

RESUMES

RÓBERT HERMANN

ZSIGMOND KEMÉNY'S COURT MARTIAL APOLOGIA AS A RESEARCH SOURCE OF THE HISTORY OF THE HUNGARIAN PARLIAMENT IN 1848–1849

In his first two studies dedicated to Baron Zsigmond Kemény's 1849 court martial apologia, the author proved that the apologia was indeed Kemény's own work and presented what Kemény had noted about his own endeavors in 1848–49 in the apologia. The current continuation of the study examines the value of Kemény's apologia as a research source on the basis of one notable perspective: To what extent do his notes from the closed sessions of the Hungarian Parliament align with the information of other sources from the period?

The purpose of the closed sessions was to allow the government to inform representatives and members of the upper chamber about issues not concerning the plenum. Moreover, closed preliminary hearings served the interests of initiatives that otherwise would have engendered heated debate and perhaps culminated in a "no" vote. Questions resolved without the knowledge of the greater public were also debated in these sessions. According to parliamentary rules, bills could be neither introduced nor voted on in closed sessions. On the other hand, a sponsor of a prospective bill could draw his own conclusions as to the likely result of an open vote based on the ferocity of the debate and the number of members speaking up over the course of the debate.

Kemény took detailed notes during several closed sessions in Debrecen and one in Pest. With the exception of one case, these align with the other sources. Moreover, there is one closed session where Kemény's apologia is the sole source of information. On this basis, the author has determined that the apologia is indeed an important narrative source of the history of the Hungarian Parliament.

LÁSZLÓ ANKA

KÁLMÁN TISZA'S LETTERS TO IGNÁC DARÁNYI AND HIS FATHER (1867–1900)

Kálmán Tisza was one of the longest serving prime ministers in Hungarian history, occupying the so-called velvet chair of the head of government between 1875 and 1890. He also simultaneously held high-level positions within the institutional system of the Reformed Church in Hungary, which enjoyed autonomy from the state. Despite all this, Hungarian historiography has still not provided a portrayal of Tisza in his entirety. Given that he led the Kingdom of Hungary over the course of the “*boldog békeidők*” (the so-called “happy days of peace” that preceded the breakout of the First World War, also known as the *Belle Époque*), which many consider as the most prosperous era in Hungarian history, the claim that many significant politicians, opuses and achievements were associated with Tisza is no exaggeration. The painting of the entire – and indeed diverse – Tisza picture still requires a long time to complete, of which the case of Minister of Agriculture Ignác Darányi (1849–1927) is but one part.

The written correspondence from 1867 to 1900 between Kálmán Tisza and Ignác Darányi Sr. and his son Ignác Darányi, the most famous Hungarian minister of agriculture, is but one stop on this long journey. As a publication source, however, the letters show a new, more nuanced side of the correspondents, especially of Tisza, who was also known as the *Generális* (General) for his strong handed party leadership.

In the letters, we can read about the lobbying efforts and internal workings of the Reformed Church and about the informal side of how the *congrua sustentatio* law of 1898, which also applied to the Reformed Church represented by Darányi and Tisza, was drawn up. Two letters include nepotism, of which Kálmán Mikszáth's literary sketches have informed, i.e., how the *Generális* lobbied on behalf of his fellow party members' financial interests.

We are also allowed a glimpse into how Tisza, who owned a lot of land, handled his estate affairs with the help of Darányi Sr. Since regular working relations had brought the two families closer, we can see in what capacity Tisza's family members appear in the letters and his opinion of the future minister of agriculture, who was only in his teens at the time of the first letters. The powerful politician's habits related to newspaper subscriptions, traveling, socializing and financial matters also come to life. For fleeting moments, Kálmán Tisza the politician, who was known for being brusque, introverted and distant, allows us to see his personal side.

The letters are available to the public at the National Archives of Hungary and the Manuscripts Reading Room of the National Széchényi Library.

ÁDÁM SCHWARCZWÖLDER

“IN ORDER TO WORK FOR THE FUTURE, FIRSTLY THE PRESENT MUST BE SAVED...”

THE CRISIS OF 1873 AND KÁLMÁN SZÉLL'S TENURE AS FINANCE MINISTER

Kálmán Széll (Gasztony, June 8th, 1843 – Rátót, August 16th, 1915), who was born into an affluent noble family in Vas County, was one of the most talented politicians and financial experts of his generation. His career took off like a rocket when he won a seat in the House of Representatives in June 1868 (at the age of twenty-five). In the next few years, he became a key member of Ferenc Deák's political party, which was the majority party in parliament between 1865 and 1875. As Minister of Finance between 1875 and 1878, he oversaw the consolidation of the Hungarian national budget, which had been battered by the economic crisis of 1873.

The study focuses on the 1868–1875 period of Széll's lengthy career, accompanying him along the curvy road that led to his appointment as Minister of Finance in March 1875. That the road was curvy instead of straight was thanks in large part to the economic crisis of 1873, which posed serious challenges to the Hungarian national budget. We therefore present the stages (pre-crisis, amid the crisis and post-crisis) of Széll's political undertakings with the year 1873 serving as a midpoint, so to speak. What did he feel about the process whereby Hungary indebted herself between 1868 and 1873, and to what extent did his thinking change based on the sad experiences of the crisis? How did these experiences influence his later demeanor before accepting the position of Minister of Finance?

ZSOLT DUBNICZKY

THE PICTURES AND RESULTS OF AN EXHIBITION

APPLIED ARTS EXHIBITION IN ALAJOS KÁROLYI'S PALACE IN 1876

When the Károlyi Palace, situated behind the Hungarian National Museum, played host to an applied arts exhibition in 1876, it was the first such large-scale event in Budapest, which had been designated as the new Hungarian capital only a few years earlier (in 1873), held in a private residential building owned by a noble family. A significant number of the items displayed came from the private collections of the aristocracy of the time, although there were also items from both ecclesiastical and secular public collections. Finally, contributions from the Royal Couple completed the exhibition, which was showcased across five halls of the building. Several catalogues were compiled for the exhibition; as a matter of fact, photographer György Klösz shot a series of photographs of the most noteworthy items.

Proceeds from the charity event – approximately twelve thousand six hundred forints – went to help Danube and Tisza flood victims, including people living in Budapest, the Hungarian countryside, Transylvania and Croatia. The exhibition, which ran for more than a month, was considered as an important milestone of modern museology and art policy in Hungary in the latter half of the 19th century. Often appearing in literary references of modern-day artwork descriptions, it is chronologically one of the earliest entries in the line of exhibition catalogues.

