre nature of it is the result of the mind's effort to avoid censorship. This symbolic, disguised content is then analysed to decipher its real meaning.

To summarise: Freud's basic assumption is that the main-spring of our actions (motivation) lie deeply buried in our unconscious. We only fool ourselves by pretending to be rational creatures. Often we pay a high price for this delusion. As statistics indicate: one in every four of us needs some help in our life-time and ten per cent of the population requires hospitalisation. Whether we need help or not depends on our 'ego-strength'. The ego is akin to a referee of a boxing match, but the fighters, instead of fighting each other, turn upon the referee. This poor thing, being squeezed between the id and the superego, tries to control the ongoing battle: i.e. to repress (reject) those unconscious drives which collide with the socialised conception of ourselves. Only a very strong and capable referee can keep the balance and prevent head-butting occurring on the field.

His views of human nature and the tripartite division of the

psyche have been fully accepted only by the members of the Psychoanalytic Society. As drug treatment and other psychotherapeutic interventions gained ground, they overshadowed Freud's system. At one stage Freud became 'history'. However, as neither pharmacology nor the new-fangled therapies have managed to deliver the hoped-for salvation, the picture painted by Freud is coming back into focus. "An increasing number of diverse neuroscientists are reaching the same conclusion drawn by Eric R. Kandel of Columbia University, the 2000 Nobel laureate in physiology or medicine: that psychoanalysis is still the most coherent and intellectually most satisfying view of the mind." (Scientific American, vol. 17, No 2, April/May 2006, page 30).

Repression is being vindicated. Case studies supporting this notion are accumulating. A behavioural neurologist, Ramachandran states: "seeing (that patient) convinced me, for the first time, of the reality of the repression phenomena that form the cornerstone of classical psychoanalytical theory." (ibid, page 30.)

The least acceptable part of the Freudian apparatus is the 'id' as it contains the 'pleasure principle' which gives expression to primitive, animal drives. As pointed out already, the idea, that at the most basic level, our motivation is driven by carnal self-fulfilment, is unacceptable to most of us. However, neuroscientists Donald W. Pfaff of the Rockefeller University and Panksepp of Bowling Green State University believe that "the instinctual mechanisms that govern human motivation are even more primitive than Freud imagined. We share basic emotional-control systems with our primate relatives and with all animals. At the deep level of mental organisation that Freud called the id, the functional anatomy and chemistry of our brains is not much different from that of our favourite barnyard animals and household pets... The pursuit of pleasure...the seeking system, regulated by dopamine, bears a remarkable resemblance to the Freudian 'libido'. According to Freud the libidinal or sexual drive is a pleasure-seeking system that energises most of our goal-directed behaviour. Modern research shows that its neural equivalent is heavily implicated in almost all forms of craving and addictions." (ibid, page 33)

Karl G. Jung, a prominent member of the infant psychoanalytic movement further complicated matters. He distinguished between the 'personal unconscious' similar to that of Freud's ideas, but expanded our psyche by adding the concept of universal or 'collective unconscious' to it. Working with schizophrenics, he was struck by the frequent appearance of images which were remarkably similar to those reported by patients of widely varying backgrounds. Later studies carried out by the Grof brothers (both are eminent psychiatrists) suggested that the dream processes, described by Jung, are displayed by normal people and the elements of these dreams are found in the great myths and legends known all over the world. Jung concluded that the mind of man as well as his body bears traces of his racial past; that he is predisposed to certain deep expectations, longings, and fears rooted in pre-history over and above his experience as an individual. He called the representations of this collective unconscious 'Archetypes'. The details may vary with the personal and cultural background of the individual, but the main outlines are universal. In Jung's view, insight into the unconscious should not be limited to the recovery of repressed infantile material, but be concerned, as well, with his spiritual and artistic longings. Collective unconscious is neither 'good' nor 'bad'. Great art draws on it as well as psychoses. It is the fundamental creative nucleus of human beings.

It is comforting to know that this insatiable animal also has the potential of becoming a saint or a great artist. Or, is the tale of 'The Beauty and the Beast' only a myth? □

1956 valósága

[folytatás az 1. oldalról]

A világ minden demokratikus országában nagy volt a felháborodás, amint lassan kiszivárgott, pontosan mi történik Magyarországon. Ha mást nem is tudtak, nap mint nap olvashattak a hátborzongó eseményekről, később pedig egyre többen közvetlenül is érintve voltak, amint folyamatosan érkeztek a menekültek.

Nem volt akkor még Internet vagy tévé, de tele volt vele a rádió és az újság hasábjai. A világ megtudta, hogy rendkívüli nagy diák tömeghez csatlakoztak budapesti lakosok és munkások, míg csaknem háromszázezeren tüntettek... békésen... a szabadságért. A világ megtudta azt is, hogy az ávosok a tömegbe löve jóindulatú tüntetőket öltek meg. Megtudták, hogy az elnyomott, bátor magyarok kiszabadítottak politikai foglyokat, elsőként Mindszenty bíboros hercegprímást, és hogy amit Nagy Imre miniszterelnökük követel az a szovjethatalomtól való felszabadulás és magyar semlegeség. Hitetlenül figyelték a nép szovjet túlerővel szemben napokig kitartó bátorságát, a Nagy Imre eltűnését, majd a végső elnyomást.

A szabadság eszméért vívott küzdelem és annak leverése bizony mély nyomot hagyott, és nem csak a magyarok szívében, hanem a demokráciában élő emberek emlékezetében is. Ezek a nyomok a mai napig is megmaradtak, ötven évre rá, mind a szívekben, mind az emlékezetekben.

... Minden generáció a saját szemszögéből értelmezi múltját, örökségét. Az idegenbe telepedett '56-osok mindegyikének saját sztorija van a menekülésről, kinek hogyan és miért kellett eljönnie. De mint minden nagyobb történelmi hullám esetében, a hogyan és miért teljesen mindegyé vált, a menekültek ugyanabba a hajóba kerültek, s mindenkinek ugyanúgy eveznie kellett, hogy megmaradjon.

Legtöbb magyar, legyen az otthonmaradt, vagy elmenekült lényegében igyekezett nem foglalkozni a múlttal; a valóság legtöbb esetben fájdalmas volt, és ésszerűbb volt elfelejteni, vagy legalább eltemetni. Akkor legalábbis.

Ámde '56 nem hagyta magát elfelejtetni. Nem taníthattak ugyan semmit se róla a magyarországi iskolákban, és közben felnőtt majd két generáció a hazug rendszerben, - nyilván ennek is volt a következménye, de egyszerre csak ismét a magyar nép bátorságára figyelt fel a világ, amikor 1989. október 23-án a Magyar Köztársaság kikiáltotta függetlenségét. Megtörtént az otthoni köznyelv szerint elnevezett „rendszer váltás”, amit angolul egyébként most is a „kommunizmus lebukásának” nevezünk. A forradalom elnémított eszméi végre érvényesülhettek, a felülmúlhatatlan áldozat végre meghozta eredményét.

1989. október 23-ra reagálva külföldön is felszabadultunk. Végre-valahára a nyilvánosság előtt igazoltathattuk magunkat, - ismét büszkék lehetettünk, igazán büszkék arra, hogy magyarok vagyunk.

... Azóta teszünk-veszünk, éldegélünk. Az emlékek elhomályosodnak. A szabadság dicsősége elhalványul, mindennapi életünkben egyértelművé válik. És közben a forradalom 50-ik évfordulója előestéjén, tátott szájjal figyeljük, mi lehet a következménye, ha egy nép nem szembesül a múltjával.

Gyöngyös Imre: Emlékeztető

A forradalom, mint az ifjúságod
valószínűtlen messzeségbe tűnik;
felejtéssel bár sok rész elszivárgott,
megtölti még a szívedet színültig.

Mindegy hol kezdted, mindegy merre végzed,
s akármivé értékeled magad,
születéseddel rendelte a végzet,
hogy magyar légy s magyarnak megmaradj!

Agyad akárhány részletet felejtethet,
ötvenhatal te is sorsot jelölsz,
s legyen tiéd a földön bármi rejtek,
világvezér légy vagy barlangi bölcs,
a forradalmunk megmarad veled,
mert életed annak köszönheted.



After a piece of Stalin, 24 October 1956

Source: Kyriák Private Collection

Memento

- Imre Gyöngyös

The revolution, like your youth has passed
Into a vague and improbable distance;
Although forgetfulness may have been vast,
Remembering it tries our heart's resistance.

No matter whence you started, where you'll end
Whatever you may think you must be worth,
Magyar! You'll always stay Hungarian!
-- So ordered by your destiny at birth. --

Several details in your mind may fade,
By fifty six your fate was clearly mapped;
You may possess the best of sheltered shade
Of a lonely sage or leader of the pack,

In you our freedom-fight be always rife
And be thankful to it to be alive.

Bizony '56-ot nem szabad elfelejteniünk. Sőt, elodázhatatlan kötelességünk emlékezni, nem csak a szabadságért lobogtatott zászlókra, hősi tettekre, áldozatokra, hanem a fellobbanás okaira, a kommunizmus rendszer valóságára. Nem hagyhatjuk elfelejtetni. Az unokáinknak is mesélnünk kell róla. Nem csak saját népiünknek tartozunk legalább ennyivel, de a világnak is.

Szentirmay Klára

□

The Truth about 1956

(cont. from p.1)

As the news of what was happening in Hungary in October 1956 slowly seeped out, the vehemence of the condemnation expressed by democratic countries throughout the world was considerable. They learnt about the extraordinary events day in, day out through the papers, and later many people's lives were directly touched as the refugees started arriving.

Of course there was no Internet back then or TV, but the radio and newspapers were full of it. The world learnt about the peaceful protests started by a large number of university students, who were joined by Budapest residents and local workers numbering altogether some 300,000. And the world learnt about the Hungarian secret police opening fire on the crowd and killing hundreds of peaceful demonstrators. They learnt about the oppressed brave Hungarians freeing political prisoners, foremost among them Cardinal Mindszenty, and that Prime Minister Imre Nagy was demanding independence from Soviet rule as well as Hungary's neutrality. They unbelievably watched the people's unfaltering courage in the face of Soviets forces far out-numbering theirs, Imre Nagy's disappearance, and the final crushing of the Uprising.

The fight for freedom and its subsequent defeat left a big mark, not just on the hearts of Hungarians, but also in the memory of those living in democracy. Fifty years later these marks remain, in hearts and memories alike.

Every generation regards the past and their legacies from their own point of view. Every person who settled in a new homeland following the Revolution has their own story to tell about how and why they left. But just as with any major historical event, the how and why became irrelevant when all the refugees ended up in the same boat, each having to grab an oar, so to speak, to make it at all.

Most Hungarians, whether they stayed in Hungary or fled, effectively tried to avoid the past; the reality in most instances was too painful, and it was more sensible to forget it, or at least bury it. Back then it was anyway.

But 1956 was not about to be forgotten. In spite of the Hungarian education syllabus not covering the Revolution, and two generations having grown up in this deceitful system in the meantime (– this too must have its consequences), all of a sudden world attention was focussed on Magyar people's courage yet again, when on 23 October 1989 the Republic of Hungary declared her independence. The Soviet empire was crumbling - Hungary finally threw off the shackles of communism. The silenced principles of the Revolution had ultimately won, the unfathomable sacrifice had brought its results at long last.

In reaction to 23 October 1989 Hungarians abroad unwittingly became freed as well. Finally they could validate themselves, be proud again, really proud to be Hungarian.

