

Yugoslavia

1956

(H) - RADIO BELGRADE INTERVIEW ON (H)

Munich, November II (General Desk)

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Radio Belgrade last night carried an interview with its correspondent who was in Budapest, Branislav DADIC, and with BORBA's correspondent Vlado TESLIC, both of whom returned yesterday morning from Budapest.

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TESLIC: I would first of all like to say a few words about yesterday. It was Friday. We were awakened by the thundering of guns as usual. However, we were not excited. We were tired after sleeping restlessly on the carpet in a corner^{as} far from the windows as possible. At times we peeped through the windows. It was too dangerous to stand near them because machine guns were directed at the windows and shooting was going on from one window to another.

QUESTION: How about your impressions while passing through the city?

TESLIC: Passing through the city we saw a more or less usual picture of Budapest in these tragic days. In front of almost all houses there were tanks. However, the people were walking past quietly as if there were no tanks and no machine guns. They were carrying blanket perhaps returning from friends who had allowed them to hide in their cellars. They were carrying bread, water, or sometimes their children. It was chilly. The people were asking for doctors, but they could not find them.

QUESTIONS: From Budapest to our (Yugoslav) frontier did you meet any people?

DADIC: From Budapest to the frontier we travelled via NECSKELET and SZEGEDIN. Just outside Budapest we were compelled to leave the main road because it was too near to CSEPEL where, it was said, fighting was still going on... There are, however, some very interesting and paradoxical details which we can recall.

In Hungary, after October 23, for instance, not far from Budapest and several kilometres from CSEPEL by air, we were surprised to see peasants working in their fields. We met similar phenomena in Budapest.

At the same time as fighting was going on in some streets, in other streets people were walking unconcerned and waiting for tanks to pass by.

DADIC then explained how he and TESLIC met, near BOROKSAR, a truck carrying some people who were armed and who had attempted "to break through to CSEPEL with food, including several pigs, because the food situation in Budapest was so bad and there was the shadow of famine in the city.

(4) - RADIO BELGRADE INTERVIEW ON (4)

QUESTION: And now in conclusion ~~xxxx~~ tell us in a few words about your impressions in general.

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DADIC: The most striking impression to me was Budapest ^{ITSELF} ~~itself~~.

Many buildings are damaged, some heavily and almost all the windows are broken and walls damaged. You cannot see a whole door.. in the streets chaos... there is a picture of war.

If you are in the street you are naturally interested to know what the people are talking about. It is interesting to note that the people didnt talk among themselves at all. Everybody is silent . They are going somewhere, perhaps looking for bread. The queues for bread are very long, and stretch many hundreds of metres... Nobody cares for the dead. "ere and there you someone carrying a body, but this is done without crying , seemingly even without feeling.