The event was also so consequential as to attract the interests and attention of Hungarians and foreigners – both lay people and experts – alike. It showcased the high level of Hungarian applied arts, explored the centuries-old roots and the unparalleled and singular value thereof and made a positive impact not only on the revival of contemporary industry, but also on artistic taste, sense of form and the refinement of aesthetics.

KÁLMÁN ÁRPÁD KOVÁCS

PROTESTANT NEOCONFESSIONALISM (1864–1887)

The consciousness of Protestant neoconfessionalism in the Dualist Era mostly focused on codeword-like formations. In various readings, the concepts below were commonly used:

“Evangelical”: a) the Bible explained according to either Luther’s or Calvin’s teachings; b) achievable humanistic morality based on the Sermon on the Mount; c) a repentance-rebirth based on a “sermon from the cross” preaching and the subsequent necessary sanctifying.

“Orthodox”: a) faith in the possibility of resurrection and miracles in the interests of the strength and sublimity of salvation; b) obsolete conservative dogmatism and confessionalism as such was essentially concealed Catholicism; c) a believer inclined to give the Bible rather than science the final word in a conflict between science and faith.

“Puritan”: a) a Church that strives for simple and plain ceremonies; b) a modest man in terms of appearances and lifestyle; c) a man with a pure family life and one wife.

“Pietist”: a) a pious, faith-based life; b) excessive, enthusiastic, verbose, an anchoritic altruist.

“Liberal”: a) a believer in theological liberalism; b) a believer in political liberalism; c) a believer in biblical freedom as based on 1 Corinthians 10:23, 2 Corinthians 3:17 and James 1:25.

The current work fills in the gaps among a few of the author’s earlier studies. The starting point is the contention that the Protestant debate on the rebirth of the soul that raged in the pages of the *Debreczeni Protestáns Lap* (*Protestant Newspaper of Debreczen*) was one of the most distinct reflections on the era, which became one of the long-term determinants of Protestant public life. Moreover, if we link the problem of “revivalism versus orthodoxy” to the concepts of the “creedal revival of Protestant denominations” or the “post-liberalization redenuomination of Protestant public life”, then we can more clearly see the national weight and significance of the debate. Three different but closely related processes of Protestant public life redenuomination are observable: the *Heidelberg Catechism*, the *Bible* and in the question of attitudes towards modern evangelism. Mór Ballagi’s proposal in 1864 on revising the *Vizsoly Bible* – which had been in the making for a long time – serves as a starting point. Mátyás Szlávik’s concrete concept and definition in light of the new confessionalism in 1887 functions as a closing date. In essence, neoconfessional-

ism is a religious revival or rebirth emphasizing personal religiosity that restores the position of Old Protestant theology, according to which religiosity without dogma cannot be Christianity. Real Christianity also requires regular theological knowledge capable of formulating the contents of personal religiosity in an evangelical manner. Its modernity is evident in how it cannot return to the pre-“dead orthodoxy” stage of the modern intellectual movements.

LÁSZLÓ L. LAJTAI

DOMESTIC NON-HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE HISTORY TEXTBOOKS IN HUNGARY IN THE ERA OF THE DUAL MONARCHY

Hungary was a multilingual and multiethnic country prior to 1918. As a consequence of the laws on public education and on equality of nationality rights passed in 1868, the official education policy of the Dualist Era further strengthened the multilingual practice of public education endorsed by the ruler and spontaneously evolving since the 1860's. With the passage of time, however, public and political opinion shifted. The issue of strengthening the position of Hungarian language instruction in public education took on greater importance while non-Hungarian language instruction began to be undermined. In domestic secondary schools, non-Hungarian auxiliary languages were steadily phased out. Although non-Hungarian language secondary schools survived, in the interests of improving the effectiveness of Hungarian language instruction in primary schools, legislation had become increasingly repressive by the early 20th century. Despite the drastic fall in the number of non-Hungarian educational institutions (and stagnation of other types of schools), however, the multilingual nature of elementary and secondary schools in Hungary endured until the end of the era. The study examines Hungarian history textbooks of the Dualist Era from the perspective of multilingual evolution, comparing the similarities and differences from language to language (German, Romanian, Slovak, Serbian, Italian, Croatian, Rusyn and Slovenian). Over the course of our research, we recognized that although the surprisingly vibrantly diverse multilingualism of domestic history textbooks from the Dualist Era narrowed with the passage of time, the contraction was not all encompassing, while from one language and ethnicity to another, the fate of the various textbooks took divergent paths. Many progressively withered away (the case of the Slovak secondary schools as a typical example), while others stabilized (the Serbs, for example) mainly by virtue of the unquestioned institutional support provided by the institute of religious autonomy, or even strengthened (the cases of the Romanians and Transylvanian Saxons, who had the lowest proportion of translated literature and the highest number of authors of history books from their own respective communities).

KATALIN MÁRIA KINCSES

RÁKÓCZI AS PRESENTED BY VILMOS FRAKNÓI

Vilmos Fraknói (whose surname had been Frankl until 1874) (1843–1924), the esteemed Hungarian Catholic ecclesiarch, church historian and cultural politician, dedicated nearly thirty-five pages of his three-volume work entitled *A magyar nemzet története (History of the Hungarian Nation)* on the anti-Habsburg Hungarian uprising to the Prince of Transylvania Francis II Rákóczi (1676–1735) and his eponymous war of independence (1703–1711). Leaning heavily on similar works by his predecessors (the distinguished Reform Era historians László Szalay [1813–1864] and Mihály Horváth [1809–1878]) and Rákóczi's own memoir, which was available in print by then, Fraknói did not make use of newly discovered archival material in this recapitulation. However, he did formulate a unique opinion on the uprising and Rákóczi the persona. The study shows that according to Vilmos Fraknói's assessment, Rákóczi generally harbored realistic political expectations over the course of the uprising. In accordance with the political culture of the era, Rákóczi wished to strengthen the agreement made with the Habsburgs in the peace negotiations held over the course of the war of independence through international guarantees, but due to the military failure of the uprising, he could not bring his plan to fruition. The war of independence between the insurgents and the Habsburgs was brought to a close by the Treaty of Szatmár in 1711, which Rákóczi ultimately rejected and led to his forced exile. He was initially received by the court of the Sun King, who had supported Hungary mainly with diplomatic promises. When the Sun King died, Rákóczi journeyed to Turkey, from where he never returned home. In his historical work, Vilmos Fraknói wrote with academic fastidiousness and sympathy about the emigre prince's final diplomatic efforts, literary works, deep religious beliefs and general experiences in exile.