Since then we bustle along doing this and that. The memories start to become blurred. The glory of freedom fades, we more or less take it for granted in our everyday lives. And in the meantime, on the eve of the 50th anniversary of

Anonymous

Boundary Stone

*The willows that cry to the winds
protect him on the riverbank.
A younger sister and a mother
were looking for him in the evening.*

*A line of blood drawn thinly
down the forehead cleaves the face.
The body lies on its back, a tall stone
that once stood upright here.*

*It fixes for all time our new borders.
Our past has ended with his death.
What can be the same for us
when death is bound among these willows?*

*The nation went to the streets
on the twenty-third of October,
and that was yesterday. We cried out
and our hearts broke open in secret places.*

*He had no other truth:
his only weapon was courage.
A hundred heavy tanks
ground him under like wheat in the mill.*

*Today he lies on the riverbank
among willows, formed in soft grasses.
He measures us, a stone which no death
can shatter again between the worlds.*

- Adapted by John Knoepfle



Hungarian-Austrian border, November 1956

Source: Kyriák Private Collection

the Revolution, we watch with mouths wide open, witness to the consequences of what can happen, if a nation does not face up to her past.

No, we must not forget 1956. In fact it's our duty to remember, not just the flags that were waved for freedom, the heroic acts and sacrifices, but the reasons for the Uprising, the realities of communism. We can't let it be forgotten. We need to tell our grandchildren about it. We owe at least this much to our people, and we owe it to the world.

Klára Szentirmay □

Az 1956-os forradalom. Miért Magyarország?

- Dr. Szakály Sándor



The Hungarian revolution and fight for freedom that took place in 1956 was one of the most important events of Hungarian history in the 20th century and had a great effect on world history. The twelve days between October 23 and November 4,

1956 turned the eye of the world towards this small European country with barely 10 million citizens. But what really happened during these twelve days in Hungary? What circumstances led to this event we call revolution or fight for freedom today? These are the questions historian Dr Sándor Szakály looks at in the article below.

Dr Szakály will be visiting Australia and New Zealand as part of the 50th anniversary commemorations. He is a specialist in Hungarian political and military history and is also Chief Archivist at the National Archives in Budapest. He has published 10 books and several studies on Hungarian military history in the 19th and 20th centuries. He is giving three speeches in New Zealand: two in Christchurch (6 November at the Riccarton Rotary Club, 7 November, 6pm at the Canterbury Museum) and one in Wellington (8 November, 5.30pm at GBLT1, Law School, Pipitea Campus, Victoria University).

Dr Szakály will focus on the Hungarian Revolution and how it is seen today.

1956-os esztendő magyarországi forradalma és szabadságharca a XX. századi magyar történelem kiemelkedő, világtörténelmi hatású eseménye. Az 1956. október 23-a és november 4-e között eltelt tizennégy nap a világ érdeklődésének középpontjába emelte az európai, alig tízmilliós országot. De mi is történt 1956. október 23-a és november 4-e között Magyarországon? Milyen történések vezettek a ma már csak forradalom és szabadságharcként emlegetett eseményhez?

Magyarország a második világháború befejezése után a teheráni (1943), illetve a jaltai (1945) megállapodások következtében a Szovjetunió érdekszférájába került és mint legyőzött ország szovjet megszállás alatt állt az 1947. február 10-én Párizsban aláírt békeszerződés megszületéséig.

Ezen két esztendő alatt egy korlátozott szuverenitású ország a polgári demokratikus társadalom létrehozásával kísérletezett. A demokratikus többpártrendszer -- amely lehetőséget biztosított volna a későbbi átalakulásokhoz -- azonban 1947 őszére álommá vált. Az 1947. augusztus 31-ei az országgyűlési választásokon a Magyar Kommunista Párt és a Szociáldemokrata Párt választási csalások segítségével jelentősen megerősödött és a látszólag még koalíciós kormányzatban döntő befolyásra tett szert.

A Magyar Kommunista Párt a következő hónapokban -- szovjet segítséggel -- ellehetetlenítve a többi pártot -- amelyeknek vezetői számára lehetővé tették a "nyugati világba" történő emigrálást -- átvette a teljes hatalmat. Megindult az

ország szovjetizálása és 1949-re gyakorlatilag sztálini típusú zszarnoki uralom jött létre.

S mit jelentett ez? 1945 és 1949 között gyakorlatilag állami tulajdonba vettek minden ipari vállalatot, üzemet, bankot és kereskedelmi céget. 1945-ben megindították a földreformot, amely eredményeként a magántulajdonban lévő földterület nagysága száz, illetve kétszáz hold alá csökkent. A későbbiek során a földtulajdonnal rendelkezőket kötelezték a szovjet típusú mezőgazdasági szövetkezetekbe történő belépésre. Az állambiztonsági rendőrség 1945-ös megalakulásától kezdve a Magyar Kommunista párt irányítása alatt állt és törvénytelen ségek tömegét követte el. Konceptiók perek indultak mindazok ellen akik a kommunisták hatalmát "potenciálisan" veszélyeztethették. Államosították az egyházi iskolákat, a különböző egyházak vezetői bíróság elé állították. Az iparban és a bányászatban olyan teljesítménynormákat írtak elő, amelyek teljesítése szinte teljesíthetetlen lett. Az 1945 és 1947 között javuló életszínvonal a következő esztendőkből állandóan csökkent. A magántulajdon mint olyan szinte teljesen megszűnt.



1950. május 1. felvonulás Andrásy úton, Budapesten

Forrás: 1956-os Magyar Forradalom Történetének Dokumentációs és Kutatóintézete Közalapítvány

Ennek is betudhatóan az 1950-es évek elejére az ország gazdasági, társadalmi és politikai helyzete soha nem látott mélységekbe süllyedt. 1951-1952-ben az életszínvonal, illetve a nemzeti össztermék (GDP) alacsonyabb volt mint 1938-ban.

Az elégedetlenség az ország valamennyi rétegében erős indulatokat váltott ki. A hatalom érezve a lehetetlen helyzetet, erős szovjet "ráhatásra", "kiigazítással" kísérletezett. 1953-ban az addigi miniszterelnököt, a Magyar Dolgozók Pártja nevet viselő kommunista párt vezetőjét, Rákosi Mátyást miniszterelnöki tisztéből felmentették és az akkori viszonyok között reformernek tekinthető Nagy Imrét bízták meg a kormány megalakításával.

Nagy Imre politikája eredményeként a mezőgazdasági kényszer egyesülésekből (TszCs) lehetőség volt a kiválásra, csökkentették az ipari üzemekben a normákat, rendezték a fizetéseket és bizonyos fokú kulturális "szabadságot" is biztosítottak. Ezek a változások természetesen erősen kötőd-

tek a Sztálin halála utáni Szovjet-unióban kialakult helyzethez.

Amikor a Szovjet-unióban változott a helyzet akkor természetesen az Magyarországon is érezte a hatását. Nagy Imrét felmentették miniszterelnöki tiszteből (1955) és ismét a "kemény" vonal hívei -- élükön Rákosi Mátyással, a Magyar Dolgozók Pártja főtitkárával -- kerültek fölénybe. Nagy Imre a későbbiek során minden párttiszttségét majd a párttagságát is elveszítette.

Jelentős változások a SzKP XX. kongresszusa után váltak érezhetővé a magyar belpolitikai életben. A Szovjetunióban megindult változások erősen befolyásolták a magyar közvélemény és a politikai élet lehetőségeit.

Az emberek többsége egy megreformálandó szocializmus lehetőségével foglalkozott. A többségben fel sem merült, hogy Magyarország letérjen/letérhet a számára 1945 után kijelölt útról, de bízott abban, hogy létezik egy "emberibb szocializmus" is.

Az 1945 után megfogalmazott és sokak által várt lehetőségek nem váltak valóra jelentős kiábrándulást okozva ezzel a legtöbb társadalmi csoport számára. A munkások, a paraszti tömegek és az értelmiség jelentős része is csalódott az 1945 óta eltelt tíz esztendőben.

1956 elején -- főleg a Lengyelországban tapasztalt feszültségek, viták nyomán -- Magyarországon is megélnékült a politika iránti érdeklődés. Ennek főleg a kommunista párt ifjúsági szervezete (DISz) által támogatott szervezett rendezvények adtak teret.

A korábban Bessenyei Kör néven létrejött, majd Petöfi Kör névre átkeresztelt szerveződés a magyar társadalom jelentős problémáinak megvitatását tűzte napirendre a rendszeressé váló vitáuléseken. Ezek a rendezvények elsősorban az un. pártellenzék számára biztosították a megnyilvánulási lehetőséget, de a vitába mások is bekapcsolódhattak. A Budapesten rendezett vitákon nagyszámú érdeklődő vett részt és sorra-rendre megfogalmazták a fennálló rendszerrel kapcsolatos kritikai észrevételeiket. A sajtóról, a történetírásról és más témákról tartott vitaestek a rendszer megreformálásának szükségességét vetették fel.

A vitákban megfogalmazódó, társadalmi változások iránti



Nagy Imre ismerteti a kormányprogramot, 1953. július 4.

Forrás: Magyar Országos Levéltár



Rákosi Mátyás és Gerő Ernő

Forrás: 1956-os Magyar Forradalom Történetének Dokumentációs és Kutatóintézeté Kézalapítvány

igény azonban akkor (még) a fennálló társadalmi, politikai rendszer keretein belüli reformokat tartotta elképzelhetőnek és szükségszerűnek.

A legtöbben a korábbi Nagy Imre "időszak" visszatérését tartották a legjelentősebb célkitűzésnek. Úgy vélték annak a visszatérte Magyarország gazdasági, politikai és társadalmi helyzetét jelentősen javíthatja.

Közben a politikai vezetésben is kemény viták zajlottak le, ahol a döntő szó ismét a "szovjet elvtársaké" volt, akik végül is Rákosi Mátyás "menesztése" mellett döntöttek és a párt első számú vezetőjévé a Rákosinál semmivel sem kevésbé "moszkovita" Gerő Ernőt "választatták meg", de ugyanakkor olyan, korábban mellőzött és elítélt politikusok is bekerültek a párt legfelsőbb vezetői közé, mint Kádár János.

A magyarországi változásokhoz a döntő lökés az 1956 nyári lengyelországi események adták, ahol a tiltakozások nyomán forradalmi helyzet alakult ki, melynek eredményeként új párt és állami vezetés került hatalomra -- nem újak, csak korábban szintén "sérelemet" szenvedettek -- akik a lengyel helyzetet képesek voltak konzolidálni olyan módon, hogy az a Szovjetunió számára is elfogadható legyen és a lengyelek is, mint követeléseik egy részének a teljesítését értékeljék azt.

A lengyelországi események a magyar politikai és társadalmi életben is komoly folyamatokat indítottak el, amelyek egy

olyan eseményt is lehetővé tettek, mint az 1949-ben kivégzett Rajk László és társai el-, illetve "újratemetése".

Az eseményre 1956. október 6-án került sor (1849-ben ezen a napon végeztek ki Aradon az 1848/49-es forradalom és szabadságharc tizenkét tábornokát és egy ezredesét, illetve Budapesten gróf Batthyány Lajost, az 1848-as első független magyar kormány miniszterelnökét).

Az 1949-es un. Rajk-per kivégzettjei az 1945 után Magyarországon megnyilvánult törvénytelen ségek szimbólumává váltak. Ők ugyan a kommunista párton belüli politikai csatározások áldozatai lettek -- akik egyébként a párt meghatározó vezetői voltak és nem "lágyszívűbbek" mint Rákosi Mátyás, vagy Gerő Ernő -- de akkor úgy tekintettek rájuk mint egy antidemokratikus rendszer áldozataira.

A több tízezres tömeg jelenlétében lezajlott tüntetés már előrevetítette egy változást kívánó Magyarország előképét.



