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JUN 15 1970
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Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

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SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

Attention: Deputy Director, Plans

Dear Sir:

For your information, I am enclosing
communications which may be of interest to you.

Very truly yours,


John Edgar Hoover
Director

~~Enc.~~

(Upon removal of classified enclosures, if any,
this transmittal form becomes UNCLASSIFIED.)

atts 1, 2, 3 NA
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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

FOR COORDINATION WITH FBI

200-6-12

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

15-P

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

NY FILE NO 105-1454 CS

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 11/3/50	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/13; 9/8, 16; 10/4, 23, 24/50	REPORT MADE BY ELMER M. ROTH
TITLE CHANGED COLLEGIAL SOCIETY OF HUNGARIAN VETERANS, aka. Comradeship of the Hungarian Warriors, League of Hungarian Veterans Association of Hungarian Soldiers (Magyar Harcosok Bajtarsi Közössége - MHBK)		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R & HU REGISTRATION ACT	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Additional sources report that leadership of MHBK is composed of former Hungarian Arrow Cross (Nazi) officers. Present group, with headquarters in Innsbruck, Austria, said to stem from partisans organized under German auspices in 1944. General ANDRAS ZAKO reportedly expanded membership and scope of MHBK; however, exact membership throughout many countries not known. MHBK considered by some as most active group opposed to Hungarian Communist regime, endeavoring to maintain nucleus of future Hungarian Army of liberation with U.S. support. Identities of British leaders set forth. MHBK representatives reported to be active in various U.S. cities. Dr. LASZLO AGH, chief U.S. representative, presently resides in Newark, N.J. Publications of MHBK set forth. TIBOR TUCKERARDT, member of Executive Committee of Hungarian National Council, New York City, presently member of MHBK. Registration data noted.			
<div style="text-align: right; border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> MICROFILMED JUN 15 1970 DOC. MICRO. SER. </div>			
<p>DETAILS: The title of this case is being changed to include the designations "League of Hungarian Veterans" and "Association of Hungarian Soldiers" by which names the MHBK is known to sources hereinafter mentioned.</p>			
<div style="text-align: right; border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> MICROFILMED JUN 15 1970 DOC. MICRO. SER. </div>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
<p>5- Bureau (97-2694)</p> <p>2- Boston</p> <p>1- Cleveland (Info.) (105-241)</p> <p>1- Chicago (Info.)</p> <p>1- Detroit (Info.)</p> <p>(Copies cont'd on page 2)</p>		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND EUROPEAN ACTIVITIES

Concerning the origins of the MHBK Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, supplied the following information:

~~D/28~~ [] During the latter part of 1944, at the suggestion of KAROLY NEM, a Hungarian SS Colonel, and with German approval, there was formed, during the regime of Hungarian Premier FERENC SZALASI, a partisan group whose task was to consist of continuing the fight behind the Russian lines after the withdrawal of German and Hungarian troops from Hungary.

Brigadier General ANDRAS ZAKO, then chief of VKF-2 (G-2 of the Hungarian general staff) actually organized the group, known as "Kopjas" (pikemen). Members were drawn partly from Arrow Cross (Hungarian Nazi Party) civilian sympathizers, and in part from the ranks of Hungarian paratroops under General SZUGYI.

Since ZAKO and other high ranking Hungarian staff officers retreated westward with the German Army under pressure of the Russian advance, and with the sudden end of hostilities were captured by the United States Army in Austria and Germany in May, 1945, the Kopjas organization never actually engaged in the work for which it was designed.

During 1946, however, the organization was reactivated by Arrow Cross emigres for peace-time resistance against the Communist regime in Hungary. While most of its activities were confined to Hungarian refugee circles in the occupied zones of Austria and Germany some semblance of an organization was operating within Hungary which is said to survive to this day.

Copies cont'd

1-Newark (Info.)
1-Pittsburgh (Info.)
1-Richmond (Info.)
1-Washington Field (Info.) (105-994)
3-New York

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Following a number of reorganizations under General ZAKO, the MHBK, by which name it became known, has expanded considerably in membership and scope according to the above mentioned source.

