

22 JANUARY 1958

RFE FORM & INFORMATION SERVICE - EVALUATION & RESEARCH SECTION

Background Report
(Hungarian Research)

"COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY" TRIALS IN HUNGARY --
A SUPPLEMENTARY LIST

The following list of "counter-revolutionary" trials contains 358 cases not accounting those "group trials" where the number of those accused was not known. The cases have been registered between August 1957 and January 1958. This list serves as a supplement to the already published lists which appeared in the following publications:

1. International Commission of Jurists: The Hungarian Situation in the Face of Law, The Hague, April 1957. 300 arrests and 128 cases were registered in this publication between November 1956 and February 1957.
2. International Commission of Jurists: The Continuing Challenge of the Hungarian Situation to the Rule of Law, The Hague, June 1957. 335 cases were registered in this publication between February 1957 and June 1957.
3. The American Friends of the Captive Nations and the Assembly of Captive European Nations: Hungary Under Soviet Rule. A Survey of Developments since the Report of the US Special Committee, New York, September 1957. 1,324 cases were registered in this publication between November 1956 and August 1957.

Item

Source

Reference

Notes

Harvey M. Joffe and
his 23 employees

participation in plot to overthrow regime, changing
social property, counter-revolutionary activities

2 years
1-7 years

"Wall Street" 4.8. 57

Charles G. Gage

holding arms and munitions, was victim of illegal execution

6 mos

"Washington Post" 4.8. 57 and
"Washington Post" 20.8. 57

Benjamin Davis

plotting and leading to overthrow regime

2 years

"Wall Street Journal" 5.8. 57

William Foster
William Brown

plotting and leading to overthrow regime
plotting and leading to overthrow regime

1 year
1 year and
continues of group

"

George Berglund
Jack G. Smith
Klaidy G. Smith
Anna G. Smith

plotting and leading to overthrow regime
plotting and leading to overthrow regime
plotting and leading to overthrow regime
plotting and leading to overthrow regime

"

George Berglund

plotting to overthrow regime

Radio comments 10.8. 57

William Foster and
15 employees (8 in
number of arrests)

counter-revolutionary activities

"Washington Post" 10.8. 57

James Macpherson

plotting to overthrow regime

1 1/2 years

"Washington Post" 14.8. 57

James Beaton
Forestry employees

plotting to overthrow regime, other crimes

7 years

"Wall Street Journal" 1.8. 57

Johnnie Cook
Donald Burg
Lester Lister
James Lister
James Lister
James Lister
James Lister
James Lister

counter-revolutionary activities
counter-revolutionary activities
counter-revolutionary activities
counter-revolutionary activities
counter-revolutionary activities
counter-revolutionary activities
counter-revolutionary activities
counter-revolutionary activities

"Washington Post" 23.7. 57

Sentence

Charge

Name

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Baron Bagy | counter-revolutionary activities | "Kommunistenvertrag" 10.08. |
| Carlo Bilko | counter-revolutionary activities | " |
| Leone Bressani | counter-revolutionary activities | " |
| Leone Leoni | counter-revolutionary activities | " |
| Milko Corbelli | counter-revolutionary activities | " |
| Robt Floriani and company | counter-revolutionary activities | " |
| George Foth | counter-revolutionary activities | "Societal Report" 15.8.57 |
| Enrico Lorenz | counter-revolutionary activities | "Separatist" 30.8.57 |
| Dr. and/or Luigi | planning to overthrow regime | "Separatist" 30.8.57 |
| Joseph Mazzoni | counter-revolutionary activities | " |
| Franz Kautz in gen. | counter-revolutionary activities | " |
| Leone Ballo | counter-revolutionary activities | " |
| State farm economic | counter-revolutionary activities | " |
| Anton Meyer | counter-revolutionary activities | " |
| State farm staff | counter-revolutionary activities | " |
| Maxim Muzak | counter-revolutionary activities | " |
| State farm agricultural | counter-revolutionary activities | " |
| State farm technical | counter-revolutionary activities | " |
| Joseph Muzak | counter-revolutionary activities | " |
| Richard Radtke | directing plot to overthrow regime | "Kommunistenvertrag" 1.9.57 |
| Franz Ballo | planning to overthrow regime, hiding arms | " |
| Tiber Joseph Fuchs | planning to overthrow regime, hiding arms | " |
| Joseph Thierold | planning to overthrow regime | " |
| Antonino Kocian | planning to overthrow regime | " |
| Baron Bagy junr. | planning to overthrow regime | " |
| Milko Bareschegg | preparing to overthrow regime | " |
| | 10 years, ceiling of prop. | |
| | 10 years, ceiling of prop. | |
| | 10 years, ceiling of prop. | |
| | 8 years, ceiling of prop. | |
| | 10 years, ceiling of prop. | |
| | 10 years, ceiling of prop. | |
| | 3 years | |