By the turn of the 19th–20th century, Rákóczi had evolved into the principal symbol of Hungarian freedom, independence and resistance to the Habsburgs. His idolization permeated the whole of Hungarian politics and public life. The year 1903 could be considered as one of the peaks of Rákóczi adoration when on the occasion of the two hundredth anniversary of the start of Rákóczi's War of Independence, his political idolization erupted. In a celebratory speech to a Catholic association, the image of Rákóczi that Vilmos Fraknói depicted was completely different from the one in his historical work from three decades earlier. Under the influence of political idolization, the academic historian had changed roles from balanced and reserved historian to Catholic ecclesiarch who respected Rákóczi as a saint.

DÁVID LIGETI

RUNNING THE GAUNTLET: GENERAL OF THE INFANTRY FRANZ CONRAD VON HÖTZENDORF IN THE INITIAL MONTHS OF THE GREAT WAR

As Chief of Staff of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, General of the Infantry Franz Conrad von Hötzendorf led the Imperial and Royal Army. In my study, I review Conrad's actions in the first months, i.e., in 1914, of the First World War. In addition to describing his military operations, I believe that it is important to present through personal sources the circumstances and catalysts of the general's decision making.

In the period under consideration, the Monarchy carried out a total of eight offensives and fought wholeheartedly in support of German armed forces in the Eastern Theater. Although Conrad's military operations were heavily criticized by both his contemporaries and successive generations, in reality he successfully tied down the Russians. However, so heavy were the losses suffered by the Monarchy that the peacetime regular army, for all intents and purposes, was wiped out. Thus, the timeline marking Conrad's command was also the beginning of the end of the Dualist State's status as a great power.

ATTILA RÉFI

THE CENTURY-LONG LIFE OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL
IMRE CSÉCSI NAGY (1868–1967)

PART III: HIS LIFE AND CIVIL ENDEAVORS IN THE HORTHY ERA (1920–1944)

Following his trial and confinement in Romania, retired hussar colonel Imre Csécsi Nagy left Romania and settled in what remained of Hungary in October 1920. Thanks to his trial for “conspiracy”, he enjoyed wide name recognition and respect in Hungary. For a time, Csécsi Nagy and his fellow trial associates stood at the center of public attention, and on the occasion of their release, several celebratory events were held in their honor.

As result, Csécsi Nagy’s social network and standing in society were significantly strengthened, spurred on also by the resumption of his military career and advancement therein. On January 21st, 1921, Regent of Hungary Miklós Horthy, whom Csécsi Nagy had known well for a long time, reactivated and concurrently promoted him to the rank of general. He was ordained into the Order of Vitéz, the emblematic and distinguished institution of the Horthy Era, on August 21st, 1921.

In March 1922, he was temporary appointed as president of the *Legfelsőbb Honvéd Törvényszék* (Supreme Military Tribunal). In this capacity, he had to preside over an extremely sensitive case that sparked outrage at the time, the trial of Major Gyula Ostenburg-Moravek, who had participated in the second royal putsch. On July 1st, 1922, Csécsi Nagy was officially appointed as deputy president of the Supreme Military Tribunal. One year later, on July 1st, 1923, however, he was forced to retire as a consequence of the provisions of the Treaty of Trianon.

Csécsi Nagy thus entered a new and very busy stage of his life. Still physically vigorous, the retired general became an active participant in Hungarian public affairs and various social events. For example, he joined the board of the National Alliance of Disabled Soldiers, War Widows and War Orphans and was appointed chairman in May 1924, leading the organization until its dissolution in 1929. He took over the leadership of the National Economic and Political Party of Veterans in 1935. Thanks to the memory of his pastor forebears and his devotion to Protestantism, he played an important role in the National Gábor Bethlen Alliance, a common association established by Hungarian Protestants in 1924, where he served as executive co-chairman between 1931 and 1933. He also felt a strong attachment to nature and hunting. Accordingly, he played a definitive role for the Hubertus National Hungarian Hunting Preservation Society, so much so that he was president of the organiza-

tion between 1928 and 1940. Over the duration of the Interwar Era, Csécsi Nagy served on the board of nearly fifty different social organizations in total. Due mainly to his advanced age, declining health and a gradual change in public preference, his impressive civil endeavors wound down around 1940.

LÁSZLÓ OROSZ

“KEEPING THE NATIONAL MINORITIES IS A VITAL INTEREST OF THE FUTURE HUNGARIAN STATE [...]”

JAKAB BLEYER’S ROLE IN THE GOVERNMENT (1919–1920) IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ETHNIC ASPIRATIONS OF THE GERMANS OF HUNGARY

The initial (albeit short) phase of the counterrevolutionary system, which came to power with the collapse of the Hungarian Soviet Republic, focused completely on preserving the territorial integrity of the state, which was its utmost political priority. This aspiration was particularly apparent in how the government expressed its accommodating posture towards the ethnic minorities. In the naïve hope that perhaps the decision-making process had not yet run its course at the concurrent peace conference, everyone believed that only through an exemplary national minorities policy and with a worthy alternative to the centrifugal aspirations of the non-Hungarian population could hope be kept alive. This attempt, like the enticing policies of the Károlyi government at the end of 1918, promised few results, however. Most of the ethnic minority population could no longer be persuaded (since a majority of them had already announced their secessionist intentions after the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy) even though the government had counted on substantive redress in myriad ways out of the goodwill of the Great Powers. However, it was tied to the precondition of demonstrating such power – for the benefit of domestic minorities and against separatism – as to stress centripetal (i.e., towards the core) aspirations.

Plainly the Germans of Hungary seemed the most suitable since the geographical distance from their homeland had deterred them from expressing such irredentist aims as the Romanians and Serbs, for example, who wished to unite with their respective native people. In autumn 1918, their interests had not necessarily lain in dissolution. To keep their popular stock together, there had been no alternative surpassing the status quo, so the Germans of Hungary had not been particularly keen on joining up with another – no less nationalistic – state, which was the specific circumstance that engendered the possibility for Budapest to base its strategy on the positive traditions and good-natured support – as the epitome of the exemplary minority attitude – of the German community that was not inherently hostile towards it. In other words, the visible manifestation of the allegiance of the German minority to the Hungarian state was hoped for through an interdependent, mutual and favorable partnership based on certain concessionary guarantees.