During the latter part of 1947 its headquarters was moved from the British zone to its present location in Innsbruck in the French zone of Austria. The group is said to obtain information, disseminate propaganda and maintain a registry of all Hungarian refugees. Because of this method of registration it is almost impossible to determine the exact membership, estimates of which range from one thousand to thirty-five thousand scattered through many countries. It has been pointed out according to T-1 that many refugees are attracted to MHBK because they consider it the most active group presently opposed to the Hungarian regime. However, because of varying views the organization is said to be divided into numerous factions.

T-1 further advised that although conflicting opinions have been voiced concerning the political complexion of the MHBK there appears to be little doubt that while the rank and file membership may embrace persons of varied political views the leadership is composed of a group of former Hungarian officers who were members of the Arrow Cross Party and are still said to be sympathetic to its principles. While General ZAKO is said to be less implicated as a former Hungarian Fascist than others of his staff, he is still considered to be so far to the right politically that none of the recognized and responsible Hungarian groups or politicians have adhered to him or to the MHBK. The organization, however, maintains representatives for obtaining funds and support from governments and refugee groups in Austria, Germany, Great Britain, France, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Latin America and the United States.

It has been noted that General ZAKO may have recently lost the limited support accorded him by the French Occupation Forces in Austria, and that he has been renewing his endeavors to obtain sponsorship, particularly in the United States. T-1 pointed out that General ZAKO has thus far been unsuccessful in enlisting the moral and financial support of the United States.

T-1 furnished the following list of the more important members of the MHBK:

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- (General) ANDRAS ZAKO, alias ISTVAN KOVACS
- (General) FERENC KISBARNAKI-PARKAS
- (General) LAJOS WADAS
- Count JOSZEF PALEFF *ms 201*
- (General) GUSTAV HENNYEY *amended*
- (General) FNU *AVARY ?*
- (Captain) MIKLOS KORPONAY
- (Lt. Col.) GYORGY KOLLENYI
- (Colonel) FERENC POSZORUS
- ✓ *no 201* ATTILA KOVACS (former aide to ZAKO, murdered in early 1950 by agents of the present Hungarian Government).
- (Captain) EDOARD TASSONYI
- (General) MARIO SPANYI
- Count BELA FELEKI
- ✓ KALMAN SLATH (emigrated to the United States)
- ✓ LASZLO SZENYI (Presently in Washington, D.C.)
- ✓ MIKLOS SZAR (reported liaison officer between MHBK and CIC's Steyr office)

CCC

Confidential Informant T-2, of unknown reliability, furnished the following additional information concerning the MHBK, known to this source in the English equivalent of "Association of Hungarian Soldiers":

The MHBK is endeavoring to maintain the nucleus of a future Hungarian Army of liberation based upon such members of the former Hungarian armed forces as are deemed reliable. The eventual aim, according to this source, is to reestablish a Right Wing military dictatorship in Hungary, possibly camouflaged if necessary for the sake of the western powers. The group is said to favor restoration of the monarchy in Hungary, its leaders having reportedly agreed to support OTTO of Habsburg.

It is pointed out, however, that the sentiments of General KISBARNAKI-PARKAS, MHBK leader in Germany, are not certain as he is reported to possess ambitions to become Governor of Hungary. He is said to enjoy the confidence of the Vatican

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and of the Catholic clergy in general, and reportedly maintains close contact with former German Army officers. His personal representative in Britain is reported to be LASZLO SKALLA.

T-2 pointed out that in Great Britain the MHBK is considered to be the most important Hungarian Right Wing force, the total estimated membership of two thousand being represented by approximately six hundred and fifty active individuals, former professional Army and Gendarmerie officers.

According to T-2 the administrative leader in Britain is Captain MIKLOS BOROSNYAI-TOMPA, former Gendarmerie officer. He in turn reports to Major A. SZINAL, who supervises Hungarian forces in Britain from his Austrian headquarters. The highest ranking officer in Britain is considered to be ALADAR CSATAI, residing in London, who endeavors to keep in the background, is not known to the general membership but is in reality the political organizer.

