

CONFIDENTIAL

SPECIAL ATTENTION: Radio List

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READ AND DESTROY:

17

ITEM No. 4378/54

Translation

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25 May
9/collation

HUNGARY

CRITICISM OF RFE.

SOURCE VIENNA: Confidential

DATE OF OBSERVATION: As stated

EVAL. COMMENT: None

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BUDAPEST, 14 February 1954.
Date of reception: 2 February 1954.
Time: from 1730 until 1930 hrs.
Place: BUDAPEST, III. District.
Receiving set: medium super.
Reception conditions: on 41 meters clear.

Science and Inventions.

Comments: The NEW YORK collaborator of RFE gives an account of the development of atomic research. The program -- which could be understood by everybody -- deals in an interesting way with the difficulties of employing atomic energy for peaceful purposes. This column is always excellent, varied and well edited.

Gallicus Reflector.

On Press-Day in Hungary, the scribblers of the Peoples' Democracy made speeches on KOSSUTH and referred to him as their predecessor. Gallicus speaks in the name of KOSSUTH Lajos in the first person. The idea of the reflector -- what KOSSUTH himself would say to the usurpation of his name -- is excellent, but I do not think that the voice of Gallicus is suitable for giving the impression that Father KOSSUTH is speaking to us in person.

Workers of the West.

Comments: He speaks about a book of a West German sociological institute. It is an account of answers given by workers in a mine of the Ruhr area, to questions put to them. It was very interesting to draw a parallel -- helped by statistical figures -- between the situation of miners at home and those in the Ruhr.

Calling Communists.

Comments: Information on the new victims of the SLANSKY process. These unexpected proceedings are a proof that regimes in the Peoples Democracies always need scapegoats, when they have difficulties or when they want to turn attention away from their own

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responsibilities.

Light Music Program.

Comments: The dance music in the afternoons is very popular, and reception conditions are very good at this time.

News and Commentaries.

For days, there has been a conference on tractor stations in MOSCOW. Starting from the conference, the commentator analyzes the situation in Hungary. He draws a parallel between Hungary and West Germany. Where there is a tractor for each 47 acres in Germany, there is only one for 800 acres in Hungary. The well-grouped data are a better proof than any other arguments, of the emptiness of Communist propaganda for agricultural mechanization.

World Mirror.

Comments: The declaration made by STASSEN, Director of the Mutual Aid organization, on the American aid program.

News and Commentaries.

Comments: The sarcastic commentary of Vasvári György admirably hit the mark. The Communists announce their production achievements daily, and in the meantime there is no gas, no electricity and no water. He presents to us in a few sentences the big gulf which exists between headlines and reality. A good broadcast.

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Date of reception: 3 February 1954.

Time: from 1800 until 1930 hours.

Reception conditions: on 41 meters good.

News and Commentaries:

Comments: Pannonicus analyzes the estimates of the Central Planning Board and draws the conclusion that the controlled plan economy is a complete failure. We like to listen to such programs, where the Communists hear what they are.

World Mirror.

Comments: The theme of the broadcast was very interesting: what are the losses suffered by the Hungarian economy, brought on by the Chinese commercial agreement? The program, which went into detail not only gave an impression of how well informed RFE is, but pulled the veil from a detail of the Hungarian economy, which is very little known.

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Music Program.

Comments: I must repeat, they are excellent and we always like to hear musical records between political programs.

News and Commentaries.

Comments: At the Fifth Anniversary of the MINDSZENTY process, it makes us remember the situation then and how it has developed since.

Youth to Youth.

Comments: A review of the BARUCH book. A few loving words for "Uncle Sam." I have already made my comments on this program. It is the same now. An interesting program.

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GYOR, 13 February 1954.

Date of reception: 30 December 1953.

Time: from 2120 until 2200 hours.

Place: GYOR

Reception conditions: on 41 meters comparatively clear.

Receiving set: Orion 779.

Weather conditions: cloudy, windy.