This government stance found an ideal ally in Jakab Bleyer, the respected leader of the Hungarian Swabian community and professor in the Department of German Literary Sciences at the University of Budapest. Bleyer seemed perfectly suited to fulfill the expectations of the change of course following the failure of the governments of the revolutionary period. His political image was an optimal fit for the counterrevolutionary ideological system. Bleyer was emphatically Christian, patriotic, anti-leftist, pro-unity and also ethnically German. Therefore, he was the epitome of the shared interests and partnership indicated above. In August 1919, Bleyer was named Minister for National Minorities in the Friedrich government. As a result of continued shared interests, he continued in this capacity in the Huszár, Simonyi-Semadam and Teleki governments.

The study focuses on the endeavors and measures that Bleyer and the Ministry for National Minorities, which he led, carried out and implemented on behalf of maintaining the integrity of the Hungarian state.

GÁBOR HOLLÓSI

THE INTERWAR-ERA HUNGARIAN PARLIAMENTARY
NOMINATION SYSTEM IN A EUROPEAN CONTEXT

The parliamentary nomination process as an institution was well known in most European electoral systems in the Interwar Era. Briefly summarized, the objective of the process was to limit whom voters could elect by legislating preconditions on who could run for a seat in the National Assembly. Among European parliamentary nomination systems of the time, the Hungarian system was characterized by its extreme complexity. The high number of cases of abuse also stemmed from its convoluted nature. Our study, however, does not concentrate on these cases of abuse. We instead present Hungarian electoral regulations while regularly searching for their respective European dimensions. Thus we have divided our work into three parts.

Above all, we classify the parliamentary nomination systems of the Continent in order to place Hungarian electoral rules and regulations of the Interwar Era accurately among them. We then review the evolution of Hungarian regulations on the basis of the electoral decree of 1922, the (first) electoral act of 1925, the so-called “recommendation” amendment of 1937 and the (second) electoral act of 1938. Finally, utilizing the explanatory memorandums of the legislation referred to in the previous sentence and the documents related to the parliamentary debates on them, we search for European (comparative) examples that arose on the path to approval of the draft law. Also evident from our investigation are the elements from foreign nomination systems emphasized in explanatory memorandums, which reflected either the viewpoint of the governing party or that of the opposition.

LAJOS KOCSIS

THE ROLE OF THE NATIONAL FLAG MOVEMENT IN REARING PATRIOTIC STUDENTS IN POST-TRIANON HUNGARY

Beginning with the unveiling of the *Ereklyés Országzászló* (Artifactual National Flag) in Liberty Square in Budapest in 1928, the National Flag Movement expanded throughout Hungary and became a symbol of the “unbreakable dedication to the “1,000-year-old territory of Hungary”. Since the entire Hungarian education establishment was imbued by the belief that Historical Hungary must be restored, the National Flag Movement – as a factor in education – was present in schools. Symbolizing the concept of resurrection, memorials at half-mast made a significant impression on the students standing beneath the national flags. Through these acts of commemoration and celebration, the students’ faith that national unity would be achieved soon was strengthened.

When the movement was founded, target expectations for national flags on school grounds were indisputably achieved, so the *Magyar Szövetség Ereklyés Országzászló Nagybizottságának Elnöksége* (Board of the Grand Committee of the Artifactual National Flag Hungarian Alliance) was wholly satisfied with the role that the national flags played in education. Briefly summarizing the impact of the movement on students: “By virtue of the guidance of outstanding leaders, the idea of the national flag and the idea of Greater Hungary that the national flag conveys can better perform the mission of passing on to the souls of the youngest Hungarian generation the 1,000-year history of the country and hot-blooded patriotism so necessary for the mini Hungarians born since the signing of the Treaty of Trianon[...].”

LAJOS SZŰCS

THE HISTORY OF THE MIDWIFERY TRAINING INSTITUTE
IN SZOLNOK

Before the evolution of state-run public healthcare and the appearance of maternity nurses and health visitors from the state, midwives were responsible for getting everything ready for the birth, supervising women in labor and caring for new mothers during the postpartum period. Midwives bathed and attended to newborns and could even baptize them.

In the Kingdom of Hungary after 1867, the expanding state-run public healthcare system required midwives to be institutionally instructed and trained.

One of the most important midwifery training centers in eastern Hungary was the midwifery training institute in Nagyvárad (Oradea, RO, in the present). It opened on January 7th, 1873, under the directorship of Dr. Márk Konrád, who led the institute until his retirement in 1914. On the basis of his achievements, Konrád was bestowed a title of nobility in Vienna on January 6th, 1914. Thenceforth, his family could use the “de Tornyos” nobiliary title.

Dr. Jenő Konrád de Tornyosi, Dr. Márk Konrád’s son, took control of the midwifery training institute in Nagyvárad in 1914. He was director until 1920, when Romanian authorities appointed Dr. Alexandru Nemeş as his replacement. With his family Jenő Konrád fled to Szolnok, where he transplanted the midwifery training institute. In 1922, he resumed his work in the *vármegyei Közkórház* (County Public Hospital). In 1923, at the request of Jenő Konrád as well as at the initiative of Kuno Klebelsberg (Minister of Religion and Education), Sándor Almásy (Jász–Nagykun–Szolnok County Lord Lieutenant) and Imre Alexander (Jász–Nagykun–Szolnok County Vice Ispán), the local council of Szolnok – with Mayor Viktor Zrumetzky at the helm – resolved that a new midwifery training institute would be built in a different location.

On the basis of award-winning architect Géza Kappéter’s design, ground was broken on October 23rd, 1924. Work on the building concluded on August 17th, 1926. On October 16th, the new midwifery training institute was ceremoniously opened by Szolnok city leadership, Miklós Horthy de Nagybánya (Regent of Hungary) and Kuno Klebelsberg.

Arising from the trauma of Trianon, the new midwifery training institute in Szolnok was the successor to the midwifery training institute in Nagyvárad and revitalized the city of Szolnok and Jász–Nagykun–Szolnok County.

IZABELLA DRÓCSA

THE DEPUTY COMMISSAR FOR HOUSING BEFORE THE COURT: THE TRIAL OF ZOLTÁN SZÁNTÓ AND HIS ASSOCIATES IN THE HORTHY ERA

Zoltán Szántó, former Deputy Commissar for Housing, returned to Hungary in 1927 to lead the reconstituted Party of Communists in Hungary (PCH). To keep the authorities in the dark about their covert, subversive conspiracy, the Bolsheviks needed a legal “front” organization. Szántó sought out István Vági, the head of the Hungarian Socialist Workers’ Party (HSWP), who was willing to cooperate with the communists and to subordinate his party to advance the objectives of the Third International.