CSATAI reportedly had been chief Hungarian Liaison Officer at the German High Command Headquarters on the Eastern Front during World War II and spent considerable time at HITLER's headquarters in Poland and Russia. He is said to make his reports to Colonel LAJOS NADAS in the United States zone of Germany.

Regarding NADAS T-2 indicated that this individual was said to have been in charge of operations of the Hungarian Staff in 1944, reportedly was known to have worked for the Germans and to have acted as a Confidential Informant to VEESENMAIER when the latter was Nazi High Commissioner for Hungary.

T-2 further informed that two Hungarian Roman Catholic priests are associated with the MHBK in Britain, namely Father G. E. BORSHY and Dr. KAROLY HENKEY-HONIG. Captain J. PARACSI, a former officer in the Hungarian Gendarmerie represents the MHBK in the Hungarian Presbyterian Church of London.

According to T-2 Dr. HENKEY-HONIG is said to exert endeavors to infiltrate the so-called democratic Hungarian organizations in Britain, such as the Hungarian Welfare Association,

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comprised of a mixed group of refugees and claiming to be the organization representing in Britain the Hungarian National Council of New York City.

T-2 further advised that at the headquarters of MHBK, at Innsbruck, there are maintained a central registry and card index system; further that in each country where MHBK has been established, a national registry of members is kept by a specially appointed officer who is the commander of that branch. Names, particulars, political and moral tendencies are recorded on cards and sympathizers as well as enemies of the group are also indexed. In each country, according to T-2, members are divided into groups of eight and the national commander appoints individuals, who report back to him, to watch each member of the group. The commander is responsible to headquarters in Germany and Austria where an officer may be in charge of one or more country.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED STATES

During August, 1950 Dr. LASZLO AGH, MHBK representative in the United States, made available to the New York Office of the F.B.I., a copy of a mimeographed circular in the Hungarian language, of which he indicated only thirty copies were distributed by him. The circular, as translated from Hungarian, reads as follows:

" Guiding Principles for Group Leaders

" Comrades!

" Group leaders are administrative co-workers of the Chief Group Leader of the MHBK in the USA. Consequently, it is not necessary to have the group leaders registered separately.

"The recently published Informative circular contains the most important things to know and thus it is not necessary to repeat these.

"It is never to be lost sight of that we do not occupy ourselves with politics, do not adhere to any orientation or group movement, and our loyalty to the USA is exemplary.

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"In the USA, group leaders are working in the following cities: New York, Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Richmond.

"The duties of group leaders:

"I. A. Forwarding to the Chief Group leader the data pertaining to the comrades;

Name,
Address,
Year of birth,
Civil qualifications,
Former type of arms and rank,
Number of family members,
Degree of proficiency in English, Russian,
etc.

"The compilation of the above information is the most important as well as the most urgent work at all times. If group leaders are only able to obtain portions of the data, the name and address will be sufficient for the time being. (This will enable us to send them newspapers).

"II. Our slogan: Aid the Hungarian. Therefore if DP's arrive it is considered as the finest social work to supply them with correct advice, and help them to obtain a residence and employment. If the opportunity presents itself the comrades should also help the old Hungarian-Americans.

"The most powerful and in numerical sequence the number one enemies of the USA are the Communists. Every comrade, but particularly the group leaders, should be of assistance to U.S. authorities. Thus, whoever obtains information about Communist organizations, or discovers Communist individuals, should report his observations to the FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation). I emphasize my request to the comrades that no one should be motivated by revenge and only the absolute truth should be reported. The best equipped defensive organ of the USA should not be burdened with superfluous work. -- In the defense against Communism and spies most of the comrades received professional training at home, and I therefore urge them to exercise their knowledge with the greatest devotion in the new country.

