

27 May 1955

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: LAZAR, Miklos

Subject was interviewed regarding the letters received and stated he actually received two letters - one mailed from Vienna on 22 April 1955; the other mailed from Vienna on 24 May 1955. (Attached find translations of both letters.)

Subject said he has no idea whatsoever as to the identity of the writer - BENDEGUZ - but does know the pastor mentioned in the first letter. The pastor is Zoltan ZEEHAN. He does not know Mrs. ZEEHAN. Subject met Pastor ZEEHAN in 1922 when he, Subject, first campaigned for election to Parliament in his district of Tallya.

Subject last spoke to ZEEHAN on 11 October 1946. Since that time he has not heard about ZEEHAN and has never been in communication with him.

Subject believes the writer - BENDEGUZ - has resided in Austria for some time, according to the tone of the letters, and wants to meet Subject for one of the following reasons:

- a. Sell him some information
- b. Get him to redefect
- c. Kidnap him

Subject said he was a member of the Hungarian Parliament for about 14 years - from 1925 until 1939.

Subject has been told not to attempt a meeting this weekend - 28 May but to go ahead with plans to send a message indicating he will be in Salzburg for the 5 June meeting.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE: METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

M U N I C H
The Voice of Free Hungary

TO : MR. LADOS KOZMA
Member of Parliament

Dear Sir,

On April 27th 1955, at 14,40 hours in the program entitled Messages I have been informed that you received my letter dated 22 April 1955..

Please, excuse me, for not having written earlier, but the Austrian events have occupied all my time. You are kindly requested to forgive this delay. As I have mentioned in the last lines of my letter I would like very much to meet you. In my letter I pointed out Munich as the place of our meeting, this however, is impossible as far as I am concerned, for reasons which I am unable to disclose here.

But since I wish very much to meet you, dear Sir, may I request you to meet me in Salzburg. I very much hope that this will be possible for you. Therefore, I wish to ask you to let me know, whether, the date I suggested, for our meeting in Salzburg, would suit you.

1. After the receipt of this letter, please inform me, whether this meeting were possible, sending your answer either in the program entitled Messages or in the Gipsy Music program, preferably until the 28th of May.

a/ If you answer in the Messages, please, use the following motto : " Yearning Picurka awaits Bendeguz."

b/ If in the Gipsy Music program , then with the song entitled : "Jaj, be szep kekszemen van maganak."

/ I have chosen these two alternatives, for if it cannot be included in the Messages, it is still possible to use the other program./

2. If I receive the message suggested under point 1. then I shall travel on May 28th 1955, to Salzburg and will book a room in the Hotel Hirsch. You will find me through the desk clerk under the name Bendeguz and so I hope that the meeting will take place, which I am awaiting so badly.

3. In case, dear Sir, you cannot come to Salzburg, on the days I suggested, in other words on May 29th or 30th, then I wish to ask you to meet in Salzburg, in Hotel Hirsch, on the 5th of June and I expect your answer according to the

arrangement explained under point 1. Then I shall travel to Salzburg on June 4th and we can meet on June 5th 1955. In this case, would you please alter the message under point "a" the following way : " Yearning Pionerka awaits Bendeguz a little later;" and the song under "b" should be : "Ki tanyaja az a nyarfias"

Dear Sir, when I shall have the chance to explain my reasons, you will well understand then why did I have to use such complicated methods in order to arrange our meeting. I believe, it will be one of the greatest surprises of your life, if we can know each other personally. I also know, you can hardly imagine how valuable my modest help will be in your future activities for the liberation of the Hungarian nation.

Let me take the liberty , dear Sir, to draw your attention to some interesting matters.

A./ Does the Hungarian communist radio or press react on the broadcasts of the Voice of Free Hungary?

a./ On May 13th 1955, the Voice of Free Hungary, released in its news at 14,09 hours that the Debrecen Vehicles Enterprise started to manufacture in mass production ~~chassises~~ of tanks. The Hung. Communists tried to protect themselves against this news the following way that they published an article in the paper entitled "Esti Budapest" in which they described the type and number of engines and railroad cars which supposedly will be repaired in the Debrecen Vehicles Enterprise.

b./ In one of your programs entitled "Glossary", Col. Bell mentioned that at the May 1, military parade of the Hungarian Army the latest type of Soviet armored cars were driven by Russian soldiers because the Hungarian Army did not receive yet these tanks and because of this reason -- quite contrary to the regular habit -- the driver could not be seen in the Turret of the car. The Communists' reaction to the aforementioned Glossary was that in the May 17, issue of the "Esti Budapest" they published a short story entitled: "Among the Armored Cars", and through this story they wished to eliminate the news which was included in the above-mentioned broadcast of the Voice of Free Hungary.

For, the actual situation is that today in Hungary more persons listen to the Voice of Free Hungary than you could ever imagine. Furthermore, its news referring to Hungarian conditions spreads from mouth to mouth. Therefore, it would be right if the Voice of Free Hungary would somehow inform its listeners in Hungary that it is aware of these Communist reports.