The police detained PCH and HSWP members who had participated in the undercover movement. Once evidence had been gathered, prosecutor Ágost Miskolczy called for a *rögtönítélő bíróság*, a court that delivered expedited sentences, on reasonable suspicion of conspiracy to rebel as per Section 156 of the so-called Csemegi Penal Code. The legal basis of the expedited proceedings was Decree No. 135/1924 of the Minister of Justice. With reference to this case, the study expounds on the legislation that enabled peacetime utilization of the *statárium* (i.e., martial law), thereby refuting assertions made in post-1945 historiography that emphasized the unlawfulness of the *statárium*. The study continues with an analysis of Decree No. 9550/1915 of the Minister of Justice, which regulated *statárium* proceedings, and a comparison between it and the proceedings of the investigative authorities and prosecution.

Citing lack of authority, the court of the *statárium* ultimately issued an order to continue criminal proceedings by regular judicial means. The suspects were accused of state subversion, in violation of Sections 1 and 2 of Act III of 1921 (related to more efficient protection of the state and social order), and of failing to inform the authorities, in violation of Section 3 of the aforementioned act. The court upheld these charges and sentenced Zoltán Szántó to eight years and six months of imprisonment, barred him from working in state government for ten years and suspended the exercise of his political rights for the aggravated crime of state subversion. For the basic definition of the same crime, István Vági was sentenced to four years and six months of imprisonment, was barred from working in state government for ten years and had the exercise of his political rights suspended. Charges against twenty-two other individuals were dropped in the absence of criminal wrongdoing.

KRISZTIÁN GLAUB

MONTAGE OF MIHÁLY FARKAS' LIFE PRIOR TO 1945

The life and post-1945 political endeavors of Mihály Farkas, former Minister of Defense and Deputy Secretary of the Hungarian Communist Party / Hungarian Working People's Party, is well known. However, there are still many question marks regarding his earlier years, which are not easy to reconstruct partly due to a dearth of resources as well as the confidentiality thereof. Nonetheless, it is important to be familiar with certain basic facts about Farkas, who arrived in Hungary in 1945, from this period in order to understand his thought process and relationship with communist ideals and the Soviet Union.

Mihály Farkas was born in Abaújszántó on July 18th, 1904, as Herman Lőwy. As a young man, he fell under the influence of the theories of socialism and communism, an intoxication that lasted his entire life. He became a consistent representative of these ideas, initially in the newly established Republic of Czechoslovakia. Since the new state hostilely handled the communists' progress, it was understandable that by the time Farkas/Lőwy and his cohorts were nearly twenty years old, they had already appeared in court on charges of communist agitation and belligerence. As a result of various legal proceedings against him, Farkas/Lőwy was sentenced to prison for six and a half years. He received a conditional release in 1930, after which he went to Prague and then Moscow, where he was appointed to important positions. He served as one of the secretaries of the youth organization of the International Communist Party at the Communist Young Workers International. In this capacity, he carried out various assignments – under his movement name of Wolf – in Western Europe at the start of the 1930's. He even journeyed to civil-war-torn Spain in 1937. In the years of the "Great Terror" in Moscow, however, Wolf's circle fell casualty when one of his best friends and supporters was detained. His own situation grew tense, but ultimately with the help of influential benefactors, Wolf not only survived the purge but managed to retain his prominent positions.

At the end of 1940, he was moved from the Czechoslovak Communist Party to the Party of Communists in Hungary at the request of Mátyás Rákosi, who had arrived in Moscow, from which point we can date his personal involvement in Hungarian affairs and the steadfast support that he enjoyed from Rákosi. In the aftermath of the German attack on June 22nd, 1941, he joined Kossuth Radio, which was a new station based in Moscow. As the dominant personage in the Party of Communists in Hungary, he became a *frontpropagandista* (an agitator specializing in demoralizing enemy combatants on the front), which proved that by 1943 he had become

a full member of the Foreign Committee, the party's top-level leadership. To a certain extent, he stabilized his growing influence by taking part in the various mud-slinging bouts within the party, always siding with Rákosi. His rise up the ranks was also demonstrated by the several attempts the leadership made to send him to Hungary to handle important party tasks. However, for various reasons, these failed to come to fruition. In the second half of 1944 – as party representative – he was regularly on the front working continuously on agitprop and organizing the return of carefully selected communist leaders to Hungary, which was actualized by the start of November 1944. Among the first to arrive was Mihály Wolf (known as Farkas by then), member of the newly established Central Leadership of the Hungarian Communist Party.

JUDIT HAMMERSTEIN

A HUNGARIAN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE OFFICER IN THE COUNTRY OF THE BOLSHEVIKS: COLONEL NÁNDOR TARÓCZY'S UNUSUAL VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION

We may consider Nándor Taróczy (1874–1973) as one of the most exciting representatives among Hungarian travelers to the Soviet Union in the Interwar Era. The journey in 1925 by the military expert under diplomatic cover through the Hungarian Legation in Reval (Tallinn, EE in the present) primarily deserves serious attention from the perspective of the histories of Hungarian military intelligence and Hungarian-Soviet diplomatic relations. His travel compendium can also find a place among the travelogues of the period. Likewise, Taróczy was considered as one of the most distinguished experts on Russia of that era. By virtue of his preparation, knowledge, language skills and acumen, he towered over many of his contemporaries in the diplomatic profession.

Given that Hungary and the Soviet Union did not have diplomatic ties at the time (efforts to that end, like the secret negotiations in Berlin in 1925, had fizzled), the circumstances of Taróczy's journey to the Soviet Union raise numerous exciting questions from both the Soviet and Hungarian perspective.

Taróczy's travelogue entitled *Szovjetuniói utazásom. 1925. április–május (My Journey to the Soviet Union: April–May 1925)*, which has survived in the form of a manuscript, is difficult to define in terms of genre. A foreign ministry summary meant for internal use, it contains elements of a real travelogue in addition to the reports on official meetings. The colonel's visit (Taróczy would be promoted to the rank of general by the time he returned from the Soviet Union.) may be regarded as a peculiar miscellany of a private and an "official" trip. Not only did he engage in informal discussions with high-ranking Soviet officials, Taróczy also visited the countryside, accompanied by his Russian wife and without any Soviet escort. There he had a glimpse into the life of small towns and villages in the Soviet Union. The two journeys to the countryside along with the discussion of his experiences in Moscow give the account its travelogue-like quality. Moreover, these passages account for most of the text. Taróczy's knowledge and awareness were beyond dispute, although he did not seem to be an intellectual of the humanities. As a soldier he carried out diplomatic and intelligence-gathering tasks. Internal power relations, foreign policy, intentions of war, economic tendencies etc. stood at the forefront of his interests.