A Rajk-per tárgyalása: Rajk László vallomást tesz, 1949.09.16, Budapest
Forrás: 1956-os Magyar Forradalom Történetének Dokumentációs és Kutatóintézeté Kézalapítvány

Mint a történelem során oly sokszor ismét a tanulóifjúság tette meg az első legfontosabb lépéseket, 1956. október 22-én a szege-di egyetemi és főiskola hallgatók megalakították független szervezetüket és megfogalmazták követeléseiket, melyek a budapesti egyetemi ifjúsághoz is eljutottak. A budapesti Építőipari és Közlekedési Műszaki Egyetem is megalakította a saját MEFESz szervezetét, melyhez más egyetemek hallgatói is csatlakoztak és tizennégy pontos határozatban foglalták össze a követelésüket:

- 1, Az MDP kongresszus azonnali összehívása, alulról választott vezetőség, az új Központi Vezetőség megalakítása.
- 2, A kormány alakuljon át Nagy Imre elvtárs vezetésével.
- 3, Gazdaságilag és politikailag teljesen egyenrangú alapon és egymás belügyeibe való be nem avatkozás elvén álló magyar-szovjet és magyar-jugoszláv barátság megalakítása.
- 4, Az összes szovjet csapatok kivonását Magyarországról a magyar békeszerződés értelmében.
- 5, Általános, egyenlő, titkos választásokat több párt részvételével, új nemzetgyűlési képviselők választásával.
- 6, A magyar gazdasági élet átszervezését szakemberek bevonásával és ennek keretében a magyar uránérc magyar felhasználásával, hozzák nyilvánosságra a külkereskedelmi szerződéseket és vizsgálják felül a tervgazdaságon alapuló magyar gazdasági életet.
- 7, Teljes ipari munkásság azonnali normarendezését a létminimum megállapítása alapján és a munkás autonómia bevezetését az üzemekben.
- 8, A beszolgáltatási rendszer felülvizsgálását és az egyéni leg dolgozó parasztság támogatását.
- 9, Az összes politikai és gazdasági perek felülvizsgálását, az ártatlanul elítélt politikai foglyok részére teljes amnesztiát, illetve a hátrányba-kerültek rehabilitálását.
- 10, Legyen nyilvános tárgyalás Farkas Mihály ügyében és Rákosi szerepének kivizsgálását, valamint az Oroszországban igazságtalanul elítélt és ott tartott magyarok hazahozatalát.
- 11, A néptől idegen címer helyett a régi Kossuth címer visszaállítását, a március 15-ét és október 6-át nyilvánítsák nemzeti ünneppé és munkaszünetté. Új egyenruhát honvédségünknek.
- 12, Teljes vélemény és sajtószabadság megvalósítását, rádión és ennek keretében külön napilapok az új MEFESz szervezetnek. A régi káderanyag nyilvánosságra hozatalát és eltörlését.
- 13, A zsarnokság és az önkény jelképét a Sztálin szobrot azonnal távolítsák el.
- 14, Egymásért teljes szolidaritást vállalunk."

Az október 22-ei határozat után a fentiekben megfogalmazottaknak megfelelően 16 pontban foglalták össze a követeléseket, melyeket röplap formájában terjesztettek és részletesebben kifejtettek egy-egy kérdést. Az első helyre a szovjet csapatok azonnali távozásának követelése került. A kibővült felhívás teljes szolidaritásáról biztosította a lengyel népet és annak kifejezésére október 23-ára szolidaritási felvonulást hirdettek, mely a Bem szobor megkoszorúzásával zárult volna.

A magyar politikai vezetés tehetetlensége, ingadozása végül is lehetővé tette, hogy a fiatalok felvonuláson, tüntetésen fejezzék ki a szolidaritásukat a lengyelekkel és felvonuljanak



Az ELTE diákjai a Bem szobornál, 1956. október 23.

Forrás: MTI

Budapest utcáin.

Az 1956. október 23-án a délutáni órákban megindult felvonulás rövidesen tüntetéssé változott. A felvonulók -- Budapest mellett számos magyarországi nagyvárosban is -- új politikai vezetést, gazdasági és társadalmi reformokat -- de nem rendszerváltoztatást követeltek -- a 14, illetve 16 pontban megfogalmazottaknak megfelelően.

A több mint százezres nagyságúvá duzzadt tömeg a követeléseket a főváros számos pontján megfogalmazta és a kormány élére Nagy Imrét követelte.

Hruscsov -- adni a látszatra -- azt javasolta Gerőnek, hogy a magyar kormány hivatalosan is kérje a szovjet segítséget. Gerő e kérés kormány általi azonnali megfogalmazását nem látta lehetségesnek az események miatt, így végül is a kérést -- utólag -- Hegedűs András miniszterelnök jegyzete egy személyben de már csak a szovjet csapatok megindulása után.

Nagy Imre, aki az esti órákban lakásáról az Országgyűlés épületébe érkezett a téren összegyűltekhez szólt, de azok az elvtárs megszólítás után lehurrogták az egyébként általuk kívánt politikust.

Közben a Magyar Rádió Gerő Ernőnek, a Magyar Dolgozók Pártja első titkárának beszédét közvetítette, amely a felvonulók számára elfogadhatatlan volt.

A rádió épületénél gyülekező tömeg -- sokan úgy vélték Gerő a rádió épületében tartózkodik -- a 16 pont közlését kívánta elérni, melyet a rádió vezetői azonban elutasítottak. Az egyre növekvő tömegre előbb könnyfakasztó

gázzal, majd riasztólövésekkel támadt rá a rádió ÁVH-s őrsége és ez elszabadította az indulatokat.

A fegyvertelen tömeg a rádió épületének ostromához fogott, miközben egyre többen jutottak kézfegyverekhez és szabályos harc fejlődött ki.

A Magyar Dolgozók Pártja Politikai Bizottsága ezen idő alatt folyamatosan ülésezett és a teendőkről tárgyalt. Arra az eredményre jutottak, hogy ellenforradalmi megmozdulások vannak az országban, s nem biztos, hogy a magyar karhatalmi és fegyveres erők elegendőek annak a leveréséhez, ezért szovjet segítséget kell kérni.

A források ebben a kérdésben ellentmondóak. Egyes vélekedések szerint a szovjet --katonai -- vezetés már a "hivatalos megkeresés" előtt riadóztatta a Magyarországon állomásozó csapatokat, míg mások szerint arra csak a Hruscsov és Gerő között lezajlott telefonbeszélgetések után került sor.

Hruscsov -- adni a látszatra -- azt javasolta Gerőnek, hogy a magyar kormány hivatalosan is kérje a szovjet segítséget. Gerő e kérés kormány általi azonnali megfogalmazását nem látta lehetségesnek az események miatt, így végül is a kérést -- utólag -- Hegedűs András miniszterelnök jegyzete egy személyben de már csak a szovjet csapatok megindulása után.

De miért és miként tartózkodhattak szovjet csapatok Magyarországon?

A magyarországi forradalom és szabadságharc történetét kutatók erre a kérdésre nem igazán fordítottak figyelmet. A legtöbben egyszerűen a Varsói Szerződés (1955. május 14.) biztosította lehetőségnek tekintették ezt a helyzetet.

A kérdés azonban ennél összetettebb. Nézzük meg milyen is volt a jogi helyzetet 1945-től kezdően a szovjet csapatok magyarországi állomásoztatásáról!

1945. január 20-án Magyarország Ideiglenes Nemzeti Kormány fegyverszüneti megállapodást írt alá Moszkvában a Szovjetunióval, Nagy Britanniával és az Amerikai Egyesült Államokkal. Ezen egyezményben a magyar kormány elismerte az ország háborús vereségét és számos kötelezettséget vállalt magára, melynek értelmében az ország területén a békeszerződés megkötéséig megszálló csapatok tartózkodhatnak.

Magyarországgal a békeszerződést 1947. február 10-én írták alá Párizsban, amelynek 22. cikke arról rendelkezett, hogy: "A jelen Szerződés életbelépését követően minden szövetséges fegyveres erőt 90 napon belül Magyarországról vissza kell vonni, mindazonáltal a Szovjetunióknak fennmarad a joga magyar területen oly fegyveres erő tartására, amelyre szüksége lehet ahhoz, hogy a Szovjet hadseregnek az ausztriai Szovjet megszállási övezettel való közlekedési vonalait fenntartsa."

Ez az állapot 1955. május 15-ig, az osztrák államszerződés aláírásáig állt fenn. Az osztrák államszerződés ugyanis kötelezte a megszálló hatóságokat, hogy a szerződés hatályba lépését követően 90 napon belül, de legkésőbb 1955. december 31-ig valamennyi haderőt ki kell vonni Ausztria területéről.

A szövetséges és társult hatalmak kötelezettségüknek gyakorlatilag 1955. októberéig eleget is tettek ezzel megszünt az 1947. február 10-i magyar békeszerződésben a Szovjetunió számára biztosított lehetőség csapatainak magyarországi állomásoztatására.

Felmerül a kérdés, hogy vajon az un. Varsói Szerződés (1955. május 14.) biztosított-e lehetőséget a Szovjetunió számára fegyveres erői csapatainak magyarországi állomásoztatására, amint ezt számos kutató vélte?

A Varsói Szerződés ismert szövege szerint: nem! A szerződéssel kapcsolatban kiadott közlemény egy mondata utal mindössze arra, hogy mi lesz majd a teendő: "A közös fegy-



A Varsói Szerződés aláírása, 1955. május 14.

Forrás: 1956-os Magyar Forradalom Történetének Dokumentációs és Kutatóintézete Közalapítvány

veres erők elhelyezése a szerződésben részt vevő államok területén, az említett államok közötti megegyezés szerint és a kölcsönös védelem szükségleteinek megfelelően történik majd."

A jelen ismereteink szerint 1957. május 27-ig Magyarország és a Szovjetunió között ilyen megállapodás nem jött létre.

Magyar-szovjet tárgyalások a forradalom és szabadságharc leverését követően 1957. március 20-a és 28-a között Moszkvában folytak, amelyek ezt a kérdést is érintették. Ezzel kapcsolatban a budapesti Népszabadság 1957. március 29-én a következőket közölte: "a két fél megegyezett, hogy a közeljövőben tanácskozásokat folytat a szovjet csapatok magyarországi tartózkodásának létszámra és állománya meghatározásának valamint elhelyezésének céljából és egyezményt köt."

Ennek az egyezménynek a megkötésére 1957. május 27-én került sor, és amely mint az 1957. évi 54. számú törvényerejű rendelet -- "Egyezmény az ideiglenesen Magyarországon tartózkodó szovjet csapatok jogi helyzetéről" -- került becikkelyezésre.

Az aláírt okmányokat 1957. augusztus 16-án cserélték ki és a hatályba lépés időpontja 1957. szeptember 15-ében határozták meg. Mindez azt jelenti, hogy 1956. január 1-je és 1957. szeptember 15-e között a szovjet fegyveres erők magyarországi tartózkodása, a magyarországi belpolitikába történő beavatkozása minden jogalapot nélkülözött!

Mondhatjuk azt is, hogy beavatkozásuk a nemzetközi jogot sértette.

A szovjet erők beavatkozása -- melyek 1956. október 23-án már megindultak -- egy utólagosan "szentesített" minisztertanács elnöki "kérésre" következett be, de a beavatkozó csapatok jelentős része nem Magyarország határain kívülről, hanem magyarországi helyőrségekből vonult be Budapestre, olyan helyőrségekből, amelyekben minden jogalapot nélkülözően állomásozott.