B./ a./ A rumour goes around ^{among} the villagers according to which the Government is going to issue a new decree concerning corn-delivery according to which individual farmers will be permitted to store only that quantity of corn which is sufficient to be used for sowing and for the fattening of the number of pigs which ^{are} necessary for the family. This means that ~~the~~ individual farmers will not be able to sell corn on the free market in autumn. The very same refers to the TSZ as well. According to well-informed persons a serious restriction will be introduced concerning pig-fattening in commission. Allegedly only persons with specific occupation will be permitted to do fattening on the so-called commission basis. Employees and workers who are employed with State Farms and pig-fattening stations belonging to the State, will not be permitted in future to own pigs which will be fattened at these places. For, so far the above-mentioned workers and employees received the permission to possess one or two pigs according to their family size.

b./ Another decree will also be issued which is going to regulate wine and grape delivery. New restrictions are expected in these fields also. On the so-called "historical" vine-growing territories the entire vintage will be taken over by the State and, therefore, from these territories grapes cannot be sold on the market.

- C/ a. Russian engineering outfits have dug out four fuel tanks which were in the ground in the south eastern corner of the Russian airfield of Pandorf, about 50 to 60 meters diagonally from the railroad / Vienna - Hegyeshalom - Budapest/ and loading them on wagons transported to Hungary on May 17th, 1955. ~~The~~ The freight cars ~~was~~ which carried the fuel tanks and the pipes which belonged to them were unloaded in Mosonszentjanos, on a territory opposite the former "Frank" food factory, and it is rumored that ~~that~~ they will be taken on to an airfield about to be built between Mosonmagyaróvár and Mosonszentjanos / the tanks were built on the Pandorf air field in summer 1955/
- b. 500 to 600 Soviet soldiers arrived at the farmstead of "Paulhof" which lies about 5 km from Frauenkirchen to the SW on May 23, 1955. They came from various Austrian military garrisons. The soldiers are well guarded. Civilians may not approach the farm. At night four or five trucks transport the troops over to Hungary. So far no Russian officers nor men have come out. One can see no movement or drill.
- c. In the SE part of the village of Sommerrain, which is hilly and wooded and surrounded by woods, there were hitherto Russian military units in a camp. Russian soldiers and officers were constantly going in and out, but from the beginning of May this has ceased and the camp is being watched more strictly. The soldiers are in readiness to march. Several military trucks have arrived at the camp. According to Soviet military drivers the soldiers will be transported to Hungary. Soviet drivers say that the military formations will be transferred to the district of Papa.

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d. The activities of the Soviet air force have recently been greatly reduced over the Austro-Hungarian frontier.

I respectfully ask you, Sir, not to take it amiss that I write so late, but as I have already mentioned, I had much work recently. At the same time I beg you to let me know, according to the above, when we could meet. I mention that for me May 29 or 30 would be very favourable. The news included under A-B-C will to a certain extent prove the truth of the sentence in my first letter which says: " I ,too, live in the emigration, just like you, Sir / Member of Parliament/ I am fighting Communism in my own way and I know and believe that I am among the few who have caused bitter hours to the Budapest Muscovites."

Awaiting your kind reply and trusting that we shall be able to meet

Yours respectfully

"Bendeguz

Vienna. May 24, 1955

The text is in many places confused and almost unintelligible
The writer has great difficulty in relating straightforward
events /Translator's note/

To Mr.
Közma Miklós
Member of Parliament

5a

Munich,
"The Voice of Free Hungary"

Dear Sir,

The programs transmitted on April 14, 1955, at 17.15 hrs., (Transl. Note. actual time of broadcast 17.30 hrs.) entitled "Local Commentary" and on April 17, 1955 at 21 hrs. entitled "Report from the Hungarian Border"; further the previous programs with the same title which are part of the permanent Sunday broadcast - here I refer to the program series "Report from the Hungarian border, - have emboldened me to write to you.

On April 14, 1955, at 17.30 hrs. when the speaker read your feature, I discovered - to my greatest pleasure - that you are an old acquaintance of mine. I too, am from Hegyalja. In order to exclude and dispense immediately any doubt concerning my person I will only mention that I am a near relative of the former Evangelical pastor of Tallya, "Zeeman Zoltán's" wife, widowed Mrs. Ferenc Kovácsi born Franka Lippoczi. Further of the former Mrs. Dr. László Kroeczer of Tokaj.

I also live in emigration, like you Sir. I fight Communism in my own way and I know and believe to belong to those few who have given many bitter hours to the "muscovites of Budapest". I know that I can help you in your work. I can also appreciate the ways and means of this. For this reason let me explain this with an example.

"In the past war, the most effective propaganda was made by the English propaganda service for Germany. After the war, the English propaganda agency made researches in Germany to see which of the broadcast propaganda material had the greatest effect among the listeners. The result of this research was that those programs in which the exact location of the action was determined and described had the greatest success. For instance, when it was said that in a hospital the patients were given rancid butter the exact location of the hospital was also given in the news material."

On the basis of the above example I join a sketch to the "material" of your broadcast of April 17, 1955, 21.15 hrs.

