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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

HUNGARIAN PRESS CAMPAIGN AGAINST KULAK
 SABOTEURS, LAX LOCAL COUNCILS

Beginning in mid-June, a campaign against the kulaks was launched in the Hungarian daily press. While still moderate until the first of July -- only five articles on the subject appeared between 12 and 30 June -- the campaign increased in intensity after that date. Between 1 and 29 July, 46 attacks against the kulaks appeared in the four leading Budapest dailies surveyed (Nepszava, Szabad Nep, Magyar Nemzet, Esti Budapest).

The line of accusation varies. During June, the kulaks were accused of letting their land lie fallow, of not delivering their quotas of livestock, of black market slaughtering, and of not repairing their agricultural machinery in preparation for the harvest. The major crime of which the kulaks were accused in July is sabotage, which manifests itself in refusal to harvest on time or to deliver the harvested produce, in feeding newly harvested grain to the livestock, in storing the harvest in dirty or damp storage places, and in hindering -- by word or deed -- the threshing and secondary-crop planting operations of the working peasant.

An interesting feature of the campaign is the attack on the local councils and party committees in conjunction with the drive against the kulaks. The local government organs are accused of laxness against offenders, of losing touch with the actual problems of the working peasant by paying too much attention to bureaucratic red tape, and, in some cases, of collaboration with the kulaks.

The reason for the drive against the kulaks and the local councils may conceivably lie in short crops due to spring frosts and severe summer droughts.

The following articles are representative samples of the propaganda campaign against the kulaks and the local councils.

STATE		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB	DISTRIBUTION														
ARMY		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI															

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I. 12 - 30 JUNE 1952

Convict Kulaks for Illegal Slaughter

Karoly Muszka, a twice-convicted kulak from Fuzesgyarmat, was sentenced to 1½ years in prison and a fine for leaving 5½ cadastral yokes fallow despite repeated warning.

Janos Szabo, a kulak from Ersekvadkert who owns 3¼ cadastral yokes, did not fulfill his pig, calf, and wine deliveries and was sentenced to 14 months' imprisonment.

The widow of Sandor Jerko, a kulak miller of Baja, obtained -- with the help of Sandor Cicovszki -- a false permit to kill pigs, and slaughtered five pigs. Mrs Jerko was sentenced to 7 months in prison, Cicovszki to 4 months in prison and a fine.(1)

Lag in Livestock Deliveries

In Somogy Megye, the Csurgó járás court recently convicted three kulaks who did not deliver their quotas of pigs when ordered. Istvan Fekes was sentenced to 2½ years in prison, a fine of 1,000 forints, and confiscation of 4,000 forints' worth of property. Istvan Polgar was sentenced to 8 months in prison and a fine of 2,000 forints. Imre Timar was sentenced to 1½ years in prison, a fine of 1,000 forints, and confiscation of property worth 3,000 forints.(2)

Party Committee Functions Inefficiently

Fejer Megye is rich in natural resources -- bauxite and coal mines, and productive soil. It is here that Sztalinvaros and the Stalin Steelworks are being built. The rapid economic development of the megye coincided with a strengthening of its party organs, and the party committee, which directs the life of the megye, has achieved some remarkable results.

Nevertheless, Fejer Megye still does not give the country all that the people might expect from it. There is a serious lag in agricultural deliveries, and the majority of the party organs do not fight the kulaks continuously. While most of the working peasants fulfill their obligations to the state, the bulk of the kulaks are sabotaging the collections. In some places the kulaks even distributed their animals among their relatives.

One of the most serious reasons for these shortcomings is the fact that the party committee of Fejer Megye has become too bureaucratic. Its members spend most of their time behind desks, and are out of touch with the real problems of the people. The members of the committee draw up resolutions after resolution, but make no provision for the execution of these resolutions.

The laxness of the committee is reflected in the workings of the local party organs. For example, in Perkata the party leaders did not demand that party members set a good example for the rest of the village when it came to deliveries; also, the local party leaders did not remonstrate with the village council when the council put up with the failure of 58 of the village's 68 kulaks to deliver their quotas.(3)

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Sabotage Agricultural Machinery

Kalman Egedi, chief machinist of the Szentlőrinc machine station, has weakened work discipline through negligence. He did not order the repair and maintenance of the machines in time, and when the harvest started most of the machines were out of order. He was sentenced by the Pecs Jaras court to 1½ years in prison and his political rights were suspended for 3 years.