A szovjet beavatkozás egyébként jelentős változásokat hozott az események menetében. Az október 23-án spontán népfelkeléssé változó felvonulás/tüntetés után a hatalom továbbra is a Magyar Dolgozók Pártja kezében maradt. A kormány átalakítása -- Nagy Imre miniszterelnöki kinevezése -- még nem jelentette azt, hogy az események megítélése jelentősen változott volna. A Nagy kormány első rendel-

kezései még statáriumról, ellenforradalomról szóltak és bizonyos "ígéretet"-kel próbálták az embereket az utcákról "visszaküldeni" a munkahelyekre, lakásaikba, illetve a diákokat a főiskolákra, egyetemekre. Ez azonban nem volt sikeres. A szovjet beavatkozás egyre inkább forradalmi követeléseket indukált. Az addig csak alapvetően reformokat követelő, már olyan társadalmi, politikai változások igényét fogalmazták meg és követeltek -- pl. többpárti demokrácia -- amelyek nem egyeztek meg még akkor a Nagy Imre vezette kormány elképzeléseivel.

A népfelkelés forradalom má történet "átváltozása" 1956. október 28-ára tehető, amikor a Nagy kormány elismerte, hogy olyan nemzeti megmozdulás, forradalom zajlik, amely az egész nemzet érdekeit fogalmazza meg és azzal gyakorlatilag a hatalom is képes azonosulni. Ugyanakkor olyan újabb ígéretet hangzottak el -- a szovjet csapatok kivonása Budapestről, az ÁVH feloszlata, a nyugdíjak és az alacsony bérek felemelése -- amelyek a követelésekkel teljesen szinkronban voltak.

Ezt követően már az önálló és független Magyarországról volt szó. Sorra újjáalakultak a korábban feloszlalt pártok és újak is szerveződtek. Közben az 1956. október 27-én átalakult Nagy Imre kormányban már nem kommunista politikusok is helyet kaptak és október 30-ától az un. "kormánykabinetben", államminiszteri rangban olyan -- az 1945-1949 közötti időszak -- ismert politikusai kaptak helyet, mint Kovács Béla, Tildy Zoltán, Erdei Ferenc.

A forradalmi változások és átalakulás jelei voltak -- az egykori követeléseken már túlmutató elképzelések -- a szovjet csapatok kivonásáról indítandó tárgyalások, kilépés a Varsói Szerződésből, az ország semlegességének a bejelentése.

Az 1956. november 1-jén megalakult Magyar Szocialista Munkáspárt -- amely már nem az egyedüli politikai erőt jelentette, hanem egy volt a különböző pártok között -- azonosult a politikai követelésekkel, a változás igényével. Vezetője az akkor még Nagy Imre "harcostársának" tűnő Kádár János lett.

A magyarországi események menetében, az ország lehetőségeiben jelentős fordulatot hozott az Amerikai Egyesült Államok külpolitikai állásfoglalása, melyet úgy értelmezett mindenki, hogy az Amerika Egyesült Államok nem kíván beavatkozni a magyarországi eseményekbe és nem tartja kívánatosnak, hogy a Szovjetunió határai mellett egy vele szemben esetleg "nem barátian viselkedő" ország jöjjön létre. A Moszkva tudomására hozott amerikai álláspont gyakorlatilag azt jelentette, hogy a Szovjetunió szabad kezet kapott a helyzet rendezésére. Moszkva pedig élt a lehetőséggel. Egy, a Titoval folytatott megbeszélés után Hruscsov és a Szovjetunió Kommunista Pártja Elnöksége a Magyarország elleni fegyveres támadásról döntött.

A Nagy Imre kormány két tagja Kádár János és Münnich Ferenc már 1956. november 2-án Moszkvába távozott és



Ledöntött kommunizmus, 1956. okt.24.

Forrás: Hulton Archive/Getty Images

vállalt egy a törvényes magyar kormánnyal szembeni ellenkormány megalakítását, amely majd kéri a szovjetek támogatást, illetve elfogadja azt.

November 4-én a Magyarországon lévő és a Romániából, illetve Szovjetunió területéről induló szovjet erők lerohanták Magyarországot. A 13 nap ezen szakasza már igazi szabadságküzdelmet jelentett, hiszen egy idegen nagyhatalom erői ellen harcoltak a magyar felkelők.

Erejük, lehetőségük azonban erősen korlátozott volt és harcuk 1956. november 10-15-ére befejeződött. Az ország teljes egésze szovjet katonai megszállás alá került és a politikai élet az 1956. november 4-én Kádár János vezetésével megalakult Forradalmi Munkás Paraszt Kormány irányítása alá került. A sztrájkok, tiltakozások, tüntetések nem vezettek eredményre. Az idegen fegyveres erők támogatást bíró hatalom 1957 tavaszára teljes mértékben urává vált a helyzetnek.

Az eredmény? Magyarország továbbra is a kommunista tömb országa maradt. Mintegy kétszáz ezer ember menekült el az országból és keresett magának új életlehetőséget. Milliárdos nagyságrendű károk keletkeztek a nemzeti vagyonban. A harcoknak több ezer áldozata volt és mintegy 400 személyt végeztek ki az 1957 és 1963 közötti években, a forradalomban -- a Kádár rendszer szóhasználata szerint ellenforradalomban -- való tevékeny részvételért. A kivégzettek döntő többsége 20 és 40 év közötti, munkás, diák, alkalmazott volt. Alig találni közöttük idősebb, illetve az 1945 előtti időszak "elitjéhez" tartozó személyt.

Az 1956-os magyarországi forradalom és szabadságharc nem a múlt, egy letűnt korszak visszaállításáért vívott politikai és fegyveres küzdelmet jelentett, hanem egy demokratikus, új Magyarország megteremtéséért folytatott. Ennek a létrejöttére azonban még közel három és fél évtizedet kellett várni, s hogy ez 1990-ben végül is bekövetkezett az 1956-nak volt köszönhető.

□

Imádság 1956 őszén:

*"Mi atyánk, Hruscsov, ki vagy a Kremlben,
átkoztassék meg a te neved,
miképpen az egész Világon,
azonképpen Budapesten is.
Mindennapi kenyerünket ne vedd el,
és bocsásd el a mi foglyainkat,
miképpen mi is elbocsátjuk az orosz
megszálló csapatokat.
És ne vígy minket Szibériába,
de szabadíts meg az oroszoktól,
mert tiéd az ország, a hatalom és a dicsőség,
de nem mindörökké:*

Ámen"

Clippings from Wellington's Evening Post tell the story

Without exception, Wellington's Evening Post covered developments in Hungary every day the paper was published, from the outbreak of the Revolution into January 1957.

Tremendous Effect In East Europe

NEW YORK, Oct. 23 (Rec. 8am).—United Press dispatches today said the news of the Polish upheaval is having a tremendous effect in other East European countries.

Budapest dispatches reported that Hungary is in a ferment. Observers in Budapest believe events will move fast, with intellectuals and students demanding that Hungary follow Poland's example.

Belgrade dispatches said Marshal Tito, the man of the hour in the revolt of the satellites, will meet a delegation from Rumania today. He finished talks with the Hungarian leader, Erno Geroe, yesterday. All eyes are focused on events in Poland.

'Brotherly sympathy'

Hungarian university and technical college students last night demanded the return of Mr. Imre Nagy as Prime Minister and Communist Party leader.

They expressed "brotherly sympathy" for their Polish comrades in their fight for sovereignty and liberalisation, Budapest Radio reported.

The students met a few hours after the Hungarian Communist Party newspaper, "Szabad Nep," had said Hungary must map her own Socialism.

Mr. Nagy was dismissed as Prime Minister in April, 1955, after being charged with anti-Marxist leanings and right-wing deviationism. He was "rehabilitated" two months ago and readmitted to the Hungarian Workers' Party this month.

Last night's student meeting demanded rapid progress in "democratisation" and a change of leadership. The students also demanded development of Soviet-Hungarian friendship on the basis of absolute equality.

Both Press and radio seem to have been impressed by the Polish slogan "for friendship with Russia on the basis of equality," said the British United Press.

CAREER OF IMRE NAGY

VIENNA, Oct. 24 (Rec. 10am).—The tumult and turmoil which heralded Imre Nagy's return to the Premiership in Hungary today has been part of his life for 40 years. His background is typical of hundreds of East European Communists.

Nagy, now 61, was still an apprentice locksmith in the First World War. He fought with the Austro-Hungarian army on the Italian front, and was wounded in 1917. After recovering he was sent to the Russian front, where he was captured and transported to Siberia.

Nagy returned to Hungary the following year and, after joining the trade union movement, occupied a minor post in the ill-fated Communist regime of Bela Kun. He was in the Soviet Union throughout the Second World War, and was a constant broadcaster on propaganda beams to Hungary.



Imre Nagy

On his return to Hungary with the advancing Red army, Nagy was made Minister of Agriculture in 1948. He was elected to the Politburo and the central committee of the Communist Party. Then came the first hint of his "deviationism," when he was suspended from his party posts in 1949 for "incorrect views." He was forgiven, and in 1950 returned to office as Food Supplies Minister. In 1952 he was Deputy Prime Minister, and in the following year he became Prime Minister in succession to Matyas Rakosi, a bitter opponent.

After charges of "right-wing deviationism," Nagy was dismissed from office in April, 1955, and eventually expelled from the party. But Rakosi was ousted in July this year in the course of "de-Stalinisation." Then Nagy was "rehabilitated" and subsequently readmitted to the party.

HUNGARY TO BE DEBATED

(N.Z.P.A. Copyright)
NEW YORK, Oct. 26 (Rec. 11.30 am).—The Security Council met in an extraordinary Sunday session today to debate the situation in strife-torn Hungary.

Mr. Arkady Sobolev, the Soviet permanent representative, immediately rose to protest against the action of the president, M. Bernard Cornut-Gentille, of France, in calling the meeting without consulting "a number of members of the Council, including the Soviet Union."

M. Cornut-Gentille replied that the rules of procedure required a president to call a meeting if there was a request from one or more members of the Council, and if this was asked for urgently he must act accordingly. "I do not think anyone will dispute the seriousness of the situation in Hungary which required the council to meet immediately, even though it is a Sunday," he added.

Britain, France and the United States called for the session after urgent weekend conferences, charging that the Hungarian situation endangered world peace and security. Today Italy asked to be associated with the action.

The three-Power Note to the president referred to "the situation created by the action of foreign military forces in Hungary in violently repressing the rights of the Hungarian people" secured under the 1947 Treaty of Paris.

Soviet Charge

Mr. Sobolev accused the Western Powers of trying to "incite an armed uprising of the reactionary underground against the Hungarian Government." He called the Hungarian rebels "fascist elements."

He said it had long been the policy of the United States to support reactionary groups in the Communist countries. The United States Congress had appropriated 25,000,000 dollars for the purpose, and the United States had appealed for uprisings against Communist Governments.

He said that any Government had a sovereign right to halt an uprising. In attempting to do this, he asserted that Hungary had called on the Soviet Union for help. He argued that this was a domestic matter not subject to United Nations jurisdiction.

The British delegate, Sir Pierson Dixon, declared that foreign troops were fighting in Hungary. This obviously was an international problem, and the Council was competent to deal with it. He denied that the Western Powers had acted because of "the motives which the representative of the Soviet Union imputed" to them.

The Hungarian delegate, Dr. Peter Kos, handed a letter to M. Cornut-Gentille asking permission to take part in the debate. A non-member of the Council may participate as an interested party, and Dr. Kos was invited to take his place at the table.

It was also announced that the Argentine and Turkish Governments had addressed letters to the president of the Council asking to be associated with the Western Powers' proposal.

Hungary's Views

Dr. Kos made known his country's views shortly before the Council met.

In a letter to the Secretary-General (Mr. Hammarskjöld) he said the events which took place on October 22, the day before the revolt started, and thereafter, "and the measures taken in the course of these events, are exclusively within the domestic jurisdiction of the Hungarian People's Republic, and consequently do not fall within the jurisdiction of the United Nations."

The letter added that the Government "categorically protests against placing on the agenda the consideration of any question concerning the domestic affairs of Hungary, since the consideration of such questions would mean serious violation of the sovereignty of the Hungarian People's Republic and would obviously be in contradiction with the principles laid down in the Charter of the United Nations."