I believe that if this sketch would have been in your possession the material of your program would have had quite a different effect.

Unfortunately, I am in a queer situation. This is the reason why I cannot tell you my name and full address yet. But I know that if we can meet personally, you will find me a fellow-worker who can seriously help you with your work.

So, for the time being, I ask you to acknowledge the receipt of my letter. I ask you to do it in the following way: in your program entitled "Messages" the speaker should say the following text: "Picurka sends the Message to Bendeguz that he has received the letter". However, I ask you to repeat this message several times, because for certain reasons my listening to the station is limited.

After this message has been broadcast I will write another letter to you in which I will tell you the way of our personal meeting. I hope that I will find a way to travel to Munich, however, I can only promise this for the end of May.

I beg your pardon if I have troubled you in vain, but I hope for the opposite and remain

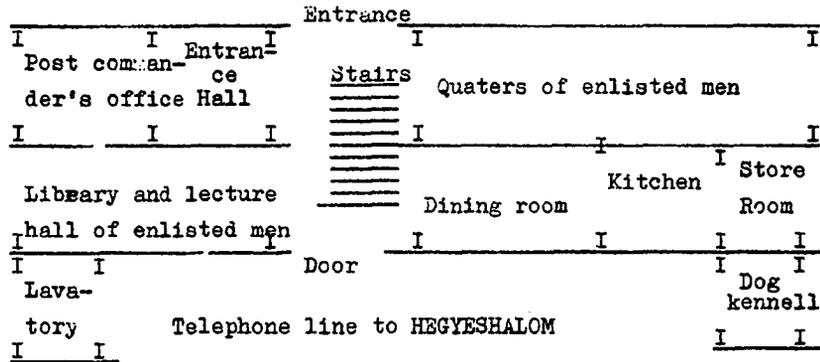
yours respectfully
"Bendeguz"

Vienna, April 22, 1955

(Transl.note: "writer has much difficulty in expressing himself ~~xxxx~~ parts of the letter are almost unintelligible)

Telephone line to RAJKA.

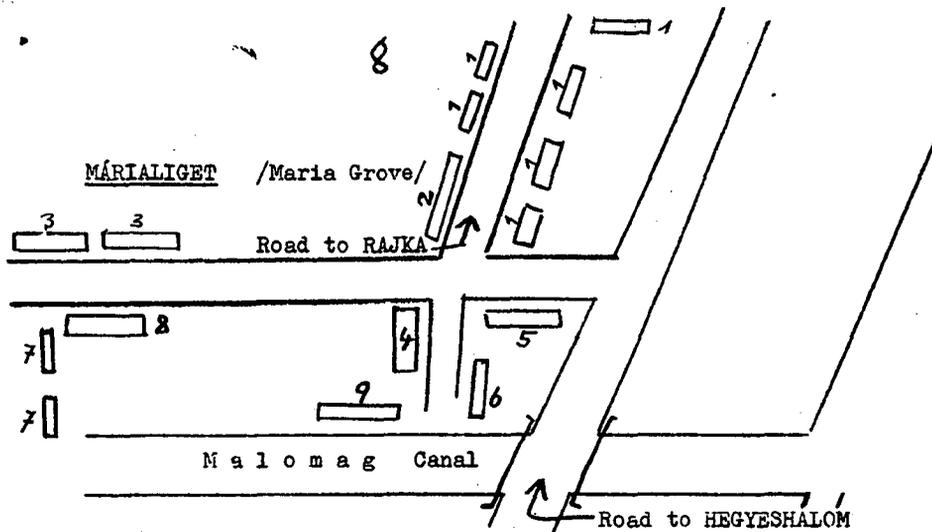
The scheme of the post commander's building of the Márialiget Boarder Guards.



VEGETABLE GARDEN.

EXPLANATORY NOTE:

On the front line of the building usually orders are issued, the ammunition is handed out and here they keep also permanently four wolf-hounds which accompany the patrols guarding the frontier. Under the stairs leading to the floor above is the prison for about four persons, without any beds or other resting place or accommodation. The locality has no window, it is constantly damp and cannot be heated.



EXPLANATORY NOTE: 1./Houses occupied by permanent workers of the "Márialiget" State Farm,

2./ quarters of seasonal workers,

3./ cow-stables,

4./ a one-story magazine /granary/,

5./ living house and machine shop/machine repair shed/

6./ living house,

7./ stables for cows and horses and a milk storeroom,

8./ dung heap

9./ one-story brick building, which was used before the war for a school and the teacher's lodgement. At present it is used for the ~~school~~ office of the "RAJKA" Boarder Guard Company's post. - On the first floor is situated the office of the post-commander, the quarters of the enlisted men and their dining room, ~~with~~ the interrogation room. On the floor above is the lodgement of the post-commander. The building has a direct telephone communication ~~to~~ Rajka and ~~to~~ Hegyeshalom. The constant number of the post is 24 men and their commander. In the autumn 1954, there was a wire-fencing erected before the building. Behind the building is a pigsty & a vegetable garden.