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HUNGARY

POW's           /2400/  
JUSTICE       /1800/  
Amnesty       /1801.a/

NEW DEAL FOR HUNGARIAN PRISONERS RETURNING FROM RUSSIA.

SOURCE HAMBURG: German Red Cross.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: Recent and current

EVALUATION COMMENT: In line with the present political situation in Hungary.

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Amnestied Hungarian prisoners recently returned from Russia were given 150 forints by the state on arrival in Hungary and allowed to return to their old trades or professions. Non-amnestied prisoners were first sent to the state prison in NYIREGYHÁZA and later transferred to JÁSZ-BERENY until their sentences will have been considered by the Hungarian Courts.

According to recent reliable information, it is expected that many of the non-amnestied prisoners will be pardoned in accordance with the new course adopted by the Hungarian Communist authorities as a result of the Kremlin anti-STALIN campaign. In various districts, firms and public works have been ordered by Party functionaries to find jobs for former prisoners. The order is accompanied by the remarks:-

"In many cases sentences and punishments have been too severe. Normal justice cannot be spoken of in many cases. It is therefore the duty of the state authorities to recognize that mistakes have been made and try to recompense the damage."

End