The Council then voted 6-1 to place the complaint on its agenda, Soviet Russia voted against this, and Yugoslavia abstained.

Magyar közmondások

Hungarian proverbs

A szabadság drágább az aranynál.
Liberty is dearer than gold.

Mindent lehet, csak akarni kell.
You can do anything, you just have to want to.

Swift Attack Overthrows Government RUSSIA CRUSHES HUNGARY

N.E.P.A.-Reuter—Copyright

LONDON, Nov. 4 (Rec. 10am).—Reports from Hungary tonight seemed to indicate that Russian tanks and artillery had gained control of the country after a day of heavy fighting.

Moscow Radio early this afternoon interrupted programmes to announce: "The Hungarian counter-revolution has been crushed."

A Reuter correspondent who left Sopron, west Hungary, as Russian tanks rumbled into the town this afternoon, said a leading revolutionary there had shortly before tried to telephone many parts of the country.

At each exchange the operator either cut him off, told him the number was out of order or indicated carefully that "the Revolutionary Council no longer exists."

Sopron seemed to be the last town in Hungary to fall to the Russians, the correspondent said.

Budapest tonight was cut off from the world with Soviet troops in control of key points and bridges, according to the last message received from the Hungarian capital by the British Foreign Office.

Budapest Radio earlier today broadcast frequent appeals to Russian troops not to fire on peaceful citizens, then went off the air with a voice shouting: "Help Hungary. Help... help... help..."

A weak short-wave radio station picked up in Vienna this morning and thought to be the Hungarian Nationalist Radio Eger, cried: "Help us—help us. The United Nations is too slow. Please give an ultimatum to the Russians, otherwise they will destroy our whole land."

A communication to the British

Legation in Budapest asked for immediate United Nations intervention.

A mid-afternoon Moscow Radio bulletin said: "Negligible groups of insurgents are offering resistance in Budapest, but they are being crushed."

Hungarian tanks raced through the dim morning streets as the battle commenced on the outskirts of the city. Grim-faced soldiers dashed to their posts.

A military mission discussing with Soviet military heads the Hungarian demand for withdrawal of Soviet troops has failed to return from the negotiations.

The mission leaders, Major-General Pal Malter, Defence Minister and hero of the Kilián Barracks siege during the insurrection, and Major-General Istvan Kovacs, Hungarian Chief of Staff, are reported to have been taken prisoner.

Urgent Appeal By Mr. Eisenhower

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4 (Rec. 10am).—President Eisenhower sent an urgent message to Marshal Bulganin, the Soviet Premier, today, asking him to withdraw Soviet troops from Hungary. Mr. Eisenhower expressed "shock and dismay" at the Soviet attack on the Hungarian people.

Members Of Nagy Govt. Under Arrest

LONDON, Nov. 4 (Rec. 10am).—Latest reports said Mr. Nagy, the Prime Minister who attempted to restore democracy in the country after the insurrection, was under arrest together with members of his Coalition Government.

Mr. Nagy had given the news of the Soviet attack to the world in a dramatic broadcast over Budapest Radio.

"This is Imre Nagy speaking," he said. "In the early hours of this morning, Soviet troops started to attack the Hungarian capital with the apparent purpose of overthrowing the democratic government of the Hungarian People's Republic." He appealed to the United Nations for help.

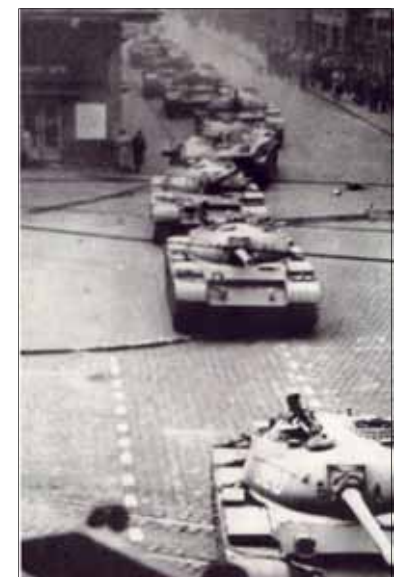


Above: Devastation in Budapest
Source: Kyríák Private Collection

Below: The onslaught of Soviet tanks intent on crushing the Revolution
Source: Unknown



Above: Demonstration in Miskolc, 25 Oct
Top right: Demonstration in Szeged, 24 Oct
Bottom right: Toppled Soviet memorial in Győr, 26 Oct
Source: Public Foundation of the Documentary and Research Institute of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution



STORM OF PROTEST

LONDON, Nov. 4 (Rec. noon).—Russia's intervention in Hungary today whipped up a world-wide storm of protests, demonstrations, and expressions of sympathy for Hungary.

In Paris, the Foreign Minister, M. Christian Pineau, said France regretted that the United Nations had preferred to talk about Egypt rather than support the Hungarian people.

"All France will bow, like the Government before the courage and martyrdom of a people ready to die for its independence," he added.

M. Daniel Mayer, chairman of the National Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee, informed the Soviet Embassy of his indignation and cancelled a planned visit to Russia.

Mr. Ferenc Nagy, former Hungarian Premier, sent a telegram from Paris to Mr. Hammarskjöld, United Nations Secretary-General, demanding intervention by United Nations troops to obtain a cease-fire in Hungary.

In Vienna, Bonn, and Copenhagen there were demonstrations outside the Soviet Embassies.

A tremendous wave of popular indignation swept Switzerland after reports of Soviet intervention in Hungary. Associations of all kinds met to pass protest resolutions.

Poles warned

The Polish Workers' (Communist) Party chief, Mr. Wladyslaw Gomułka, said today the instructions of the party and the People's Government should be strictly carried out so that Poland should not find herself in a position similar to that of the Hungarian people.

He told a Warsaw conference of 2200 Communist Party activists from all over Poland: "We must act with determination against all hothead and provocateur elements agitating against our friendship and alliance with the Soviet Union."

There were hot-headed people and irresponsible elements and trouble-makers, whose irresponsibility could lead to trouble, he said.

Moscow Radio today accused Britain and France of raising the Hungarian question in the United Nations Security Council as "a smoke-screen for the Anglo-French aggression in the Suez Canal Zone."

In Tirana, Albania, the Albanian Government published a declaration today, halting the relations between Communist countries as being "of a new type based on the lofty Marxist-Leninist principles of full equality, mutual respect, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, and brotherly mutual assistance," the Albanian Telegraph Agency reported.

In Berlin the Evangelic Bishop, Dr. Otto Dibelius, told a crowded congregation in the Communist east sector. The latest news from Hungary must move every Christian heart most deeply. Every Christian should also pray God to stop the catastrophe, which seems to be descending over the whole world from the West East, and to strengthen the will of British Christians to end injustices.

Meanwhile the Governing Mayor of West Berlin, Dr. Otto Suhr, called for public fasting and musical entertainment to show the Hungarian people the tragic situation in Hungary, and at the express wish of many citizens.

The East Germans still made no mention of the Soviet attack on Budapest in their morning.

In West Germany, Sunday newspapers and special news sheets were torn from the hands of newspaper sellers in many cities. West German radio stations interrupted their programmes to give special reports.

Prayers for Hungary

In many churches all over the country people came to pray for the Hungarians.

Fransis Radio in its midday bulletin described the events in Hungary as a "warning to the entire world."

"We cannot allow Herby Fascism to return," it said. "We shall stand side by side with the Hungarian people in their fight. All Czechoslovak working people welcome the advent of this new Communist Government and will give every aid and support to the Hungarian people."

The radio said recent developments in Hungary had opened the eyes of her people as to the conception of freedom which the communist revolutionaries and Western reaction had.

In a nation-wide broadcast last night, the Czechoslovak President, Antonin Zapotocky, said the Hungarian Communist leaders had committed many errors which could not be repeated in Czechoslovakia with its free political and economic system. The Czechoslovak Government would not allow reaction to overthrow the people's democracy and would instead consolidate friendship and its alliance with Russia.

The Belgrade newspaper "Politika" called on the Nagy Government to stop provoking elements by yielding to their demands.

"What is now happening somewhere in Hungary is only like the crimes

of the Hitler SS troops." "Politika" wrote.

Today, hundreds of Hungarians and Poles attended a London Roman Catholic Church service which had as its theme the Pope's call for a world crusade of prayer for peace and Christian democracy.

Some of the Hungarians wore in national costumes and they carried flags and banners draped in black.

After the service the Hungarians and Poles linked with British sympathisers in a procession to the Prime Minister's residence in Downing Street.

Russian Action Strongly Condemned

NEW YORK, Nov. 4.—In the Security Council today, the Soviet Union vetoed an American resolution calling for an end of any intervention in the internal affairs of Hungary.

The United States immediately called for an emergency session of the General Assembly.

Yugoslavia did not vote, falling in strictures from Belgrade. All the other nine members voted in favour.

The Assembly meeting was approved by 12 votes to one—the Soviet Union—as the veto did not apply in this case.

Mr. Sobolev, the Soviet delegate, charged that this move was to put up a "smoke-screen" over Britain and France's "guilt of aggression against Egypt."

Mr. Henry Cabot Lodge, the United States delegate, declared: "We can truly say to the Hungarian people: By your heroic sacrifice you have given the United Nations a brief moment in which to mobilise the conscience of the world in your behalf. We are asking that moment and we shall not fail you."

"If ever there was a time when action in the United Nations could literally be a matter of life and death to a whole nation, this was clearly that time."

"If ever there was a situation which threatened the peace of the world, this is that situation," he said.

Mr. Lodge introduced a new resolution calling on the Russians to "desist forthwith from any form of intervention, particularly armed intervention, in the internal affairs of Hungary" and to withdraw its forces from Hungarian territory "without delay."

The resolution would affirm the "right of the Hungarian people to a Government responsive to its national aspirations and dedicated to its independence and well-being."

It also asked that the Secretary-General, Mr. Hammarskjöld, in consultation with the heads of the appropriate United Nations specialised agencies should "explore on an urgent basis the need of the Hungarian people for food, medicine and other similar supplies and to report to the Security Council."

Lack of candour

Mr. Lodge recalled that only a few hours earlier when the council debated the Hungarian crisis, Mr. Arkady Sobolev, Soviet representative, had stated that negotiations were in progress for the withdrawal of Russian troops.

"That statement can scarcely be equated for its total lack of candour," Mr. Lodge said, "and its indifference to human suffering. It should be matched against the fact that it is the Soviets who all over Asia have been proclaiming their fealty to the so-called five principles of peaceful co-existence."

Mr. Sobolev sat wooden-faced during Mr. Lodge's speech. Mr. Nemes Porfirovich, of Cuba, said the Soviet Union's action in Hungary was "a perpetual shame for her and her history."

Sir Frederick Dixon, of Britain, said: "There can be no doubt that a brutal and naked assault on Hungary is at this moment taking place with the object of crushing the Hungarian people. In these circumstances, it is yet too late for this brutal and inhuman assault to be arrested and for the great Hungarian people to be allowed to lead their own lives in peace."

Dr. E. Burnald Walker, of Australia, said the giant acts of the Hungarians people and of their determined Government to take control of their own affairs and even to develop them in peaceful co-existence with the Soviet Union seemed to have come very close to a "brutal end."

The Council adjourned and the General Assembly is to meet later in an emergency session.

The tragedy of the Hungarian people is the tragedy of all oppressed people yearning for freedom and the right to live a normal, decent life. But an even greater tragedy is the fact that so little can be done to support and sustain them.

- Evening Post, Wellington, 5 November 1956

The Evening Post

WELLINGTON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1956.