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"According to our conception it is probable that in case of war against the Soviets we shall participate as a separate group in defending our new country and in liberating our old country. For this reason volunteering for military service seems premature at the present moment.

"In the event group leaders are able to have (MHBK) articles published in a newspaper, I request that the text of such article be sent to me for purposes of review, and thereafter arrangements made to have the articles published. In the recent past a number of Hungarian newspapers in the U.S. have come to our support. Thus the Pittsburgh "Magyarsag" (4735 Monongabela Street, Pittsburgh 7, Pa.), and the "Magyarok Vasarnapja" (Hungarian Sunday, 4160 Lorain Avenue, Cleveland 13, Ohio), etc.

"I call the attention of the group leaders to the fact that the "Magyarok Vasarnapja" and the "MagyarEgyhaz" (Hungarian Church), 895 Home Street, Bronx 59, New York, mail the papers free of charge for half a year to the newly arrived DP's. The comrade should request the papers by postcard. If similar concessions are made by other papers I will make this known.

"According to plans, during the Fall a group of story-tellers will visit the sections of the USA where Hungarians reside. The comrades will be notified concerning the performances.

"I urge the group leaders to inform me periodically about the results of their work. (A postcard will suffice).

"N.Y., August 15, 1950.

"With Comradely affection,
"MHBK Chief USA Group leader.

"Distributed to: Group leaders and inner co-workers."

On October 4, 1950 Dr. LASZLO AGH advised the New York Office of the F.B.I. that on October 1, 1950 he moved from

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New York City to 379 Belmont Avenue, apartment 7, Newark 8, New Jersey, (no telephone), mailing address, P. O. Box 724, Newark 1, New Jersey. He indicated he would endeavor to obtain employment either in a bakery shop or a cement factory.

PUBLICATIONS

It has been previously reported that the MHBK published a monthly publication, the "Kozponti Tajekoztato" (Central Bulletin), in about two thousand copies of which Dr. AGH stated he received fifty copies for distribution in the United States.

Dr. AGH subsequently made available to the New York Office the May, 1950 issue of a sixteen page printed Hungarian publication of a small format called "Hadak Utjan" (On the Road of Armies), which publication announced that henceforth this would be the official MHBK publication, replacing the "Kozponti Tajekoztato".

A lead article of the July, 1950 issue of "Hadak Utjan", written by General ANDRAS ZAKO, entitled "The Hungarian Soldiers and the New Hungary", it may be noted, concluded with the following statement as translated from Hungarian:

"The Hungary of which we dream, for which we labor and if need be fight, is not a Hungary specifically designed for peasants, laborers or intellectuals, for Catholics or Protestants, and certainly not the Hungary of thousand-acre land-owners; it is simply the Hungary for Hungarians. It is a Hungary for those Hungarians who are declared Hungarian citizens by our laws and mainly for those who feel and assert themselves to be Hungarians and prove this by their every assertion, -- the Hungary in which the lasting human and civil rights are guaranteed in the western sense.

"We are also clearly aware of the fact that the creation of Hungary's new aspect is the right of all the Hungarian people independent of our ideas. In this matter we desire to use our influence only to the degree which is necessary when the

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unconditional to guarantee that each member of the Hungarian nation will be able to voice his opinion freely and without coercion.

"The decision should be left in the hands of the Hungarian people, the only source of all rights."

Dr. AGH also made available a four page printed circular entitled "Tájékoztató Korlevel A USA Területén Élo Bajtársainak" (Informative circular for comrades residing in the USA), dated at New York, July, 1950, edited by the United States representative of MHBK (Dr. AGH).

It is stated on the masthead of the circular just mentioned that "this publication furnishes replies to everyone about general questions received by us."

Page two of the circular summarizes the purpose of MHBK as follows:

"In the event the appropriate official quarters need us, honorably to discharge our part in liberating the old country in order that we may help to lay foundations of a democratic national regime which would insure the future life of the Hungarian people in the western sense."