21.20 Sports Program.

Comments: An interesting discussion of how the Russians have stepped out of their isolation in sports and try to achieve world championship. They do not shrink from any sacrifice in their efforts, and do not spare their men either. I think the sports program excellent; it always has to say something new and interesting for us.

21.30 Hungarian Songs, Gypsy Music.

21.45 Western Letter.

Comments: The letter of Mrs. Cs. Szabó from LONDON on the Hungarian sports exhibition there, which tries to prove that the Communist regime has made sports available to the masses. But the British do detect what is behind the curtains. Further, she let us know about the LONDON "Ideal Home"

exhibition. She gives us a real idea of the British housing program. I think the broadcast was excellent: it did not draw any parallels between the two exhibitions, but the listener can draw his own conclusions on what the objects of

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a Western exhibition and of a Communist exhibition are.

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Date of reception: 2 January 1954.

Time: from 1900 until 2020 hours.

Reception conditions: on 41 meters clear, without jamming.

Weather conditions: cloudy, windy, cold.

19.10 News and Commentaries.

Comments: The commentator speaks after our hearts, when he enumerates the Communist tactics of covering the economic incapacity of the regime with more and more demands. The commentator proves from item to item the inefficiency of the Communist economy and is very right in concluding that the resistance of people grows in accordance with that incompetence.

19.20 Hungarian College.

Comments: A broadcast from Bartalos Akos on the origin of the Bethlehem plays. A valuable, serious broadcast; I listened to it with great interest.

19.35 Radio Program.

19.40 International Press Review.

Comments: The interesting reminiscences of Király Péter Pál of the year 1953, on the basis of articles in the Western press.

19.50 Village Program.

Comments: A broadcast by Hajdu Németh Lajos, on how peasants began to realize that the moral standards of the regime which governs them, are not indifferent to them. This recognition is the base of the resistance. But in my opinion, the speaker did not express himself correctly. The resistance of the peasants is not a collective movement but something done individually. The resistance of individuals characterizes resistance in Hungary; that is what makes the fight successful in Hungary. Terror can be effective against the unorganized, atomized masses, but not against the single individual. This individual resistance should be supported by clever and sober-minded advice; this, in my opinion, should be one of the most important purposes of RFE.

20.10 East European Review.

Comments: Statistical data by Timár István on the court proceedings in East Germany. In 1953, prison sentences for 75,000 years were given, 35,000 political victims were sent to prison. 306,000 East Germans took refuge in the West,

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2,300 policemen among them. The numbers speak for themselves.
This is the best propaganda.

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Date of reception: 5 January 1954.
Time: from 1600 until 1710 hours.
Reception conditions: on 19 meters clear, without jamming.

16.10 East European Review.

Comments: Boros Pal on the use of Rumanian oil. Several times, the speaker spells "Mazut" incorrectly: "maujzut."

16.20 Prisoners of War.

Comments: The story of a former prisoner of war who spent nine years in USSR. List of prisoners. A program which is always listened to with great attention. Many have heard news about relations whom they thought lost, from RFE.

16.40 Hungarians in the Great World.

Comments: I like this program very much; it tells us about the successes of emigrant Hungarians. It is comforting for us to hear that Hungarians who were forced to leave the country, did not get lost but won for themselves a proper standing in Western cultural life.

16.50 Magazine Review.

Comments: The account of a French magazine on the Soviet Doctors' process.

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Date of reception: 9 January 1954.
Time: from 1600 until 1700 hours.
Reception conditions: on 19 meters clear, without jamming.
Weather conditions: snow and rain.

16.00 News.

Comments: I am always interested in the RFE news service. It is vivid, brisk and quick, and condenses world events for us. But we should like to hear more Hungarian news.

16.10 East European Review.

Comments: Informs us on the situation in East Germany, which is very instructive for the Hungarian audience, as it shows that their difficulties are in many respects similar to ours. The program not only speaks of generalities, as f.i. the failure of agricultural production, but goes into details too, such as the perishing of 110,000 pigs for lack of vaccines. A very effective program on the dirty Communist administration.