Darkness Falls On Eastern Europe

ALMOST 15 years ago the world witnessed one of the most infamous acts of diplomatic duplicity in history when Japan attacked Pearl Harbour while her representatives were still in conference with those of the United States. On Sunday the world witnessed something equally detestable when the Soviet Union, while Hungarian and Soviet officials were discussing the technical aspects of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Hungary, launched a full-scale attack on Budapest. This, according to latest reports, has been followed by bombing attacks on the centre of the city.

This act of treachery further shows in bold relief the real nature of Soviet Russia. For the past two months now she has been shedding crocodile tears about violation of Egyptian sovereignty in the Suez Canal issue. Now she launches a full-scale attack, not against military bases, not against army bases, but against the people of Budapest, violating sovereignty and a lot else besides.

At a time when it seemed that the stranglehold of Russia upon Eastern Europe was being eased, the Soviet Army has reapplied its grip on Hungary with typical ruthlessness. The plaintive cry for help from the Hungarian Government was ample evidence of the horror of the plight of a brave, resolute people.

THE Russians have taken advantage of the Western preoccupation with the Suez question in re-attacking Hungary. The same old shopworn excuses of suppressing reactionaries and fascist elements have been trotted out all along the party line to justify their action. But they have an even more crass and outlandish ring than before.

It is disheartening to have to stand idly by while a bully goes unmolested on his acts of thuggery. The sympathies of all free men go out to the Hungarians in their latest struggle against the most inhuman tyranny that the human race has yet devised.

Police action against the Russians in Hungary seems, unfortunately, out of the question, because of the might of the Russian forces and the grave danger of nuclear war. All that can be hoped is that the bloodshed will not be too great and that some of the considerations of humanity will activate the Russians in their latest bloodletting sortie.

THE events of the last week or so should convince the Russians that they and their methods and their creed are hated by the people of Eastern Europe, and that it is not possible to hold a country in thrall for ever.

It seems now that the end of Soviet hegemony in Eastern Europe is not yet in sight. But despite the setback in Hungary after a promising start, enough has happened to show that the Russians have been unsuccessful in their attempts to communise the countries they have occupied since the Second World War.

Is history repeating itself in the tragedy that has befallen Hungary in her bid for independence? In 1849, after putting down the Kossuth rising, the triumphant General Paskievich wrote to the Tsar: "Hungary lies at the feet of your Majesty." While Nagy remained at the head of the Hungarian Government there was hope that the light of freedom would be kept burning, however dimly, but Nagy, it is reported, is in Russian hands, along with key military leaders.

THE tragedy of the Hungarian people is the tragedy of all oppressed people yearning for freedom and the right to live a normal, decent life. But an even greater tragedy is the fact that so little can be done to support and sustain them.

Source:
Evening Post, Wellington,
5 November 1956

Recent News from Hungary

We lied morning, noon and night – PM

“Obviously we lied morning, noon and night in the last 18 to 24 months, and we achieved nothing over the last four years”, Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsány is heard telling a Socialist caucus meeting in Balatonőszöd on May 26 in an audio recording anonymously leaked to the media on September 17. Gyurcsány used swear words in his 25-minute speech, as he responded to comments made by other Socialist politicians. He also said “the cabinet has not done a single thing in four years.” Gyurcsány added that his fellow Socialists cannot name any major governmental measures taken in the past four years of which “we can be proud, except pulling the country out of the shit. If we had to give an account to the nation of what we did in the past four years, what would we tell them?” Speaking in Győr on September 17, Gyurcsány admitted the authenticity of the recording and said “one uses different language at a function for party activists than in front of the general public.” Later on ATV he denied that he solely criticised the activity of the Socialist-Free Democrat government and that his words “we lied” referred to the state of the economy. HAC 17 Sept.

Hungary protesters, mounted police clash

Hungarian authorities say 57 people were injured and 98 arrested when protesters clashed with riot police for a second night. It was calm in downtown Budapest Wednesday morning (September 20), with about 35 protesters demanding the government's resignation outside the Parliament building, the Hungarian news agency MTI reported. Early Wednesday, small groups of militant protesters detached from about 10,000 peaceful demonstrators and clashed with mounted police outside the headquarters of the ruling Socialist party, Serbia's Beta news agency said. Mounted police intervened when the protesters began tossing bottles and other objects. Budapest Mayor Gábor Demsky said 57 people were injured during three hours of clashes. Budapest police chief Péter Gergényi said 98 protesters were arrested overnight, Beta said. Demonstrators began protests Monday (September 18), demanding the resignation of Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsány after he admitted his socialist government had lied to the public about economic progress to win a second term in general elections in April. Sept 20

Sándor Csányi remains richest Hungarian

The latest annual list of the top 100 rich-

est Hungarians is once again led by OTP Bank chief executive Sándor Csányi whose wealth is estimated to be around 90 billion forints (\$646 million), the paper reported on October 9. Property developer Sándor Demján is in second place with 80 billion forints (\$574 million), after an almost 20 percent increase in one year, the paper said. Third on the list is Gábor Szeles with 58.5 billion forints (\$416 million), who is president CEO of electronics company Videoton Holding and computer equipment manufacturer Muszertechnika Holding. He is also chairman of the Association of Hungarian Employers and Industrialists. Szeles also acquired 25 percent of Magyar Hírlap and set up Hungary's first ever business and financial news TV channel, "Echo TV. A total of 27 people have lost their places in the top 100 list since 2002, including current Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsány and Economics Minister Janós Kóka. In 2002, Gyurcsány stood in 50th place with an estimated wealth of 3.5 billion forints (\$25 million) and Kóka was at 88th place with 2.5 billion forints (418 million). MTI, Oct 9

Fidesz wins big in local elections

Voters disillusioned by the government's austerity plans and angered by the prime minister's confession that he lied during the parliamentary elections swept the governing parties out of power in all 19 counties during October 1 local elections. Budapest's Free Democrat mayor Gábor Demsky barely held on to his post. From holding 15 counties, the Socialists and their allies are now down to none. All but the evenly divided Heves county council are in the hands of Fidesz and its allies. In addition, mayors from the two governing parties were unseated in Győr, Nagykanizsa and Sopron and were in danger of being ousted in Pécs, Szolnok and Szombathely, where recounts are likely. The governing parties retained control of Miskolc, Nyíregyháza and Székesfehérvár. Overall, Fidesz and its allies received 52.6% of the vote, the governing parties won 37.7%, and other parties 9.7%. Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsány admitted that he had heard the criticism expressed by many voters, and will contemplate the mistakes that his cabinet has committed. HAC Oct 2

Sólyom points the way to

Gyurcsány's dismissal

President Laszlo Sólyom suggested in a televised speech yesterday that Parliament should remove Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsány for having lied during the spring election campaign. Speaking right after polling stations closed at 7 p.m., Sólyom said Gyurcsány had used “unacceptable means” to stay in power, which “undermines faith in democracy”. “The key to the solution is in the hands of the parliamentary majority, as only they can restore the shaken social confi-

dence,” Sólyom added. Gyurcsány's address to Socialist MPs in May, in which he said “we lied morning, noon and night” about the economy “deeply shook society,” and sparked a “moral crisis” Sólyom remarked. “The peaceful demonstrations showed the healthy moral sense of people,” he continued, but a catharsis never took place, as the power struggle dominated events due to the local elections. “The government is answerable to Parliament, which decides who the prime minister is. Parliament can restore the necessary social trust.” HAC Oct 2

Kossuth tér protest gets new life

The anti-government rally outside Parliament was reinvigorated last night as local election results came in and President László Sólyom suggested that it is up to MPs to unseat Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsány. An estimated 10,000 people filled Kossuth tér. The demonstrators included Fidesz MPs András Kelemen and Maria Wittner; András Bencsik, editor of right-wing weekly Magyar Demokrata; Katalin Kondor, former president of Magyar Radio; and Karoly Szász, former leader of the financial supervisory Pszaf. András Takács of the Hungarian National Committee 2006, a group formed at the ongoing protest, stated in Kossuth tér Sunday that the “revolution” has reached its second phase and organisers will arrange demonstrations in the provinces from today to forge national unity against Gyurcsány. HAC Oct 2

Writer Sütő dies of cancer

Transylvanian-Hungarian playwright András Sütő died at the age of 79 on September 30 in Budapest. He passed away in a hospital, where he was being treated for cancer.

Sütő began his career in the early 1950s, publishing his first articles in the Kolozsvár (Cluj-Napoca) periodical *Utünk* and the Marosvásárhely (Târgu-Mureş) publication *Igaz Szó*. He remained the editor of the latter until 1989. Sütő was an MP in Romania in 1965-77, but the regime began to ban his writings in 1980. He attempted to defend the interests of Transylvanian Hungarians in the 1970s and 1980s, standing up for full education in Hungarian, writing memorandums and protesting at all possible forums. Sütő lost an eye in the Marosvásárhely disturbances in the spring of 1990. Márton Kalász, president of the Hungarian Writers Federation, called Sütő one of the greatest writers of the 20th century. Poet Sándor Kányádi said Sütő never sold his soul but grew to be a symbolic figure, and was liked and respected everywhere. HAC Oct 2

Magyar Suzuki turns out one millionth car

The one millionth car rolled off the assembly line of Magyar Suzuki Zrt on Oc-

tober 6. The Japanese car maker's unit in Hungary has been making cars since 1992. Suzuki built the plant in Esztergom, north of Budapest for Ft 14 billion (\$100 million). The number of cars the plant produces has increased from year to year due to continued improvements. It had produced 10,000 cars by 1993, 25,000 by 1994 and 100,000 by 1996. The plant's current annual capacity is 220,000 cars, expected to rise to 300,000 in 2008. Magyar Suzuki employs 4,600 people in Hungary, and its suppliers employ a further 10,000. The plant's one millionth unit was a five-door Swift. Oct 6

Hungarian holocaust heroine beatified

Nun Sára Salkaházi was beatified on Sunday, in the first such ceremony in Hungary since 1083. Salkaházi, who saved Jews during the Holocaust, was



murdered by Arrow Cross gunmen in late 1944. The ceremony was attended by Speaker Katalin Szili, former President Ferenc Mádl and his wife Dalma, Supreme Court President Zoltán Lomnici, and Ombudsman Barnabás Lenkovics. Cardinal Péter Erdő welcomed Slovaks and Hungarians who attended the ceremony. Erdő read out an apostolic letter from Pope Benedict XVI, in which he approved the beatification. Retired national chief rabbi József Schweitzer said in a speech that as a survivor of the Holocaust he knows the dangers taken on by those who protected the persecuted. On behalf of the Jewish community he expressed unending gratitude to Salkaházi. HAC 18 Sept

All-time greatest tennis player dies at 85
Hungary's best ever tennis player, Zsuzsa Körmöczy, died at the age of 85 on Saturday afternoon. Her biggest success was winning the Roland Garros tennis championship in Paris in 1958. Körmöczy also came third at Wimbledon and was at one time ranked as the world number two. Körmöczy retired from competitive tennis in 1964, after which she managed the women's national team and the tennis department of Vasas sports club.