It may be noted that all of the above mentioned MHBK publications bear a Hungarian language rubber stamp indicating that MHBK has complied with provisions of the Foreign Agents Registration Act, and that LASZLO AGH, 334 East 82nd Street, New York, 28, New York, is its representative.

The September 1950 issue of "Hadak Utjan" bore an additional stamp giving the address of LASZLO AGH as P. O. Box 724, Newark, New Jersey.

MEMBERSHIP OF TIBOR FCKHARDT IN MHBK

The August 1950 issue of "Hadak Utjan" on page four published the following letter written by TIBOR FCKHARDT, member of the Executive Committee of the Hungarian National Council at

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New York City, and President of the Committee of Defense of that organization;

"New York
July 14, 1950

"To General ANDRAS ZAKO,
as leader of the MHBK,
Austria

My dear friend;

"I have the good fortune to bring to your kind attention by this means my desire to enter the Comradeship of the Hungarian Warriors.

"I greet the MHBK as a patriotic association of free Hungarians, whose members are willing at all times to seize arms, at the side of the western allies in the interest of liberating Hungary. The cleansing of Hungary from the red hordes as well as from the Agents of STALIN is the duty of every Hungarian and the MHBK has been dedicated to this purpose, free from politics, since it was first organized.

"May God's blessing accompany the success of the noble aims.

"With patriotic greeting,
your true adherent,
TIBOR ECKHARDT."

The above letter was followed by the following comment:

"TIBOR ECKHARDT, steeled in the pain of the ex-patriate, has been led by sincere feelings into the camp of the MHBK, fighting, free from politics, for the ideals of perpetual Hungary.

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"We greet the competent statesman, brave and tried warrior, with our entire soldier's heart and with comradely devotion."

It may be noted that the leadership of the Hungarian National Council is comprised of Hungarian political refugees whose avowed aim it is to discredit the present Hungarian Communist regime by declaring that the Council in reality is the true representative of the Hungarian people since its leadership embraces legally elected former Hungarian statesmen and politicians of various political parties.

The Hungarian pro-Communist "Magyar Jovo" (Hungarian Daily Journal) contained a front page article in its October 3, 1950 issue entitled "ECKHARDT Prepares to Organize Fascist Armies". The article purportedly quotes the September 29, 1950 issue of the Hungarian newspaper "Amerikai Magyarorsag" (Hungarian-American) published in Bridgeport, Connecticut, in which ECKHARDT, as reported, made the following statement:

"I warn patriotic Hungarians living on free soil that the time has not yet arrived for organizing Hungarian armed forces although world events will shortly make this necessary.

"My primary task in the Hungarian National Council is to create in time the political, material and other prerequisites of organizing the Hungarian armed forces."

In the October 4, 1950 issue of "Magyar Jovo" a front page article entitled "ECKHARDT Joined the Arrow Cross (Nyilas) Terrorist Organization" reported that ECKHARDT became a member of the Comradeship of Hungarian Veterans (MHBK), "the terror gang of the murderous Arrow Cross refugees functioning in Austria according to 'FUEHRER' principles". The article quoted ECKHARDT's letter to ZAKO, above set out.

Confidential Informant T-3, of known reliability, advised that through membership in the MHBK, ECKHARDT, a former member of the HORTHY Government in Hungary, is considered by certain Hungarian elements to have won a following estimated at twenty thousand well-trained officers and enlisted men of the former Hungarian Army together with former members of the Hun-

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garian Gendarmerie.

According to T-3 General ZAKO's group had been co-operating with American as well as French Intelligence Agencies and this group has been stated to be one of the few left which still manages to send agents into Hungary to obtain information there.

T-3 further stated that ECKHARDT's acceptance and membership in the MHBK according to certain of his followers was influenced by rumors to the effect that General ZAKO was contemplating the creation of a new Hungarian Council in Britain which would have detracted from the effectiveness of the existing Council at New York.

T-3 was inclined to believe, however, that this story lacked confirmation and may have been merely used by ECKHARDT's followers as a ready explanation of his affiliation with ZAKO's group.