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16.25 European Movement.

Comments: an important, gap-filling column, as the Hungarian press never mentions the question; neither do the other Western radios.

16.35 A Program on Ethnic Germans.

Comments: it informs us about a publication issued in West Germany about Ethnic German settlers in Hungary.

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BUDAPEST, 10 February 1954.

Date of reception: 23 January 1954.

Place: BUDAPEST, III. District.

Time: from 1700 until 1800 hours.

Reception conditions: on 19 and 25 meters clear.

Receiving set: medium super.

News and Commentaries.

Comments: Peregrinus speaks about the background of American commercial policies. He informs us in detail on the proposals of the Congress committee for expanding commercial relations with the West. He thinks it very important that the Soviet Union purchases through its agents a great quantity of food from the Western states, mainly from the U.S. This is typical for the present situation: there is an abundance of consumer goods in the West and a lack of them in the East. The excellent broadcast of Peregrini caused me to think that RFE should prepare the audience for an easing of tensions between East and West, at least in commercial relations, in the near future.

Eastern Patrol.

Comments: We heard a very effective sound-play about the confusion prevailing among Soviet writers and composers, how to adapt themselves to the New Course. Following a report in a Soviet newspaper, the figures of comrade SZOLOVJEV and a young poet come to life, from whose collective efforts a musical poem "At the Wellknown Stair," is born. It turns out that the poem was born too late; it cannot be reconciled with the new Party line and results in the wrath of the Party, which turned against the authors. The soundplay points to the tragi-comic side of Communist life.

Gallicus Reflector.

Comments: As there was great jamming, I could listen only to a few details of the Gallicus column and could only find out that he talked about the change of front in Hungarian literature and about the reinstalling of banished love.

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For Women.

Comments: Budai Éva Mária talked about "little brother" the baby to come. On the basis of medical books, she delivered an essay on the developments of the body and soul of a baby. A very good program for young mothers.

Calling Communists.

Comments: Gedeon Sándor gives us details of the speech made by POSZPJELOV for the Lenin celebrations in MOSCOW. The name of Lenin was pronounced a hundred times, to that of Stalin only five times. The speech itself is a true mirror of the chaos in Communist ideology: the speaker flattered the collective leadership and the personal cult of Lenin to such an extent that the deification of Stalin was dwarfed. This program is very good for wavering Party members, and with the accentuation of the weak points and controversies of the regime, increases their uncertain feelings.

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Date of reception: 29 January 1954.

Time: from 1800 until 1830 hours.

Reception conditions: slight jamming on 31 meters; on 41 and 49 meters impossible to receive.

News.

Comments: Information about the flu epidemic at home. We like to hear news from home; unfortunately we get very little of it.

Music.

Comment: A very good musical potpourri.

News and Commentaries.

Comments: I think this program on the newest events of Soviet cultural life especially interesting. He lets us know about the article of Ilja EHRENBURG, which was never mentioned in the Hungarian press. In this article, he strongly attacks "Zdanovism." He mercilessly criticizes Soviet literature of today and demands a return to the Russian classics. The commentator is very right in thinking that the new policy of the Kremlin looms at the background of the article.

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Date of reception: 30 January 1954.

Time: from 1800 until 2000 hours.

Reception conditions: from 1800 to 1900 hours there is such a jamming on all bands that only scraps of the programs can be heard; from 1900 it gets a little better and can be heard on band 31; on 41 and 49 it is quite bad.

News and Commentaries.

Comments: In connection with the NAGY Imre speech, he speaks about cultural life in Hungary and makes the statement that Hungarian culture has come to a standstill. We like to hear those commentaries, because they say aloud what we only think, and they strengthen our conviction that we are right in judging the situation here.

Hungarian College.

Comments: The review of the book "Christianity and the State" by Dr. FEKETEKUTHY Laszlo, published in COLOGNE. The program moves on theoretical lines. Probably there are people who are interested in it.

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End.