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SOURCE As indicated

NEW PEOPLE'S FRONT CREATED IN HUNGARY

[Comment: Creation of a new political organization under the name of Patriotic People's Front (Hazafias Nepfront) was announced in the Budapest press on 13 August 1954. It is interesting to note that the emigre publication Uj Hungaria, reported the rumor of political reorganization in Budapest in its 30 July issue.]

POLITICAL REORGANIZATION RUMORED -- Munich, Uj Hungaria (emigre), 30 Jul 54

It is rumored in Budapest that the removal of Erno Gero from the cabinet signifies the beginning of a more thorough political shake-up, and that bourgeois personages are to be invited to take an active part in public life.

Minister President Imre Nagy recently conferred with Gyula Ortutay, Imre Oltvanyi, and Jeno Katona, fellow-traveler members of the Smallholders Party; Father Balog (fnu); and several "peace priests."

CONFERENCE CREATES NEW PEOPLE'S FRONT -- Budapest, Szabad Nep, 13 Aug 54

Political, cultural, scientific, and church leaders held a conference, in which they arrived at the conclusion that realization of the aims of the People's Democracy requires the creation of a new people's front with a much wider base than exists at present.

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The following attended the conference or participated in its preparation:

- Erzsebet Andics, member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, First Deputy Minister of Education;
- Sandor Barcs, member of the Presidential Council, director-general of the Hungarian Telegraph Bureau (Magyar Tavirati Iroda);
- Albert Bereczky, Protestant bishop;
- Dr Miklos Beresztoczy, Vicar-General of Esztergom;
- Jozsef Bognar, Minister of the Interior;
- Lajos Borbas, president of the Trade Union of Agricultural and Forestry Workers;
- Dr Gyula Czapik, Archbishop of Eger;
- Ivan Darabos, secretary of the Presidential Council;
- Jozsef Darvas, Minister of Culture;
- Lajos Dinnyes, member of Parliament;
- Istvan Dobi, president of the Presidential Council;
- Imre Dogei, president of SZOVOSZ (Szovetkezetek Orszagos Szovetsege, National Association of Cooperatives);
- Dr Ferenc Erdei, Minister of Justice;
- Erno Gallo, president of the Trade Union of Workers of the Printing and Paper Industry;
- Dr Endre Hamvas, bishop of Csanad;
- Dr Ferenc Harrer, university professor;
- Gyula Illyes, writer, member of the Hungarian Writers Association;
- Mrs Imre Juhasz, president of the executive committee of the county council of Szolnok Megye;
- Zsigmond Kisfaludi Strobl, sculptor;
- Zoltan Kodaly, composer;
- Jozsef Mekis, president of SZOT (Szakszevezetek Orszagos Tanacsa, National Council of Trade Unions);
- Daniel Nagy, deputy president of the Presidential Council;
- Imre Nagy, Minister President;
- Laszlo Nanasi, member of Parliament;
- Gyorgy Parragi, journalist, member of the Presidential Council;
- Dr Janos Peter, Protestant bishop;

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Kalman Pongracz, president of the executive committee of the Budapest City Council;

Matyas Rakosi, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Workers Party;

Sandor Ronai, president of the Parliament;

Istvan Ruzsnyak, president of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences;

Pal Szabo, writer, member of the Presidential Council;

Jozsef Szakali, first secretary of the Central Committee of DISZ (Dolgozo Ifjusag Szovetsege, Federation of Working Youth);

Mihaly Szalvai, major general;

Elemer Szadeczky-Kardoss, member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences;

Gyula Szekfu, member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, member of the Presidential Council;

Erno Urban, writer, secretary of the Hungarian Writers Association;

Endre Valko, secretary-general of the Association of Technical and Scientific Societies;

Mrs Istvan Vass, president of MNDSZ (Magyar Nok Demokratikus Szovetsege, Democratic Association of Hungarian Women);

Peter Veres, writer, president of the Hungarian Writers Association;

Lajos Veto, Evangelical minister.

The conference agreed that the new people's front should begin its activities under the designation "Patriotic People's Front."

