

FARKAS, Ferenc

KRL-1431, 1942-1946

MI 5 states that they believe this man to be identical with Major-General Ferenc de KINARVAK-FARKAS, Chief Scout since March 1942. He was C.O. of Ludovica Academy before his appointment as Commander in Chief of the Fourth Army Corps. He was awarded the Iron Cross by Hitler in June 1944, for brave leadership in the Carpathians. In August 1944 he defended the Tartar Pass where he held up the Russian advance. He had German troops under his command. In October 1944 he was appointed Government Commissioner for Evacuation by SZALASI, who had been appointed Premier by the Germans when HORTHY resigned and Hungary changed sides on 15 October 1944. This man is probably identical with FARKAS, Ferenc, who was reported to us at the beginning of 1946 by a somewhat unreliable source to be one of the leaders of an anti-Russian Hungarian organization. He was believed by source to be in a camp in the south of France.

MGH 002-1122, 22 November 1946

Subject is reported to be promoting the formation of a Hungarian government-in-exile. He is said to have been a Colonel General in the former Hungarian Army. Subject lives at Johanneskirchen, Bavaria, north of Pfarrkirchen. Subject has no money for his movement, but is exceedingly active and is working with two other groups, one in Garmisch and one in Munich. He is in contact with a number of former Hungarian generals now living in the US Zone of Germany and with some 50 members of the former Hungarian parliament. Subject has completed a draft proposal for a new Hungarian government which reportedly is to be established in 1948 on the anniversary of the birth of Kossuth.

PIR-6129, 28 March 1950

Subject has good working relationship with General Lev PRCHALA (notorious Slovak Fascist and member of the Tiso regime) who heads the "Anti-Fascist Block" headquarters in London.

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SECRET

FARKAS de KISBARNAK, Gen. Ferenc b. 1892 in Kismarton

Report 17 June 45 from source of reliable source: P. [redacted] (Hungarian Academy) in 1912, promoted to gen. staff officer 1924. From 1938 to 40 CO of Hung. Military Academy. During WWII was Corps Commander (prob. 4th Army Corps, & awarded Iron Cross by Hitler June 44 for brave leadership against the Russians in the Carpathians). Promoted to Gen. & slated to be Hung. Prime Min. in 1944. Thereafter relieved of active duty by the new anti-German Hung. govt. as politically unreliable.

Info 20 Sept 1950 from source of unknown reliability: After Hung. national uprising against the Germans declared his good faith towards the new movement, but did nothing to support it. Broke off relations with Nazi leaders only after greater part of Hung. Army disarmed. Did not return to Hung. after the war & so did not participate in struggle against Sov. domination. Permitted himself to be elected fuhrer of fragment of parliament abroad & for some time was active as leader of Hungs. in western zones of Germany.

Several rpts. from reliable sources said FARKAS was member of a military court which ordered the execution of a number of anti-Nazi officers & civilians at the end of 1944. In Aug. 47 started the anti-Bolshevist Hung. Liberation Movement, a group with extreme nationalist, anti-semitic, pro-German, anti-Commie, anti-Slave leanings. Described as vain, politically ambitious & intensely disliked by some members of other Hung resistance movements. While considered an able officer, reported to be almost morbidly ambitious -- a man who regarded himself as the born saviour of his nation.

27 Apr 1949: Gen. ZAKO claimed to have severed all connection with him. FARKAS rply. planned to retire from public activity & go to Switzerland.

MAV-554 10 June 1948: Everyone among the Hung. emigres who stands politically left of HORTHY and even HORTHY himself regards FARKAS as an impossible political figure.

Realizes that his appearances in front ranks of Hung. emigre politicians will provoke vigorous attacks & is trying to shield himself by hiding behind his best-known comrade, Andras ZAKO, as his representatives.

8 Sept. 48 - MAV-628: ZAKO is resentful of KISBARNAK-FARKAS' political maneuvering & has requested that he consider himself a soldier.

11 Sept 48 - MAV-698: ZAKO's attitude towards him thought to be unfavorable because of his political maneuvers. NAGY did not believe ZAKO would be connected with FARKAS, when NAGY regards as a political opponent.

MEKW-1199 of 20 Dec. 48: FARKAS, leader of the Hung. Freedom Movement, has been very well treated by high French officials & has been a guest at Baden-Baden at least 3 times. British consul-gen. in Muni also in close contact. Right-wing members of the Hung. Freedom Movement did not approve of the policy pursued by its leader & were expected to join the Hannei group, which is already the largest Hung. exile org. in Germany & Austria.

EE/FI 2159 of 15 Oct. 52: Was once Commanding Gen. of the 6th Military District at Debrecen. Many political figures do not accept him as he participated in the German-controlled trials of Hungarian resistance leaders. Appointed Govt. Commissioner for Evacuation in 1944 by Szalasi, who had been appointed premier by the Germans...ardent supporter of his Arrow Cross Party.

AmEmb memo Paris 2 April 57: Reports Chinese Nationalist interest in right-wing Hung. anti-Commie org. Chinese Emb. told that Gen. Farkas de KISBARNAK, an officer of the org. "Magyar Honvedelmi Tamacs", had Fascist inclinations and out of touch with developments in Hung. and in no sense represented trends there. Request for advice had come to Chinese Emb. Paris from Foreign Office in Taipei, indicating Gen. Farkas de KISBARNAK had been in touch with the Chinese Nationalist authorities.

AK-320 of 29 May 57 rpts. from Szabad Magyarok NY 12 May: Leader of the Hungarian Liberty Movement, visited Formosa where he called on Generalissimo Chang-Kai-Shek, per invitation by the Anti-Bolshevist League of Asiatic Nations (he is "a leader of the Anti-Bolshevik Block of Nations in Munich"). FARKAS reports he was pleased by the military posture of the CHINAT army.