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SOURCE Nyugati Hírnök [Emigre].HUNGARY INSTITUTES FORCED LABOR SERVICE

Budapest, 18 January -- The Hungarian government has taken strict measures against labor in three confidential decrees. The first decree, EPT.M.951/8. bis. 6065-VIII, was issued by the Ministry of Building over the signature of Deputy Minister Janos Brutto. The second decree, BUM.Eln.951 Kt. 3907, was issued by the Ministry of Interior, and the third, H.M.Eln.951/809, by the Ministry of Defense. All three decrees deal with the establishment of forced labor contingents.

According to these decrees, both state and private enterprises may apply for forced labor. Applications must be sent to Mrs Artur Hoch, director of the labor division in the Ministry of Building.

The following regulations govern the status of the forced laborers: If the norm, which is flexible, is not completed, the 10-hour workday and 6-day work week can be prolonged. The forced laborers are obliged to wear the former army uniform. They may retain their civilian shoes only if no government-issue boots are available. Their quarters are closely guarded.

Daily maintenance expenses are 2.40 forints for food and 80 fillers for billeting and transportation to and from work. These expenses are deducted from the laborer's salary. The rest of the salary is sent by the enterprise to Bank Account 97608 of the Ministry of Interior.

During the first 3 weeks after the decrees were issued, the Ministry of building assigned approximately 6,000 forced laborers, who were organized into five battalions. Those designated for the labor service receive a summons and must report. The military police guard the laborers and have unlimited disciplinary rights. Ninety-five percent of the labor force is recruited from the educated classes, but politically unreliable factory workers are also included.

It is believed that as of January 1952 the Ministry of Defense has disposed over approximately 3,000 forced laborers, including those building the new military airfield at Szentes [Gsongrad County].

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