One of the great virtues of the report is the detailed, sometimes word-for-word account of Taróczy's meetings with the Soviets, which provide us not only with

a glimpse of the diplomatic and military intentions of both the Hungarian and Soviet sides, but also a sample of the Soviet negotiating behavior and mentality of the period. Also, noteworthy are the depictions of the countryside and Moscow experiences Taróczy gathered as a “civilian” visitor. In general, he painted a positive picture of the Soviet Union, and he conspicuously abstained from making bluntly negative comments and avoided the use of sharp wording. (Explicit criticism is only to be found concerning Tsarist Russia in the report.) In the travelogue, the image of an increasingly thriving, socially and economically consolidated, predictable (while less and less socialist) country emerged, which Taróczy considered morally much healthier than the Tsarist regime whose system was understood to be rotten to its core. The image is of a state in the process of transforming into an empire, and whose societal support was strong; therefore, the hopes for its collapse were driven by ignorance or a complete misunderstanding of the situation. A similarly positive evaluation can also be observed in Taróczy’s next report entitled *Összefoglaló helyzetkép Szovjetországáról 1925. év szeptember havában* (*Summarizing the Situation of Soviet Russia in the Month of September in 1925*), which was partly built upon fresh travel experiences. A substantial difference in the latter, however, is that the writing consisted of a classical and accurate analysis backed by numerous statistical data, this time lacking any points of personal interest.

Taróczy’s positively biased general attitude needs explanation, considering his neglect of negative phenomena (lack of freedom, violence, social inequalities, poverty etc.). He eschewed negative facts when painting his picture for the obvious reason of wanting to convince his superiors that Hungary needed to establish diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union as soon as possible. In his view, this move was dictated by common sense and Hungarian interests. Equally, diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union would offer not only economic and commercial advantages, but revisionary aspirations (the overriding factor for Hungarians) would be best served by a possible partnership with the Soviets, who had just as little interest in keeping the Versailles peace system alive. Moreover, Taróczy did not want to reinforce the negative image of the Soviet Union among Hungarian decision makers a priori suspicious of Soviet intentions. On the contrary, by serving up Soviet reality in an almost propagandistic manner, he wanted to emphasize that there was no need to fear the Bolshevik state, as the Soviet Union was a predictable empire in the making, and it was a country with which Hungary could and should negotiate. Taróczy’s travel compendium and his status report of 1925 – in contrast to the wording found in several of his later reports – essentially supported the arguments of his Soviet interlocutors.

ANDRÁS JOÓ – LOVICE MARIA ULLEIN-REVICZKY

THE JOURNEY OF MINISTER ANTAL ULLEIN-REVICZKY WITH HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTER, FROM BUDAPEST TO STOCKHOLM IN SEPTEMBER 1943, DURING A TURBULENT PHASE OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

(SOURCE PUBLICATION OF NOTES FROM ORIGINAL SOURCE)

The source publication found herein is the word-for-word translation of an English language paper manuscript written in the months following the German occupation of Hungary in March 1944 and assuredly over the course of the Döme Sztójay government. The original typed manuscript was intended for publication in various English language media outlets. The author of the work was Lovice Louisa Grace Cumberbatch, the English-born wife of Antal Ullein-Reviczky, who served as a minister at the Hungarian Legation in Stockholm between autumn 1943 and March 1944. A study produced on the basis of her diary entries in 1941-42 was published as one of the works found in the 2020 VERITAS Yearbook. The current contribution may be considered as a follow-up to that publication.

Ullein-Reviczky and his family departed from the Keleti Railway Station in Budapest for Stockholm on September 20th, 1943. The wife of the diplomat, starting with the grandeur of the farewell at the railway station, informs us on her travel experiences. We get a picture of what it was like to take a longer journey across war-torn Europe, which included a stopover in the German capital of Berlin. The summary of her encounters and experiences in Berlin is perhaps the most vividly described. We witness images of the iconic locales of the city, of the railway stations and above all of the Hungarian Legation, with bad memories of Minister Döme Sztójay at the helm, who in a matter of months would be appointed as Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Hungary in the wake of the German occupation of Hungary. At the still-famed to this day Adlon Hotel, the Hungarian minister hosted a state lunch that – in light of the raging war – could have been characterized as excessively lavish. Following a brief detour in the countryside, the journey continued by rail to Warnemünde, where Ullein-Reviczky and his family boarded a ship bound for Denmark. After taking another train, they arrived in Copenhagen, the capital of the Northern European country. Despite Denmark being an occupied country, Copenhagen made a favorable impression on the Ullein-Reviczkys owing to the optimism of the residents thereof, which stemmed from their approaching liberation. They spent the night in the Danish capital before continuing their journey by ship to Malmö, where they commenced the

final leg of the journey (once again by rail) to Stockholm and the Hungarian Legation.

The introduction preceding the disclosure of sources also goes into detail on the role that the capital of neutral Sweden played in wartime diplomacy, especially as the backdrop for intelligence operations of opposing powers. We have acknowledged individuals in Stockholm considered key from the Hungarian perspective and strove to highlight in either the footnotes or the introduction information related to interesting or more definitive questions that appear in the text. From a unique perspective, our sources provide useful information on assessing the situation of Hungary at the time. Regarding publication of the work and completion of the notes therein, Lovice Maria Ullein-Reviczky, who turns up in the source material as a child and is also my co-author, has provided indispensable assistance. She has not only granted access to the original typed manuscript but earlier prepared the precise transcripts of her mother's originally handwritten diary, which had become difficult to read in places over time. The diary has also underpinned the writing of the current work. As with the publication referred to above (found in the VERITAS 2020 Yearbook), written almost entirely on the basis of the entries of the diary, we have vigorously tapped into the information in the diary. This time, however, we also strove to present a distinct and essentially integral text from the author of the diary, which can be understood as a pertinent addendum to the diary entries under assessment.

DÁVID KISS

COMMUNISTS AND REPATRIATED PRISONERS OF WAR

The contention that the members of the Hungarian Communist Party sincerely endeavored in the interests of bringing Hungarian prisoners of war home is supported by the events of the year 1947, although the decision to repatriate was ultimately in the Soviets' hands rather than their own. The actions of the party, however, were notably contradictory. While the communists primarily strove to bring home individuals who could have a positive impact on the electoral fortunes of the party, they expressly impeded similar efforts to repatriate Hungarians of German descent. Although xenophobic, the communists were not rabidly so. Similarly, they paid no account to members of the weaker sex. Many people resented the communists' distasteful self-importance. Although failing to win over most of the returnees and their families, which went counter to their plans, the communists nonetheless managed to gather enormous amounts of data on them. By virtue of their inside men, they were present everywhere. Several individuals working on the prisoner-of-war repatriation case were either ex-partisans or graduates of anti-fascist schools. The Soviets trusted them owing to their mutual familiarity. One good example is Sándor Sziklai, who regularly submitted written reports to the Soviets.