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Charge</u> | <u>Penalty</u> | <u>Source</u> |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Missily, Delpho Jean; | plotting to overthrow regime | 1 year, confined of prop. | "Colingtree" 1.9.39 |
| Ellis Gabe | plotting to overthrow regime | 20 years | " " |
| Peter Burns | plotting to overthrow regime | 3 years | " " |
| Malvin Bonds | plotting to overthrow regime, hiding arms, ransom crimes | 2 years | " " |
| Millican Peggy | plotting to overthrow regime | | "Quinn-Crossland" 1.9.37 |
| James Gerald | plotting to overthrow regime | | " " |
| Lorand Ross and 20 accomplices | plotting to overthrow regime | | " " |
| Andras Gaskoin | leading against Germans' co-operation | 3 years | "Barnes" 14.9.39 |
| James Teak | leading against Germans' co-operation | 2 years | " " |
| Bencie Roberts | leading against Germans' co-operation | 1 year | " " |
| Gene Goss; editha Goss | hiding arms | 20 years | "Edith Gilling" 14.9.39 |
| Paul Strahan | counter-revolutionary activities | 3 years | "Fort Ruling" 15.9.37 |
| James Ross | attempt to escape | 20 years | "Burt Strach" 14.9.39 |
| Lorand Ross | attempt to escape | 20 years | " " |
| David Meyer | counter-revolutionary activities, murder | | "Meyer Report" 20.8.37 |
| James Goss | counter-revolutionary activities, murder | | " " |
| David Strach | counter-revolutionary activities, murder | | " " |
| Henry Teak | counter-revolutionary activities, murder | | " " |
| Gene Goss; Gussinger | hiding arms | 3 years | "Gene Goss" 15.9.39 |
| Bencie Peggy | counter-revolutionary activities | 1 year | "Edith Strach" 14.9.39 |
| Malvin Bonds | counter-revolutionary activities | 10 years | " " |
| James Goss | counter-revolutionary activities | 1 year | " " |
| David Strach | counter-revolutionary activities | 14 months | " " |
| Bencie Peggy and accomplices | counter-revolutionary activities | 4 - 10 months | " " |

NameChargeResidenceArrest

Gene Paul Edmonds, engineer
 Leslie Belsky, sewage cleaner
 James Gentry
 George Grant
 Dr. William Lamborn
 Boris Tsvet
 Boris Solovoi
 James Davis and
 10 companions

Demosthen Tzetas, author
 Solina Kolman, author
 Aron Polach, author
 Sylvia Finkels, author

Opeta Lindvall and
 40 companions

Ernest David Jahr.
 Myron Koeniger
 Erwin Polak
 Maurice Lewis
 Le-Jon Berg

6 persons

counter-revolutionary activities
 counter-revolutionary activities
 counter-revolutionary activities
 counter-revolutionary activities
 counter-revolutionary activities
 counter-revolutionary activities
 counter-revolutionary activities
 counter-revolutionary activities
 counter-revolutionary activities

promoting counter-revolutionary activities
 promoting counter-revolutionary activities
 promoting counter-revolutionary activities
 promoting counter-revolutionary activities

stirring riots, common crimes

counter-revolutionary activities, murder
 counter-revolutionary activities, murder
 counter-revolutionary activities, murder
 counter-revolutionary activities, murder
 counter-revolutionary activities, murder

counter-revolutionary activities

"September" 5.10.57
 " " "
 "September" 5.10.57
 " " "
 " " "
 " " "
 " " "

"September" 10.10.57
 " " "
 " " "
 " " "

"September" 25.10.57

"October" 8.10.57
 " " "
 " " "
 " " "

London, 1957, 23.10
 and "September"