Kulak Karoly Kovacs did not convert his mower into a sowing machine and did not repair his harvester. He was sentenced to 9 months in prison. Kulak Jozsef Zseri also failed to convert his mower and was sentenced to 5 months in prison. The machines were confiscated.(4)

II. 1 - 29 JULY 1952

Convict Sabotaging Kulaks

Laszlo Kovacs, a kulak from Lebeny who owns 27 cadastral yokes of land, was sentenced to 4 months in prison and a fine of 3,000 forints because he took 21 sheaves of barley home and used it as fodder for his animals. The Jaras court of Torokszenmiklos sentenced Janos Kardos, Jr. to 8 months in prison and a fine of 2,000 forints for taking 15 sheaves of barley as fodder for his animals. Geza Barcza, a kulak from Nagyalevony, was sentenced to 10 months in prison and confiscation of 4,500 forints' worth of property for not harvesting his rye even though the working peasants in his neighborhood had already finished their rye harvest.

A kulak from Vid, Erno Horvath, was sentenced to 7 months in prison, payment of 1,000 forints, and confiscation of 2,000 forints' worth of property for failing to harvest rye from 3 cadastral yokes by the required time limit. Alajos Bodis, who owns 30 cadastral yokes of land in Jaszarokszallas, did not harvest his rye in time. He was sentenced to 6 months in prison, payment of 2,000 forints, and confiscation of 3,000 forints' worth of property. Jozsef Gorcz of Halesz was sentenced by the Mosonmagyaróvár Jaras court to 6 months in prison and a 4,000-forint fine because he did not have his threshing machine repaired in time. His threshing machine was confiscated.(5)

Feeds Grain to Animals

Sandor Nagy, a kulak of Jaszfelsoszentgyorgy, fed newly harvested grain to his pigs. Kulak Gaspar Bordas covered the floor of his pigsty with barley. Proceedings have been started against these kulak saboteurs.(6)

Sabotage Harvest

While the industrious rural population is vigorously engaged in harvesting, the kulaks are busy harming their efforts with base schemes. For example, after Jozsef Pandur, Jr, a kulak owning 28 cadastral yokes in Alsomocsolad, Komlo Jaras, Baranya Megye, finished harvesting the grain which grew along the roadside, he reported that he had completed his harvest. However, the working peasants discovered that cereals still stood on his outlying fields and that the loss of grain had already exceeded 5 percent, and reported him immediately to the authorities. Pandur was sentenced to a 15-month prison term, a 3,000-forint fine, and confiscation of property worth 3,000 forints.

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Despite repeated warnings of the local council, kulak Janos Lukacs of Porrogszentgyorgy, Szigetvar Jaras, Baranya Megye, did not start harvesting on time. Lukacs owns 32 cadastral yokes of land, and has several previous convictions. He was sentenced to 15 months in prison, a fine of 1,500 forints, and confiscation of property worth 2,000 forints. Antal Beres, a kulak of Gyoma, Gyoma Jaras, Bekes Megye, was sentenced to 8 months in prison, a fine of 3,000 forints, and confiscation of property worth 5,000 forints for sabotaging the harvest.(7)

Kulaks Sabotage Harvest and Threshing

During the first week of July, harvesting was completed in the village of Peteri, Baranya Megye. However, the village could not start threshing because Erno Komor, a 25-cadastral-yoke kulak, had not started operating his threshing machine despite repeated requests to do so. This was not the first time that Komor retarded the village's working peasants in the fulfillment of their obligations. He sowed late, did not hoe, sabotaged deliveries, and started harvesting only after the grain was overripe. The working peasants demanded that the village council place Komor's threshing machine immediately into operation and have the kulak arrested by the police. The Jaras court of Pecs sentenced Komor to 3 years in prison and a fine of 3,000 forints, and his threshing equipment and tractor were confiscated and placed in operation on the same day.

In Koteles, Szolnok Megye, the produce-collection commission inspected kulak Istvan Fulop's 28-cadastral-yoke property and discovered that he had violated the law. He harvested several shocks of grain by hand, and had hidden three sacks of barley under the manger in the stable. Due to his negligence, there was grain loss on his 10 cadastral yokes of wheat; he did not plow the stubble, and did not utilize his draft animals fully. In the same village, kulak Istvan Vereb, who owns 57 cadastral yokes, started his harvest only after the grain was overripe, thus incurring a loss of 2.4 quintals per cadastral yoke, which is the equivalent of a year's bread requirement of one person. Legal action was started against both Fulop and Vereb.