JÁNOS RÁCZ

ANOTHER JACZKÓ CASE

Two men were hanged in the courtyard of the detention facility in Budapest after 7 PM on November 17th, 1947. One was a pharmacist named Iván Jaczkó, the brother of vilified Smallholder Party politician Pál Jaczkó. The public execution was attended by a small gathering. Only a few hours earlier, the military court had determined that he was guilty of planning to blow up Budapest City Hall with a bomb four days earlier. The study attempts to examine these events on the basis of verifiable written sources. As the work shows, we may assume that the *Államvédelmi Osztály* (Department of State Security) was behind the entire operation. With every possible tool at their disposal, political investigators fabricated an anti-communist armed terrorist group in order to tie it to the legal proceedings of the *Magyar Testvéri Közösség* (Hungarian Fraternal Community). So fearless were the investigators that they also planned to detain the Jesuit provincial superior of Hungary by expanding the scope of the false-flag operation. They made use of Cold War context as well. Neither the relatives nor various acquaintances of the executed could avoid victimization. Some upon their release from prison left for the West in 1956. That this particular case did not evince the legal malfeasance typical of the People's Tribunal is also important and may provide us with a more graphic understanding of the political show trial proceedings of the era.

JUDIT ANTÓNIA FARKAS

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HEARD THE HUNGARIANS' CALL FOR HELP

THE EMERGENCY RELIEF OPERATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE IN THE DAYS OF THE HUNGARIAN REVOLUTION

As the demonstrations and solidarity and relief operations organized throughout the United States show, in the wake of the onset of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution American society immediately and unequivocally condemned Soviet aggression, stood with the Hungarians fighting for freedom and independence and urged immediate help for them. In terms of humanitarian, political and military aid, one part of public opinion expected a much more decisive and faster response from the unprepared and passive Eisenhower administration, which, due to the danger of a potential nuclear war, prioritized the possibility of a negotiated settlement to end the armed conflict in Hungary. Accusations were also made against the decision-making mechanism of the United Nations.

Among US-based humanitarian NGO's, the International Rescue Committee (IRC), which had provided assistance to the victims and refugees of Nazi, fascist and communist dictatorships for nearly twenty-five years, was the first to respond upon receiving news of the outbreak of the revolution. IRC Chairman Leo Cherne traveled to Budapest, and on November 1st, 1956, delivered the first American symbolic relief shipments, which consisted of lifesaving antibiotics from Pfizer, bandaging supplies, clothes and bread, to Hungarian revolutionaries, representatives of the Social Democratic Party and Cardinal József Mindszenty. IRC was such a forceful advocate on behalf of the moral support of the "Hungarian liberation forces", as well as the moral and humanitarian support for Hungarian refugees expected to arrive in greater numbers that the organization truly stirred the conscience and sympathy of the American people towards the Hungarians. Focused on Wall Street investment banker John Richardson Jr.'s one-man crusade and Leo Cherne's relief mission to Budapest, the study presents the first phase of IRC's Hungarian relief activities, which is little known in Hungary, over the course of the revolution in 1956. I attempt to determine which factors played a role in the huge success of IRC'S humanitarian relief operation, which mobilized the whole American society.

ZSUZSANNA KŐRÖSI

THE CONTINUING EDUCATION STRATEGY OF STUDENTS DISCRIMINATED AGAINST OWING TO THEIR BACKGROUND IN THE 1950'S AND 1960'S

After 1948, the education system was also overhauled to serve the political and ideological objectives of state socialism. Among other things, applicants for higher education were categorized based on their class background while a quota of students from a laborer / peasant background was also established. The basis of the categorization was the occupational and social status of the student's parents (typically of the father) in 1938, 1944 and the then current year. In practice, students were classified into four main categories: laborer, peasant, other and X. In this case X represented class outsiders, i.e., the children of exploiters, Kulaks, pre-nationalized wholesalers, large-scale industrialists, pre-1945 military officers and gendarmerie. This administrative measure achieved in higher education an overrepresentation of students with a commoner background and eliminated the possibility of acquiring a university education for those deemed as undesirables. In November 1962, discrimination based on background was abolished, but the children of physical laborers continued to enjoy an advantage nearly until the change of regime. In student profiles, meanwhile, special emphasis was placed on the student applicant's political reliability. In other words, religious student applicants who regularly attended Mass and catechesis sessions were at such a disadvantage as to be virtually sidelined. The study shows us, on the basis of oral history interviews, the kinds of discrimination young people faced due to their background and religion when deciding about their respective future career and the efforts they made to compensate. The histories of the seven young people in the study are a microcosm of the ordeals witnessed in the second half of the 20th century in Hungary.

PÉTER BERTALAN

FROM KAPOSVÁR TO ULAANBAATAR VIA BUDAPEST

THE STORY OF A MONGOLIAN RELATIONSHIP

On the basis of primary sources, the study reconstructs how Somogy County, which underwent rapid industrialization over the course of the 1970's, and its county seat Kaposvár plugged into the international economic network. For the region, the main priority was represented by agricultural production. Using the example of the *Kaposvári Húskombinát* (Kaposvár Meat Combine), one of the significant companies in the meat packing industry, the study presents one of the interesting moments in the history of the city. In the 1970's, Mongolia, which was also taking the "hard way" of socialism, was a key trading partner of communist Hungary. Located at the intersection of the geopolitical scope of the Soviet Union and China, both Hungary and Mongolia were limited in terms of foreign policy undertakings. Their destinies were significantly determined by the interests of the great powers ruling over them. As Hungarian experts contributed to the industrialization of Mongolia, political leaders from time to time expressed recognition of the achieved results in a bid to benefit politically. Although a communist dictator visiting a county seat far from Budapest was a rare event, that was what happened in summer 1974 when Yumjaagiin Tsendenbal, leader of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, journeyed to Kaposvár, where he was welcomed by Péter Varga, newly appointed First Secretary of the county. On the basis of invaluable sources at the Hungarian National Archives Somogy County Archives, we have successfully presented one of the interesting moments of a longer research process.