Hundreds attend Faludy funeral

Family members, friends, fellow poets, politicians and public figures paid their last respects to poet and literary translator György Faludy as he was laid to rest in the Fiumei út cemetery Saturday afternoon (September 9), Faludy died on September 1 at the age of 95. Culture Minister István Hiller said in a eulogy that Faludy had lived in a kind of shell and his intellect, hunger for life, and sense of humour protected him from the ruthless 20th century, the horrors of the Holocaust, the helplessness at the forced labour camp in Recsk, and the solitude of emigration. Poets Dénes János Orbán, Sándor Kányádi, writer Vilmos Csaplár, Transylvanian Calvinist Bishop László Tótkés and hundreds of supporters paid tribute to Faludy. HAC 11 Sept

Nearly every Hungarian has a mobile phone

Broadband internet continues to spread, and the number of mobile phone subscriptions is nearing 9.5 million, based on data provided by the Central Statistics Office (KSH). There were 41,000 new mobile subscriptions at the end of the last quarter, and the total number of subscriptions was 501,000 more than in the same period of last year, which indicates a 6% growth. At the end of the quarter, the number of Internet subscribers was 1,034,374, which is 31% more than in the same period of last year and 3% more than at the end of the first quarter. The number of broadband internet subscribers has grown by as much as 68% in one year. Sept 13

Hungary awaiting results of investigation into alleged racist attack

The Hungarian government trusts that the results of an investigation conducted by the authorities of Slovakia will clarify issues surrounding a young ethnic Hungarian student, who claims to have been the victim of a racist attack a few weeks ago, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Viktor Polgár told reporters on Thursday (September 14). Polgár noted that both Slovakia and Hungary were interested in finding answers to open questions surrounding the incident, which has created diplomatic tension between the two countries. On Wednesday (September 13), Hedvig Malina spoke to reporters and insisted that she had told the truth about her assault and requested that police reopen the investigation. Slovakian Interior Minister Robert Kalinak, at the same time, said that Malina and her attorney were lying and that they were merely trying to create a political affair. MTI Sept 14

Police prevent Hungarian nationalist's speech in Pozsony (Bratislava)

The Slovak police today prevented László Toroczkai, head of the Hungarian nationalist group 64 Regions Youth Movement, from giving a speech in Pozsony by which he allegedly wanted

to protest against ethnic incidents in Slovakia. Toroczkai was to deliver his speech in front of the Interior Ministry building, but the police detained him at a nearby car park and have driven him to an unknown place. The mayor of the Pozsony neighbourhood involved banned the Hungarian movement's planned demonstration on the police's recommendation on Tuesday. (September 12). The name of the 64 Regions Youth Movement is derived from the number of regions the then Hungary had before its disintegration in 1918, when it included the present Slovak territory. Sept 16.

Higher prices in effect from September 1

New tax rules entering into effect on September 1 mean that households and businesses can expect significant price increases on a wide range of products and services. From Friday (September 1), the middle rate of VAT goes up from 15% to 20%, the health care contribution paid by employees rises from the present 4% to 6%, then to 7% on January 1, while employers' contributions will also rise. The simplified business tax EVA will go up from 15% to 25%. From next year a new 4% solidarity tax will be levied on pre-tax profits of businesses and on individuals with annual income of at least Ft 6.3 million. After September 1, a 20% interest tax on interest and currency exchange gains will be introduced for all forms of investment except investment units. Changes in the VAT rate will make basic foodstuffs, energy and transport more expensive. Bread and meat prices will go up by 10-25%. Higher excise taxes mean that alcoholic beverages, excluding wine, will cost 7% more, while cigarettes will be 5.7% more expensive. Transport companies Volán and MÁV have announced an average 8.1-8.5% hike in ticket prices, but rates for Budapest public transport will not change. Motorists can expect to pay more for registering any transfer of ownership. HAC 1 September

Population decline slows significantly in January-May

The rate of population decline slowed significantly in the first five months of 2006 as the number of births showed a slight increase while the number of deaths fell compared to the same period a year ago, the Central Statistical Office (KSH) reported on Monday. (July 24). Hungary's population was estimated at 10,071,000 at the end of May, and dropped by 3.7 per thousand in the first five months this year compared to a decline of 4.9 per thousand in the same period of 2005. In the first five months, 39,873 babies were born, while there were 55,279 mortalities and 13,131 marriages. The number of newborns increased by 0.5 percent year-on-year while mortalities were down by 8.2 per-

cent. The positive effects of international migration also added to the number of residents, so the country's population declined by merely 6,000 year-on-year. Infant mortality declined from 6.4 to 5.1 per thousand year-on-year in the first five months of 2006, KSH said. MTI, July 24

M0 bridge set for 2008 opening

The M0 bridge to the north of Budapest will open in August 2008, eight months after the original deadline, Economy Minister János Kóka said Friday (July 21) after he visited the construction site with Budapest mayor Gábor Demszky. They jointly announced a public competition to name the bridge. HAC 24 July

90-year-old parachutist performs jump in W Hungary

A 90-year-old Hungarian parachutist, Miklós Magyar, made a historic jump over Lake Balaton, W Hungary, from a plane on Saturday (July 29). Magyar, who turned 90 on July 6, is the second oldest man in the world to perform a jump he made from 600 metres. With this latest feat, he has performed 1,915 jumps. Magyar served in the army's parachute unit during WWII and did his 1,000th jump in 1963. The Hungarian Parachute Federation, of which Magyar is a long-time member, said that for Magyar's safe landing the jump was to take place over the lake. President of the Federation János Géczí told MTI that four of their members would jump with Magyar, including his personal doctor. He said parachuting above the age of 65 was rare and parachutists aged above 50 years needed an annual aptitude test. MTI July 29

György Ligeti Dies at Age 83

The Hungarian-born composer György Ligeti died in Vienna on June 12, his music publisher Schott Music GmbH said. He was 83. Ligeti, who composed the opera "Le Grand Macabre," was born in 1923 to Hungarian Jewish parents. His father and brother died in concentration camps in World War II and Ligeti fled to Austria in 1956 after the Hungarian uprising, Schott said in a statement. He became an Austrian citizen in 1967. "I am hostile to ideology in art," Schott quoted Ligeti as once saying. "Totalitarian systems don't like dissonance." Ligeti first became famous in 1961 with his orchestral piece "Atmospheres," in which he "avoided traditional melodic, harmonic and rhythmic patterns to focus on sounds with constantly changing textures," according to Schott. "Atmospheres" and "Lux Aeterna," a piece for unaccompanied voices, were used in Stanley Kubrick's 1968 film "2001: A Space Odyssey." "Le Grand Macabre," composed between 1974 and 1977, is his only full opera. Influenced by absurdist theatre, it is full of black humour. Ligeti wanted to

make his work accessible to the public, saying "stage and music should be dangerously bizarre, completely exaggerated, completely mad," his publisher said. June 12

Army rank-and-file to increase by late 2007, says minister

Budapest, July 30 (MTI) - The number of soldiers serving in Hungarian army units will go up by 2,000 to 3,000 by the end of 2007, whereas the overall staff of the Ministry of Defence and the armed forces will be smaller than now, Defence Minister Imre Szekeres told MTI. The plan is to have 18,000-19,000 troops serving in the professional army units instead of the current staff of 15,000-16,000, Szekeres said. The number of people working in the ministry and its supporting institutions would, however, go down to 24,000-25,000 from the current 30,000 by the end of next year, he added. MTI 30 July

Prolific Hungarian striker Szusza dies

Ferenc Szusza, who set the goal scoring record for a single club in Hungary's top league, died on Wednesday (August 2) aged 82, the Web site of his former club Újpest said. Szusza spent a total of 26 years at the Budapest club as player and manager, scoring 393 goals in 463 league games from 1940-1961, helping them to four league titles. He then coached clubs in Hungary and later went to Spain, coaching Betis Seville and Atletico Madrid in the 1970s. Szusza also played for the national team in the 1940s and 1950s, scoring 18 goals in 24 matches. Aug 2

Soccer legend transferred to ICU

Soccer legend Ferenc Puskás has been transferred to the Intensive Care Unit of the Budapest hospital in which he has been a patient for the past six years, his biographer and close family friend György Szöllösi confirmed for MTI on Wednesday. (September 13) Puskás, considered by football historians to be the game's first superstar, scored 83 goals in 84 selected meets during his career. He is best known as captain of the Hungarian Golden Team of the 1950s, also known as the "Magnificent Hungarians," which he led through a 32-game winning streak, a record that still stands. He played for Budapest Honvéd and Real Madrid. Szöllösi reported that Puskás had been transferred to the ICU, adding that the family wished no further information to be released at this time. MTI Sept 13

Hungary federation bans Ferencváros

Ferencváros was banned from playing in international competitions and fined by Hungary's soccer federation on October 10 for appealing its relegation in a civilian court. The Hungarian Football Association's disciplinary board banned the second division club from participat-

ing in "all international matches and programs" - likely to include friendly tournaments - until June 30, 2007. The club was also fined 25 million Forints (\$180,000). Ferencváros, the winner of 28 Hungarian league titles, finished sixth in the first division last season and failed to qualify for the UEFA Cup. It last won the championship in 2004. Oct 11

Hungary savaged in media after Malta humiliation

Hungary came in for harsh criticism on Thursday after one of the worst results in the once proud soccer nation's history. The 2-1 defeat in Malta all but ended Hungary's hopes of qualifying for the Euro 2008 finals in Austria and Switzerland as they languish second from bottom in Group C, below the Maltese on goal difference. "This is an outrage," ran a headline in Hungary's only sports daily Nemzeti Sport. "It is a shame, an ignominy, a slur that a nation like Hungary with the finest pedigree loses a game against a sorry Malta team that has not won a European Championship qualifying tie for 24 years," it said. Blikk, one of Hungary's most popular tabloids, bluntly called Hungary "the laughing stock of Europe" after what it said was a "shameful defeat for the Hungarian side." Oct 12 □



Hungarian Clubs in New Zealand

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The Otago and Southland Hungarian Community's 50th Anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution

Celebrating 50 Years in New Zealand

On this Very Special Occasion
Monday the 23th of October 2006.

You and your family are invited to

A Special Mass

at 10am.

Father Gerard will say Mass for the Hungarians
St Peter Chanel Church, Green Island, Dunedin.
A Candle will be lit for each loved one who has passed away.
Do come along and make this a memorable occasion.

Followed by

A Luncheon Celebration

at 12 noon.

Glenfalloch Restaurant.
430 Portobello Rd,
Dunedin.

Music and Social time to follow.

This 50th Anniversary acknowledges a past event that changed a lot of peoples lives forever.

To ensure seating for all of us, we have made a group booking at Glenfalloch Restaurant, which requires pre-payment of \$30 per person for the buffet meal. Children 12 years and under pay \$1 per year of age. Traditional Hungarian clothes may be worn.

Please make cheque to: Gyula Papp or... Szilard Kornyei
50 Tyne St, 111 Centennial Ave, Helensburgh,
Mosgiel. Dunedin.

Use this form to reply by the 15th of September. **Thank you.**

----- Cut Here -----

Please reply whether you are attending or not, We would appreciate this!!

Enclosed is payment of \$..... as there will be persons attending.

Please print your name:





It was the late Paul Szentirmay's idea to introduce and promote Hungarian history and culture to the New Zealand public. We have worked alongside him spending unforgettable hours entertained by his intellectual conversation. I sorely miss his astute direction and advice saying: "It does not worth to be heartbroken over petty animosities my girl, the result and the people who came to enjoy it are far more important." Under his watchful eyes (down here and "up there") together with my husband, we have accomplished four past events.

1992 Icon Exhibition of Ilona Jonas's works

(In partnership with Gilbert Glausiuss at his Nova Gallery)

1994 Folk Art Exhibition of their own collection

(as part of the Second Hungarian Festival in Wellington and in partnership with Gilbert Glausiuss in the Christchurch Arts Centre)

1996 1000 Anniversary of the Hungarian Conquest

(graphics and folk art) (as part of the Second Hungarian Festival in Wellington and the same event by the Christchurch Hungarian Club at the Arts Centre)

2004 First European Festival at The Arts Centre

(Independent members of the organizing committee. I was in charge of the folk art section and my husband of the "Taste of Europe" Market.)

This Christmas Paul's daughter, Klára beat the recruiting drums in the Magyar Szó calling all Hungarians (societies and individuals alike) to take their share of work, in the celebration of the 1956 Revolution's Anniversary.

After some unfruitful negotiations with others we have decided to undertake the project on our own and to find willing allies elsewhere.