The Somogyi Néplap printed a letter from a worker of the machine station at Csurgo, which describes how the people's enemies tried to ruin the machines along the Yugoslav border. In Berzece they placed a 35-40 kilogram concrete slab in the grain which was being harvested in Porrogszentkiraly they used a 60-centimeter piece of iron. The alertness of the machine station workers and of the peasants, however, averted the sabotage of the kulaks.(8)

Convict Law-Breaking Kulaks

Kulak Janos Juhasz of Lajosmizse, cattle dealer and threshing machine owner, and Sandor Loboda, threshing supervisor, were tried by the Kecskemet megye and Jaras court for crimes endangering the public well being. Juhasz harvested his grain with the help of his family and did not employ a helper. At threshing time, however, he deducted the share normally due to a farmhand -- almost 4 quintals of rye and more than half a quintal of wheat -- for himself. Violating his official responsibilities, Sandor Loboda helped Juhasz in the perpetration of this fraud by entering wrong data in the official record. The depraved kulak also attempted to harm the workers' state in other ways. He reported only two of his three cows and, for over one year, delivered the milk of only two cows. Juhasz falsified the entries in his delivery book and collected the bread ration for his son, who had not been living at home for some time. He also sabotaged the stubble plowing and the sowing of secondary crops.

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At the trial both Juhasz and Loboda admitted their guilt. Juhasz was sentenced to 3 1/2 years in prison, fine, and confiscation of one cow and of his threshing machine. Loboda was sentenced to 7 months in prison and a fine of 400 forints.

The kulak Denes Jozsa, a former innkeeper who had recently served a prison term for black marketing, was tried next. Jozsa hired working peasant Istvan Surman to help him with the harvest; however, he did not conclude a harvest contract with Surman but promised that as compensation he would lend him his team of horses. Surman harvested 2 days for Jozsa, and at threshing time the sly kulak claimed that since he employed help for the harvest he was entitled to receive his harvester's grain share. Thus, he misled the threshing supervisor. During the trial, the kulak consistently denied the charges; however, the witnesses unanimously testified against him. Istvan Surman testified that for 2 days' hard labor he had received only promises. Jozsa was sentenced to 2 years and 3 months in prison, a fine of several thousand forints, and confiscation of part of his property.(9)

Score Bacs-Kiskun Councils

As a result of the good 1951 harvest, the leaders of the Bacs megye council and of the local councils of the megye have become overconfident and self-satisfied. In this year's delivery competition Bacs Megye remained ever further behind until it finally reached last place. Between October 1951 and May 1952, the permanent delivery commission of Bacs, as well as a large part of the local delivery commissions just "rested on their laurels." The feeling was prevalent that "delivery will go by itself, even if at one time or another it lags in some villages."

It is natural that officials with such a philosophy will violate the law on numerous occasions, be tolerant toward kulaks sabotaging deliveries, and fail to be firm with indifferent working peasants. In many places the leaders of the councils fraternized with the kulaks, and frequently demanded livestock deliveries from the little peasants instead of from the kulaks. For example, in Alpar, Kiskunfelegyhaza Jaras, 37 kulaks cleared their pig-delivery obligations by paying altogether 9,800 forints. Almost half of the kulaks of Bacs-Kiskun Megye failed to fulfill their pig deliveries.

The leaders of the megye have started to follow the directives of the last meeting of the party central directorate, and several kulaks have already been punished. However, the local councils are still far from being alert. In Kiskunfelegyhaza, for instance, the council was much too lax with those who did not fulfill their delivery obligations on time.

Bacs Megye can be among the first in the competition only if its councils follow the law strictly and supervise with an iron hand the fulfillment of obligations to the state.(10)

Impede Secondary Crop Planting

The planting of secondary crops is successful only if the operation is performed quickly and on time. Experience shows that many independent peasants and leaders of state farms and producers cooperatives did not understand that a good secondary crop can be expected only if the seed is planted right after the harvest. This is one of the reasons why the planting of secondary crops is behind schedule all over the country. The rumors spread by the kulaks also impede faster operations. Since there is a drought, the kulaks aver, it is not wise to plant secondary crops because the crops would not mature anyway. It is quite obvious that by giving this "expert advice" the kulaks wish to delay the plowing and thus make certain that what little moisture there is in the ground will