The conference elected a preparatory committee with the following members: Ivan Darabos, Istvan Dobi, Imre Dogei, Ferenc Erdei, Ferenc Harrer, Jozsef Mekis, Gyorgy Parragi, Matyas Rakosi, and Elemer Szadeczky-Kardoss.

The preparatory committee will draw up the program and bylaws of the Patriotic People's Front and prepare the national congress of the organization to be held next October.

DRAFT LAW ON LOCAL COUNCILS PUBLISHED -- Budapest, Szabad Nep, 19 Aug 54

The Preparatory Committee of the Patriotic People's Front has issued the following communique:

The committee herewith publishes and submits for wide discussion a draft law on the structure, operations, and mission of local councils, prior to submitting it to the National Assembly next September.

The committee appeals to the working population of Hungary to discuss the draft law and to submit comments, thereby actively participating in the formulation of a new law on local councils.

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The newspapers are requested to give wide publicity to the comments and suggestions of the working population.

[Article includes the full text of the draft law, approximately 6,000 words.]

IMPORTANCE OF PATRIOTIC PEOPLE'S FRONT EXPLAINED -- Budapest, Nepszava, 29 Aug 54

In the course of the third party congress, it was revealed that a much wider national unity is needed at the current stage of socialist building. Such wide popular support will be provided by the Patriotic People's Front, an organization which will be based on the worker-peasant alliance and will embrace the large majority of the population.

Many people have asked why a people's front is necessary in addition to all the other mass organizations. Marxism-Leninism teaches that socialism cannot be built without the active cooperation of the intellectual. The petty bourgeois, and other nonproletarian classes. The Patriotic People's Front will embrace all working elements of the country.

As stated by Minister President Imre Nagy, "The Patriotic People's Front . . . will be a militant movement, designed to . . . defend our freedom, democratic achievements, and national sovereignty, and to safeguard our country against the undermining activities of both interior and foreign reaction and of imperialistic enemies."

The Hungarian people have been joined in closer unity since past mistakes were openly stated and a program for the raising of the people's welfare was formulated in June 1953. -- Editorial

PEOPLE'S FRONT SAID TO BE ATTEMPT TO COMBAT RESISTANCE -- Munich, Uj Hungaria (emigre), 20 Aug 54

The Patriotic People's Front has been created for the purpose of inspiring confidence in the regime among the population and misleading public opinion in the West.

In 1953, Minister President Imre Nagy instituted a policy of economic concessions, while this year concessions of a political nature are being offered to the people of Hungary in an effort to relieve the tension.

To achieve its purpose, the regime is inviting personages of integrity and well-established reputation to participate in public life. They are either fellow-travelers or men whose names were included in the list presumably contrary to their wishes. The Patriotic People's Party is not a new party and its leaders, some of whom enjoy popular respect, will not be able to compel the regime to make important concessions to the people.

In Budapest it is believed that the creation of the Patriotic People's Front is only a new Communist trick. In recent years, resistance by the general population has increased enormously. Passive resistance methods have been perfected to such a degree that the resulting large-scale sabotage in agriculture and industry is threatening to precipitate a serious economic crisis. To win over the recalcitrant population, the Communists are therefore concealing the ruthless tactics of the party behind the screen of a united front with patriotic slogans.

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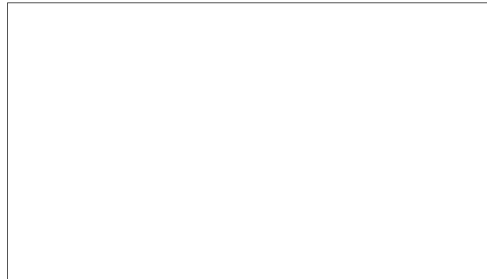
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Reports from Hungary indicate that the Hungarian people are seriously afraid that the new move may mislead the West. As explained by Andor Berei in a lecture at a recent meeting of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Workers Party, Soviet statesmen feel confident that the USSR will succeed in driving a wedge into western unity and that Communism will be extended to additional countries without war.

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