

PRIORITY

AP

June 21

XIII-1251/E

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

JUSTICE /1800/

COMMUNIST PARTY /0600/
Personalities /0606/

HUSAK TURNS DOWN AMNESTY OFFER.

SOURCE SALZBURG: A 50-year-old office clerk who arrived in Austria in May 1956.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: March 1956.

ENGLISH SUMMARY: Whereas Laco NOVOMESKÝ accepted pardon and was released from prison on December 22 1955, Dr. Gusto HUSÁK rejected the offered amnesty in March this year, and demanded that a new trial be held. NOVOMESKÝ is currently employed in an unidentified PRAGUE museum.

EVALUATION COMMENT: According to PARIS RFE Item No. 11225/55, Laco NOVOMESKÝ was released from prison as early as August 1955. ŠIROKÝ's speech to members of the Slovak CP Central Committee confirmed NOVOMESKÝ's release as well as the fact that Gustav HUSÁK -- one of NOVOMESKÝ's co-defendants -- was still held in prison.

Background information of May 1956 also mentioned a RUMOR circulating in BRATISLAVA according to which HUSÁK had asked for full rehabilitation and had rejected the offered release from prison.

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Zatiaľ čo Laco NOVOMESKÝ prijal omilostenie a bol

/over/

prepustený z väzenia 22. decembra 1955, Dr. Gusto HUSÁK
amnestiu odmietol v marci toho roku a údajne trvá na preve-
denní nového súdneho rokovania. NOVOMESTSKÝ je údajne zamestnaný
v nejakom Pražskom múzeu.

End