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evaporate. More "expert advice" of the kulaks is to delay plowing until it rains. If the working peasant follows this advice, then the rain, falling on unplowed ground, will evaporate rapidly, precluding a good secondary crop. It is important that the agronomists wage an alert battle against such harmful rumors.(11)

Contaminates Grain

The kulaks attempt to harm the working people's state not only at harvest time, but also when the grain is being delivered. For example, Jozsef Kacz of Dunaszentgyorgy, who owns 35 cadastral yokes, brought three sacks of rye to the produce storage place. One of the officials there noticed that only the top and bottom of each sack contained freshly harvested rye, while the bulk of the rye was last year's weeviled produce.

When confronted with the evidence, Kacz admitted that he had taken the rye home from the threshing machine, had mixed it with weeviled rye, and had only then taken the sacks to the storage place. Thus, the depraved kulak, who only recently served a sentence for sabotage, again attempted to harm the working people. Due to the alertness of the workers his plan was not successful, and he was arrested.(12)

Accuse Council of Collaboration

Deliveries are slow in Berettyoujfalu Jaras, Hajdu Megye. In many villages of the jaras the local councils themselves violate the law by not prosecuting those who lag in deliveries, many of whom are kulaks. Imre Dajka, a 33-cadastral-yoke kulak of Nagyrabe, had not fulfilled his deliveries 5 days after threshing, and still the local council did not ask him to hand in his quota. In Zsaka village, kulak Lajos Vetopa, who owns 35 cadastral yokes, finished his threshing on 14 July but did not hand in his deliveries at the threshing machine. The local council has not yet raised his quota, nor asked him to fulfill his delivery obligation.

The leaders of the jaras council are fully aware of these irregularities. In fact, they even condoned the actions of the local councils by meting out ridiculously small punishments to the council chairmen and secretaries concerned. Therefore, it is not surprising that the news has spread all over the jaras: it is possible to reach a compromise with the councils and there will be no punishment if the whole quota of grain is not delivered.

It is up to the council of Hajdu Megye to put a stop to these disgraceful practices. The local officials must be called on the carpet immediately, but it is also imperative that the jaras council be reminded of its responsibilities since it is the compromising jaras council which is responsible first of all for the bad delivery results.(13)

Disregards Law

In Vertesszollcs, kulaks Vilmos Krupanszki and Mrs Istvan Mukk finished their threshing by 13 July but have not yet fulfilled their delivery obligations. According to the law, deliveries must be made directly from the threshing machine; if the law is not followed, the offenders' grain quota is raised and the grain is taken from them.

The council of Vertesszollcs did not adhere to the law and is therefore guilty of a crime against the state. When the council does not enforce prompt deliveries it hinders the accumulation of sufficient stockpiles, relaxes state discipline, and hampers cooperation between worker and peasant and the interests of the working peasant. What is the opinion of the peasants of the village of a council which they elected and which favors the kulaks? No doubt they say that such a council is not fit to lead honest and responsible workers.

And if that is what they say, they are right!(14)

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The Budapesti Jarnak court has sentenced Kulak Karoly Takacs, who owns 36 industrial yokes in Apastag, to 4 years and 2 months in prison. Until recently, Takacs had 14 and 15-year-old children working on his fields. He bought bread and flour in the store while the produce from his land was rotting. In the attic of his stable 15 quintals of corn became moldy; 4 sacks of flour spoiled in the pigeon coop; in other attics 2.5 quintals of wheat, 3.9 quintals of rye, and 54 kilograms of bran rotted away. His pantry was filled with ham, sausage, and fat, but his help received only dry bread for sustenance. (15)

SOURCES

1. Magyar Hesznet, 12 Jun 52
2. Hepszava, 26 Jun 52
3. Szabad Hap, 28 Jun 52
4. Magyar Hesznet, 29 Jun 52
5. Hepszava, 6 Jul 52
6. Hepszava, 11 Jul 52
7. Szabad Hap, 13 Jul 52
8. Magyar Hesznet, 17 Jul 52
9. Hepszava, 18 Jul 52
10. Szabad Hap, 19 Jul 52
11. Szabad Hap, 20 Jul 52
12. Hepszava, 22 Jul 52
13. Szabad Hap, 23 Jul 52
14. Szabad Hap, 24 Jul 52
15. Magyar Hesznet, 26 Jul 52

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