117a
 death
 117a
 16 years
 " "
 15 years
 " "
 187a
 " "
 117a
 " "
 2 - 10 years

2 years
 3 years
 1 year (suspended)
 1 year (suspended)

death (suspended)

death (suspended)
 death (suspended)
 death (suspended)
 117a
 death (suspended)

6 - 15 years

| Name | Court | Charge | Sentence | Amount |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Lester Sebosta Lester Barlow James Miller Arlo Blum Spola Speer Arpad Viki Leslie Strauss and 3 companions | MISSOURI County Court MISSOURI County Court MISSOURI County Court MISSOURI County Court MISSOURI County Court MISSOURI County Court MISSOURI County Court MISSOURI County Court | counter-revolutionary activities counter-revolutionary activities counter-revolutionary activities counter-revolutionary activities counter-revolutionary activities counter-revolutionary activities counter-revolutionary activities counter-revolutionary activities | Life 15 years 16 years 12 years 11 years 8 years 11 years 2-4 years | "Exchanged or sold" \$2,500.00 |
| Eller Day, author | Supreme Court of People's Tribunal | disrupting plot to overthrow regime | 9 years | "Exchanged" \$4,110.00 |
| Spola Fey, author Solomon Gold, author | " | plotting to overthrow regime instigating against regime | 6 years 3 years | " |
| Eller Seiden, author, journalist | " | instigating against regime | 16 years | "La Noche" \$8,110.57 |
| Damon Bessert, editorial professor | (arrested) | counter-revolutionary activities, murder | death (arrested) | "La Noche" \$8,110.57 |
| Eller Seiden, departmental head in ministry | (arrested) | counter-revolutionary activities, murder | death (arrested) | "La Noche" \$8,110.57 |
| Lester Seiden | Supreme Court of People's Tribunal | counter-revolutionary activities, murder | death (arrested) | "Exchanged" \$6,110.57 |
| Spola Fey, editorial professor | (arrested) | counter-revolutionary activities, murder | death (arrested) | "Exchanged" \$6,110.57 |
| Damon Bessert, editorial professor | (arrested) | attempt to escape | 20 years | "Exchanged" \$6,110.57 |
| Lester Seiden | (arrested) | attempt to escape | 20 years | "Exchanged" \$6,110.57 |
| Lester Seiden | (arrested) | attempt to escape | 20 years | "Exchanged" \$6,110.57 |

| Name | Case | Charge | Punishment | Sentence |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|
| Lennie Schulte | MILBURN County Court | counter-revolutionary activities | life | "Rehabilitation" 25.10.57 |
| Lennie Schulte | MILBURN County Court | counter-revolutionary activities | 15 years | " |
| Lennie Schulte | MILBURN County Court | counter-revolutionary activities | 15 years | " |
| Lennie Schulte | MILBURN County Court | counter-revolutionary activities | 12 years | " |
| Lennie Schulte | MILBURN County Court | counter-revolutionary activities | 11 years | " |
| Lennie Schulte | MILBURN County Court | counter-revolutionary activities | 8 years | " |
| Lennie Schulte | MILBURN County Court | counter-revolutionary activities | 11 years | " |
| Lennie Schulte | MILBURN County Court | counter-revolutionary activities | 2 1/2 years | " |
| Vivian Day, author | Supreme Court of People's Tribunal | directing plot to overthrow regime | 2 years | "Rehabilitation" 26.11.57 |
| Vivian Day, author | " | plotting to overthrow regime | 6 years | " |
| Vivian Day, author | " | instigating agent against regime | 3 years | " |
| Vivian Day, author | " | instigating agent against regime | 15 years | " |
| London Bennett, university professor | (arrested) | | | "The Worker" 26.11.57 |
| Eliot Graham, departmental head in ministry | (arrested) | | | "The Worker" 26.11.57 |
| Lennie Schulte | Supreme Court of People's Tribunal | counter-revolutionary activities, death sentence | | "Rehabilitation" 26.11.57 |
| Spray Head, university professor | (arrested) | | | "The Worker" 26.11.57 |
| Dennis Terrence, university professor | (arrested) | | | "The Worker" 26.11.57 |
| Lennie Schulte | | attempt to escape | 26 years | "Best Topicalizing" 26.11.57 |
| Lennie Schulte | | attempt to escape | 26 years | "Best Topicalizing" 26.11.57 |