ATTILA SERES

FOUR HOURS BETWEEN THE SOVIET EMBASSY AND THE BORDER CROSSING STATION IN HEGYESHALOM

THE STORY OF A HUNGARIAN BETYAR IN THE KÁDÁR ERA (1980–1981)

The study presents one of the most astonishing and certainly imaginative defections of the Kádár Era as well as the shocking events seemingly out of a crime story that led up to it, including motor vehicle theft, desertion and border breaking. The starting point of the study is a document located today at the National Archives of Hungary. Dated April 1st, 1980, it is a detailed memorandum sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs by the Ministry of Internal Affairs. In the early morning hours of March 26th, 1980, a private in the Hungarian Army named Szabolcs Pintér trespassed onto the grounds of the Soviet Embassy and stole a parked Ikarus 255 bus tagged with diplomatic license plates. Since the Hungarian security guards patrolling the embassy building had not detected the unauthorized entry onto the grounds of the embassy, they assumed an employee of the embassy was driving the bus out of the embassy courtyard. Even though the gates of the embassy courtyard remained wide open for hours afterwards, no one working at the Soviet Embassy noticed that the bus had been stolen. After taking a short detour to the barracks, the private sped to Hegyeshalom with phony diplomatic immunity in his possession. No one along the checkpoints of the public roads that Pintér took thought to check the bus. As codified at the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961, diplomatic motor vehicles and their passenger space enjoy extraterritorial jurisdiction. Moreover, by virtue of its diplomatic plates, the bus was also let into the checkpoint area of the border crossing station in Hegyeshalom without a preliminary security check of documents and luggage. At the second boom gate of the “lock and release” border crossing arrangement, the border guards recognized the driver’s intention to illegally cross and opened fire at the accelerating bus. Pintér miraculously survived the machine gun barrage and smashed through the boom gate into Austria unharmed. The study meticulously delves into what motivated Pintér to carry out his daring escape from Hungary and recaps the exiting four hours between his theft of the bus and the border break in Hegyeshalom. Furthermore, the study discloses not only the various schemes that Hungarian state security apparatuses executed to “retrieve” the Hungarian citizen / dissident who had escaped to the West, but also how they tried to force him to come home. The study also looks at the conspiratorial tools Hungarian state security apparatuses used to try to persuade the Austrian authorities to deport Pintér back to Hungary.

KRISZTINA BOGNÁR-KISS

RESTITUTION IN HUNGARY: HOW MEDIA CONSUMERS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE VIEWED IT IN THE BEGINNING

Thirty years ago, the firstly freely elected parliament considered as one of its most important tasks the moral rehabilitation of citizens who had suffered harm in the decades of the dictatorial systems and the provision of monetary restitution to them insofar as the economic circumstances and possibilities of the country allowed for it.

Act XXV of 1991, on partial compensation in the interest of settling ownership for damages unlawfully caused by the State, was announced on July 11th, 1991. The Minister of Justice drew up the concept of restitution, the introduction of the restitution note and the legislative proposal that regulated the use of the restitution note in land auctions in December 1990. Deliberations commenced in the parliament on modifying the wording of the legislation in February 1991, with comprehensive debates taking place over the course of four sessions in April. The National Assembly approved the first draft of the bill on April 23rd. In the wake of the voting, numerous motions calling into question the constitutionality of the legislation were filed at the Constitutional Court while the President of the Republic, prior to its announcement, also requested the Constitutional Court's position on several provisions of the law. Ultimately, some sections of the law were indeed struck down as unconstitutional. The new proposal, reworded in line with the Constitutional Court's decisions and on the basis of the resolution, was submitted to parliamentary representatives in June 1991. The final wording of the legislation was adopted by the National Assembly on June 26th.

One of Hungary's most storied weeklies is *Szabad Föld*, whose first addition was published on August 29th, 1945, and led with an article penned by Minister of Agriculture Imre Nagy on the front page. Today below the main title of the journal, which debuted as an official news organ of the Hungarian Communist Party, can be read the following self-characterization: "The Official Newspaper of the Hungarian Countryside". The journal held a dominant position among nationally available publications prior to the change of regime and can still boast of having one of the largest subscriber bases today. Over the course of the past seven and a half decades, in addition to articles and reports on the lives of rural people and the presentation of the countryside lifestyle, *Szabad Föld* has found space in its pages for farming, culture, family, sports, health, science and other topics of interest to the readership.

At the time of the change of regime, *Szabad Föld* naturally focused attention on the origin and substance of restitution laws, which particularly impacted the Hungar-

ian countryside, and the work of the restitution authority. The current study presents news items, interviews and analyses of information related to restitution found in the 1991 volume of the weekly as well as how the Hungarian rural readership viewed the birth of the first restitution law and the practical steps of its implementation.

ZOLTÁN DÉVAVÁRI

THE SILENCE OF ANXIETY PART I

THE ANTALL ADMINISTRATION AND THE ETHNIC HUNGARIANS OF THE
SOUTHLAND / VOJVODINA IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1992 (JANUARY–MAY)

On the basis of documents from the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the study analyzes the political history of the ethnic Hungarians of the Southland / Vojvodina (the northern region of Yugoslavia in 1992 and of Serbia today) in the first half of the eventful year of 1992. The author presents in detail Prime Minister József Antall's defensive efforts on behalf of the ethnic Hungarians of the Southland / Vojvodina. With regard to those efforts, the author quotes from Antall's letter on the plight of the ethnic Hungarians of the Southland / Vojvodina addressed to US President George H. W. Bush, President of France François Mitterrand and British Prime Minister John Major. The study then pivots to President of the Democratic Fellowship of Vojvodina Hungarians (DFVH) András Ágoston's visit to the United States between February 8th and 16th, 1992, where he met with American decision makers. The study concludes with a summary of the culmination of violent incidents preceding and related to the general meeting of the DFVH in April.

MIHÁLY NOSZKÓ-HORVÁTH

PROPERTY RESTITUTION IN HUNGARY: INTRODUCTION OF RELEVANT RESTITUTIONARY DOCUMENTS

Following the change of regime in Hungary, the social need to remedy somehow the politically-motivated damages inflicted by the preceding dictatorial system appropriately arose. The restitution legal institution, which in the most general arrangement may be categorized as either property or personal restitution depending on the nature of the damage, served this aim. When the subject of the study was under consideration, an important aspect was the fact that the year 2021 was the thirtieth anniversary of the enactment of the first law related to property restitution, which was subsequently followed by several others. The study presents the laws related to the subject, the practices of the Constitutional Court, the specificities of restitutionary proceedings, the essential characteristics of resultant documents and key statistical indicators.