We wrote down a plan based on the idea that :

We wanted to remember the past and celebrate the present and future. We wanted to put up a memorial to all true revolutionary martyrs, and to those who stayed behind suffered the consequences and built today's Hungary.

We contacted the Canterbury Museum. Much to our surprise instead of just giving us a small space to set up an exhibition ourselves, they offered to organise and stage the Exhibition in conjunction with us as part of their official 2006 program, lasting two months from 7th October for the benefit of the expected 80 000 visitors, (on the condition that we were able to supply the necessary contents.) Their generous offer included all costs for the preparation, setting up, promoting and display of the exhibition. They honoured me with the position of joint curator for the duration. After some frantic e-mailing, we were able to advise the Museum, that everybody whom we asked coming on board to support this event, so that on my forthcoming trip to Budapest I can collect their contributions.

We would like to thank:

The Institute and Archives of 1956, Budapest (János Rainer Director)

for giving us all the pictures we selected and for forfeiting all the usual charges in recognition the Museum's generosity and our work.

Tibor Magyar (our faithful family friend)

for visiting and photographing all the sites of the archive pictures and taking pains to capture them from the same cut and angle as the originals.

The associates at MDF (Hungarian Democratic Forum)

for giving me their poster of the "Hungarian Shield" to be our welcome picture and accompaniment to an other famous poster we have already had.

(Thanks for the advice and the shared jokes)

The Riccarton Rotary Club

for supporting us with some of the travel expenses of our overseas guest speaker.

Thanks to modern technology whilst still in Hungary I was able to exchange many e-mails between myself, the Museum, and Tom - sharing the additional materials, writing and editing tonnes of texts and a nutshell size illustrated History of Hungary, debating on the right phrasing and number of words we could use.

I found very rewarding to accomplish all this hard work in the company of such expert and able people as the three Canterbury Mus(eum)keteers:

Stephen Ruscoe, exhibition manager

Rachel Vavasour, Education and Public Programmes Manager, and last but not least:

Paula Granger, Communications Co-ordinator

EXHIBITION:

Contrasts

Archive pictures of the destroyed and colour photographs of today's Budapest and other pictures of the revolution.

Famous Hungarian Inventors and inventions

Hungarian History in a nutshell

LECTURES:

Sandor Szakaly well respected Hungarian historian and **Miklos Szabo** an eyewitness of the events in Budapest

We have sent invitations to all

Christchurch Hungarians known to us and would like to invite all Readers who will be able to visit Christchurch during the Exhibition.

Helga Dombay □

**50th Anniversary of the
1956 Hungarian Revolution
in Christchurch**

Apart from the Rise Up Hungarian! Exhibition, the 50th Anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution will be celebrated on the 22nd of October with a Church Service at the Lady Fatima Church, Innes Road, Christchurch at 10.00 am followed by a dinner at the Hungarian Clubrooms at 1pm.

Aucklandi Magyar Klub—Auckland Hungarian Club

magyarklub@ihug.co.nz

AZ 1956-OS OKTÓBERI FORRADALOM

Gloria Victis

„Halottakról emlékezünk, a mártírhalt magyarokról, akik a bitófa tövében is a nemzet szabadságát élte, életüket áldozták egy szabad, független demokratikus Magyarorszáért.

Hősökről emlékezünk, gyermekemberekről és aggastyánokról, lányokról, asszonyokról, diákokról, munkásokról és a Föld fiairól, papokról, katonákról, akik hittek egy szebb és boldogabb jövő eljövételében és akik ezért a hitükért életüket áldozták.

Penészes cellákban, rothadó szalmazsákokon hosszú hónapokon, éveken át, elszakítva többi rabtársaiktól csendben, magukba szállva várták a halált. Fialat testük erőitől sugárzott, szemük változatlan csillogása a végtelen jövő álomterveiről mesélt. A remény ott égett

titokban szívükben, Istenem, lehetséges?... még húsz éves sem vagyok.....s talán holnap visznek...?”

* Fehérvári István, "Börtön évek Magyarországon"



A megemlékezés programja a következő:

Ünnepélyes Megemlékezés, október 22

Vasárnap délután 4:30 órai kezdettel ünnepélyes megemlékezést tartunk az 1956-os októberi forradalom 50. évfordulója alkalmából. Az ez alkalomra szervezett 56-os kiállítás megtekinthető lesz a délután folyamán. Teremnyitás délután 3:30 tól. Az estére a magyaros ünnepi vacsorát Muik István és családja szolgáltatja.

A részvétel ingyenes. Az 1956-os forradalom mintájára adománydobozt állítunk fel.

Helyszín: A Dán klub helysége, 6 Rockridge Rd, Penrose. Öltözék: ünnepélyes, illetve magyaros nemzeti viselet az alkalomhoz illően.

Kérjük, hogy vacsorával egybekötött részvételi szándékát mielőbb jelezni szíveskedjék a vezetőségnek. Kőszegi Zoya (09 376 6426, star.rail@gmail.com) és Surányi Erzsébet (09 575 0024) vállalták el, hogy jegyeket postáznak a jelentkezőknek. Jegyek október 16.-ig rendelhetők. Tekintettel a számos hivatalos vendég, klubtag és barátaink részvételére, valószínű, hogy nem tud mindenki asztalhoz ülni. Felkérnénk kedves vendégeinket, hogy az ülőhelyeket elsősorban a hivatalos vendégeknek és az idősebb korosztálynak engedjük át, továbbá, a vacsoránál felváltva ülünk asztalhoz. Együttműködését és udvariasságát előre is köszönjük.

Az 1956-os forradalom 50.ik évfordulójának megemlékezési programja

Alkalmi kiállítás az 1956-os Forradalomról

1. Angol és magyar nyelvű megnyitó beszéd az Aucklandi Magyar Klub nevében - Magó Nándor elnök
2. Angol nyelvű beszéd 1956 jelentőségéről - Szabó Miklós, Magyarország tiszteletbeli konzulja
3. Wittner Mária beszéde a Magyar Országgyűlésben a kommunizmus ádozatainak emléknapján – felolvassa Koroly Gábor (magyarul)
4. BBC – The Hungarian Revolution of 1956 – dokumentum film
5. Magyar nyelvű beszéd 1956 jelentőségéről - Hegedűs Imre, a forradalom résztvevője
6. Berecz Steven - Sir Leslie Munro beszéde az ENSZ-ben - 1956
7. Himnuszok
8. Magó Nándor a megemlékezést bezárja és díszvacsorához szólítja a vendégeket.

A vacsora előtt a klub táncsoportja fellép

Hivatalos Mise, október 22

Vasárnap délelőtt 11 órakor hivatalos megemlékezés a St Benedict katolikus templomban, a nyilvános délelőtti vasárnapi mise keretében. St Benedict St, Newton.

Ünnepi Mise, október 23

Az évforduló napján október 23-án délelőtt 10 órakor bensőséges megemlékezést szervezünk a St. Michael's templomban (Beatrice Rd, Remuera). Az ünnepi misét Fr. Stephen Berecz szolgáltatja. A mise után mindenkit szeretettel várunk egy kis összejövetelre, beszélgetésre a templom alatti helyiségben. Szívesen vennénk, ha erre az alkalomra mindenki hozna egy tál süteményt vagy más harapnivalót magával.

Október 23.-án a magyar zászló lesz felvonva az Aucklandi Harbour Bridge-re.

Let's Cook Hungarian!



One of my grandchildren asked me if I remembered what I had for dinner on the 23rd of October 1956... Of course I can't actually remember. All I remember is turning the radio on and hearing the Himnusz, the Hungarian National Anthem, being played over and over again. We all knew something big was happening and... well, the rest is history. So instead of sharing with you what we actually had then, I thought I'd include a couple of "true Hungarian" dishes which are relatively simple to make and which featured regularly on the menu in my home in Hungary in the '50's. (I have based the recipes on Culinaria Hungary's (Könemann, 1999), which are very similar to how I make it.) I know kohlrabi can be difficult to get, but it's worth persisting!

Kohlrabi Soup (Karlábéleves)

600 gm tender kohlrabi 2 tbsp butter
5 tbsp flour 5 ½ cups water
Salt generous pinch of pepper
½ cup sour cream bunch of parsley finely chopped

Peel the kohlrabi and cut into small cubes. Melt the butter in a pot, and braise the kohlrabi for 2 to 3 minutes, stirring continuously. Sprinkle over the flour and stir until golden in colour. Add the water and bring to boil. Season with salt and pepper, and cook kohlrabi over a low heat until tender. Finally stir in the finely chopped parsley and the sour cream. Serve with fresh bread.

Cottage Cheese Pasta (Túrós Csusza)

The Pasta: I use fettuccine (500 g), which is of course much faster (and almost as nice), or you can make the following traditional Hungarian pasta:

3 ½ cups flour 3 eggs
pinch of salt ¾ to 1 ¼ cups water
butter

Sift the flour into a bowl, and make a well in the centre. Break the eggs into the centre of the well, and sprinkle the salt over it. Gradually add the water. Combine everything with your fingers, and then firmly knead the dough on a floured work surface until it no longer sticks. Halve the dough and shape each half into a loaf. Brush some melted butter over each piece of dough and then cover with a light cotton cloth and leave to rest for 10 to 15 minutes. For this recipe, tear 4 to 5 cm length pieces and cook in a generous amount of boiling salted water.

The "Filling": 100 g smoked bacon 20 g butter
 400 g cottage cheese or creamy quark ¼ cup sour cream

Cut the bacon into small pieces and fry in hot butter until the fat begins to run. Remove the cracklings from the pan and keep warm. Reserving some of the fried bacon as a garnish, stir the pasta in the rest. Add half the quark or cottage cheese and half the sour cream, and combine well. Heat through again, and pour into a warm dish. Spread over the remainder of the quark or cottage cheese. Heat the remaining sour cream and pour over. Sprinkle over the reserved bacon pieces, then the cracklings and serve immediately. Delicious with cucumber salad (uborka saláta) or pickled gherkins (savanyu uborka). Jó étvágyat!

Klára du Toit



The aim of the Magyar Szó (ISSN 1171-8978) is to serve the interest of Hungarians living in New Zealand, by publicising matters of interest and importance to them, and by documenting the life of the Hungarian community in New Zealand. The first issue was published as a circular for the Hungarian Community in Wellington. Since September 1991 (issue no. 6) the Magyar Szó has nationwide coverage, and is sent only to subscribers. Opinions expressed in this bulletin are not necessarily those of the Magyar Szó, its editors or the Hungarian Consulate-General. The bulletin is published every third month, commencing in September. The subscription charge (within New Zealand) for twelve months is \$30.00, students and beneficiaries, \$25.00; NZ\$36 to Australia, NZ\$42.00 to other places. Please make your cheque payable to "Magyar Szó" and post it to the publisher.

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A Magyar Szó 2006/2007-es előfizetési évének második, vagyis a 2006. decemberi számhoz beküldendő anyagot kérjük **november 25-i** határidővel a szerkesztőhöz eljuttatni. Bár gépelt, vagy kézírással készült anyagot is szívesen látunk, sok munkamegtakarítást jelent, ha a küldött anyag számítógépen készült, és e-mailen, vagy lemezen (diszken) küldik el.

Next issue:

*The deadline for the second issue of the 2006/2007 subscription year, the December 2006 issue is **25 November**. Where possible contributions are preferred in computer-readable format (i.e. e-mail or disc).*

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Invitation

*A warm welcome awaits visitors to the new
Éva Borka Studio Gallery
Featuring a collection of unique
paintings and stone art by Éva Borka*

*At 14 Sunshine Cres. Kelson, Lower Hutt (2 mins off SH 2)
Open weekends from 11 Nov - 24 Dec 10am-6pm
More information and artwork on www.evaborka.co.nz*

Magyar Szó,

**the bulletin of the Hungarian community in New Zealand
PO Box 29-039, Wellington 6030**