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Soviet Espionage Threatens

Hungarians!

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CAPITAL REPORT

By FULTON LEWIS, JR.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6.—As if their Budapest sufferings of a year ago were not enough, the Hungarian refugees in the free world now find their ranks infiltrated by a sinister Soviet counter-intelligence apparatus, able to frustrate even the Senate Internal Security subcommittee.

It is an elaborate damask of intrigue in-depth, as demonstrated by recent testimony by the towering, handsome Msgr. Bela Varga, head of the Hungarian National Council in New York. He was president of the only elected Hungarian parliament

during the brief life of free Hungary after World War Two.

He told the committee the story of Miklos Szabo, one of the leaders of the refugee movement in free Austria, known as the Striasbourg Revolutionary Council.

SZABO WAS AN apparently dedicated top official in the processing and screening of refugees, first in Vienna and later in Striasbourg.

The president of the Revolutionary Council was warned, repeatedly, that Szabo was not to be trusted and that he was in secret communication with the Kadar government in Budapest.

The man who had the most minute and accurate book on

Szabo was schoolteacher Ferenc Vidovics, one of the top heroes of the freedom revolution, and a great popular idol of national Hungary.

He tried in vain to convince authorities that Szabo was a Red spy, but the council refused to listen.

About two weeks ago, Szabo turned up missing. A few days later, the freedom underground reported his arrival in Budapest, where he made immediate contact with the Kadar government, and established himself in the style to which luminaries in Red dictatorships like to become accustomed. A few days later still, his arrival was announced by Radio Budapest.

In his defection, he had

taken with him all records, all reports, all name-lists, all statements by refugees, everything he had collected from the thousands of refugees he had processed during his time in Austria—almost a year.

Thus, in Kadar's butcher-hands is a tailor-made intelligence record on the freedom underground, with only the necessity to follow out the leads and make the arrests. The full information is in hand, in each case.

THE COMMITTEE decided that Vidovics was the key to the story of Szabo's activities, and asked where he might be located. Msgr. Varga gave his address in Austria, said Vidovics had told him that he would be happy to come to the United States and testify in full.

The Department of Justice reported that its interviews with refugees contain charges that Vidovics is a dangerous Communist, a tool of the Kadar regime, and cannot be permitted to enter the United States, and they are stalling to it.

Even our own files are tampered.

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MSGR. BELA VARGA places a wreath on the tomb of composer Bela Bartok.