REGISTRATION

Special Agent JAMES L. STARTZELL of the Washington Field Office has verified the fact that LASZLO AGH registered under the Foreign Agents Registration Act on December 8, 1949, registration number 601, giving his principal as ANDRAS ZAKO, Innsbruck, Austria, and his, AGH's, status as agent of the Collegial Society of Hungarian Veterans.

AGH at that time listed his business address as 4202 White Plains Avenue, Bronx, New York, and his residence as 334 82nd Street, New York City. He advised that he was born on February 11, 1908, at Kesmark, Hungary; that he was stateless and a former Hungarian citizen, having been changed to the stateless status by the International Refugee Organization; further, that he entered the United States on November 14, 1947; had previously resided in Hungary in 1944, in Austria as a refugee in 1945 and in Italy as a refugee during 1945.

The records reflected that AGH stated he had been a Reserve Lieutenant in the Hungarian Army Field Artillery from 1939 to 1940; First Lieutenant in the reserve Hungarian Army Field Artillery from 1942 to 1944 and again from 1944 to 1945.

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AGH declared that his activities included the registration of Hungarian veterans in the United States, distribution of pamphlets forwarded by the principal, and the distribution of a general directive pamphlet. According to the records AGH declared that he had no receipts or expenditures during the three months preceding the filing of the registration; that the expenses of the distribution of the periodicals were from his own income, and his expenses for the last three months in the interest of his foreign principal amounted to \$3.00 each month, paid to the Post Office Department for mailing expenses.

On exhibit C to AGH's registration statement he advised that ANDRAS ZAKO was a former General of the Hungarian Army and that his citizenship and nationality were that of a Hungarian displaced person.

On exhibit A of the registration statement he listed his other occupations and activities as confectioner's and bakery shop helper and advised that he had distributed during the last six months approximately one hundred copies of a political publication forwarded to him by his principal.

In his initial letter to the Foreign Agents Registration Section of the United States Department of Justice, dated September 29, 1949 AGH made the following statement regarding the activities of his organization:

"This Spring, ANDRAS ZAKO, former Loyal Hungarian General, Innsbruck, Postfach, Archivum Hungaricum, Austria, launched a movement under the name of Collegial Society of Hungarian Veterans/Magyar Harcosok Bajtarsi Kozossege. The aim of this movement is to concentrate the displaced persons having fled to the Western Zone for an eventual war and liberate Hungary of the present Bolshevik occupation. It does not deal with every day politics if invites every Hungarian who is not a Communist and has a clear moral background to join its ranks and files regardless of age, sex and creed. The movement does not issue membership cards, does not collect membership fees, does not represent a party, it is purely the ideological community of anti-Communist Hungarians and means a self-sacrifice for the Hungarian nation.

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"The activity of the movement comprises the issuance of a monthly periodical (litographic) and distribution of the same among veterans. Above that, it keeps a record of the eligible for service Hungarians on this side of the iron curtain and it deals possibly with social-aiding also.

"The movement is characteristically and definitely pro-American and is based on democratic ideology in western sense. The movement has representatives in all of those countries where there is living a considerable number of Hungarians. In this way in the U.S.A., I am the representative. The periodical deals mainly with the military preparation beyond the iron curtain. I received 50 copies of the above-mentioned periodical for distribution.

"I have a record of 160 refugees and eligible for service displaced persons. I cover the administrative expenses of my own income and does not collect first for this purpose. Inasmuch the described movement and the appointment of my person could be considered as complying with the U. S. Constitution I request the acceptance and acknowledgment of the same."

On October 14, 1949, AGH was advised by the Department of Justice that it would be necessary for him to register under Section II of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended.

In an additional letter dated November 1949, AGH advised the Department of Justice that he was a lawyer in Budapest, Hungary, that he had a list of approximately 200 displaced persons, but had sent copies of his publications only to 80 of them, due to a lack of funds, and that there were many technical and staff officers among the group who were acquainted with the Soviet methods and techniques from on the spot observations.

P E N D I N G