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HR-631

4P

COUNTRY Hungary

DATE: 18 June 1948

SUBJECT Leading Personalities in the KOPJAS
(Krew-Cross Organization)

Info: 10 Jun. 48

ORIGIN Salzburg

Supplementing MA 7-757

SOURCE: []

Evaluation of Source: F

Evaluation of Content: O

Andras Zako []

Born 23 March 1898 in Brassó, Transylvania.

Up to 1928, career officer assigned to duty with the Ministry of War, VKF-2 Section.

In 1938, promoted to major and assigned as chief of staff of 3rd Inf. Division.

In 1940, promoted to lieutenant colonel and assigned to special department in Ministry of War.

In 1943-44, chief of staff of 6th Division, and promoted to colonel.

On 15 October 1944, appointed by SZALASI as chief of VKF-3 and promoted to Vezérernagy (brigadier general). Shortly thereafter Karoly MEY (Col.)

with the Hungarian SS) approached Szalasi with the idea of forming a partisan unit along the Russian and American pattern to fight behind the lines.

Zako appropriated this idea and with the backing of Szalasi formed the KOPJAS organization with the assistance of Captain KORPOMAI. (Field comment;

Please note that the organization was formed by adherents

thus it could hardly qualify as an Anglophile Hungarian democratic youth organization as stated in X-4593, dtd. 14 May 48.)

In 1945, Zako was captured by American forces and lived in Germany as

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a DP. During the summer of 1946, he allegedly returned to Hungary for a brief visit under the disguise of a Protestant minister. In 1947 he became active in the reorganization of the KOPJAS resistance group in Austria and Germany. His headquarters are at Igls, Austria. He leads a rather restricted life. Maintains close contacts with French authorities. Claims to have 40,000 men in his organization but his links with the homeland are weak.

^{DER}
Capt. MIKLOS KORPONAI []

← Righthand man of Zako. →

^H 201
Attila KOVACS

DEGB?

CIT Spakles?

OCC Emigre

Δ Austria

Main associate of Korponai. He has excellent contacts with the French

Securité. HUNGARIAN See also 200-6-12 on MHBK regarding his murder by RIB agents

^{DER}
Ernest Kisbaranki FARKAS []

← Member of the Magyar Keresseg. Former commander of Hungarian Boy-Scouts. →

General officer in the Hungarian Army under Horthy. Joined Szalasi and was

chief of the "Szasonkerócsak" or Arre-Cross People's Court. On 20 August

1947 appointed himself to Nemzetvesető (Führer) and formed a Hungarian

cabinet in exile in Landsht, Germany. → Fanatically ambitious, very capable

organizer, has good contact with the Vatican and the French intelligence

officers in Austria. He is also in contact with Zako who recognizes Farkas

as his senior officer and therefore reports to him on developments within

the KOPJAS. Nevertheless, Zako does not approve of the politics of Farkas

and especially of the formation of a Hungarian emigre government at Landsht

Germany. Zako wishes to rally the Hungarian emigre around the core of

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the emigre group of 1947. Parkas, according to subsource, intends to use Zako as his front man because Parkas knows that his own role during the Szalasi regime is better known than that of Zako's.

Other associates of Parkas are: ^{Dx} MISTETI (fsm) and ^{Dx} SEEMAK (fsm). no 201

^{DZR}
KALMAN BALASA []

is a representative of the Smallholders Party and a member of the Magyar Közösség (Hungarian Community). He maintains contact with Zako through Kerponai. →

Misc.

As already mentioned, the KOPJAS movement consists of an emigre group with very little contact inside Hungary, and no contacts whatsoever among well-placed Hungarian government officials. For quite some time Kerponai and Zako have been looking for sponsors to finance their movement principally because they are eager, in the event of a change in the regime, to be among those in the first echelon to get back into Hungary and thus realize their own political aims. Zako enjoys a fairly good reputation as a realistic man among Hungarian emigres, and this reputation is now being exploited by Parkas and Kerponai.

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