

OFFICIAL DISPATCH

58

VIA _____
(Specify Air or Sea Pouch)

DISPATCH NO. _____

Air Pouch

SECRET
CLASSIFICATION

846

TO _____

DATE _____

FROM _____

21 May 1952

SUBJECT **GERMAN, FEM**
SPECIFIC

RMAH
Magyar Harcosok Bajtarsi
Kozossege (MHKB)

Operational

Possible Course of Hungarian Intelligence

MICROFILM
AUG 6 1962
D/C MICROC. SER.

REF: WPL-221, WPL-1572, WPL-1555

1. WPL-221 forwarded a copy of ~~SECRET~~ copy of ~~SECRET~~ **Behavioral Research (BRB)**. The organization is well known to Headquarters and, as noted in paragraph 11 of WPL-1572, collection of material from it based on contact have been underway since _____.

2. With reference to paragraph 1 of WPL-1555, Headquarters feels that there is little to be gained in establishing with the BRB through **NORTHY**. Should there be any interest in the group in the future, more direct means of establishing contact are available in the area where the BRB is most active.

3. Headquarters would be interested, however, in receiving further intelligence reports emanating from the BRB so that they can be compared with other Hungarian information and help to identify other outlets for the same material. The BRB has been particularly effective in marketing its intelligence product, through its agents who refuse to identify their sources in any cases, to various American agencies and to other Western governments. This is believed to have been the main source of ideas for the BRB. It is suggested, therefore, that you do not contact any representative of the group or of **NORTHY** directly, but that the contact be kept alive through the **Consulate of Hungary**. If possible, the **Consulate** should indicate that receipt of further intelligence reports would assist in the evaluation of their potential and would be of aid in interesting other government agencies who might be in a better position to work with the group. It should be emphasized, however, that no commitment of any sort is to be made to **NORTHY** or to the BRB other than to take their proposals "under advisement".

4. Your comments are requested.

(Relocating officer)
STC

(Coordinating officer)
FDM/Hungary

By _____
(Authenticate)

INDEX
SECRET
CLASSIFICATION

(Authenticate)

FORM NO. 51-29
JUN 1949

200-6-12-16

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 302E
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

a partisan unit, along the pattern used by the Russians and Americans during the war, to fight behind the lines after Soviet occupation of Hungary. ZAKO appropriated the idea and, with the backing of SZALASI, formed the "Kopjas" organization with the assistance of Captain Miklos KORPONAY among SZALASI Arrow-Cross supporters. Aside from the statement that these were organized in a number of small cells, no information is available on this group in Hungary. Another version has it that "Kopjas" was organized partly among Hungarian paratroops, commanded by General SZUGYI. This group was offered to the British after the war, but SZUGYI was turned over to the Russians as a war criminal and the group broke into two parts, one under KORPONAY who took over the non-paratroop element, and the other under Captain Edmer TASSONYI, now in Argentina.

5. ZAKO retreated from Hungary with the German Army and was captured by the American Army in May 1945. (ZAKO claims to have returned to Hungary after his release from a POW camp, disguised as a Protestant priest, to reactivate the "Kopjas" network for resistance and intelligence purposes. Since the end of the war, the "Kopjas" group has undergone a number of reorganizations and, in late 1948, was given the name of MHBK, or League of Hungarian Veterans.) At one time ZAKO fused his group with the ANEM (Anti-Bolshevik Hungarian Liberation Movement), headed by General Ferenc KISBARNAKI-FARKAS, which ZAKO hoped would provide a political arm for "Kopjas". At one stage ZAKO is alleged to have broken with FARKAS and Lajos ADAS, both former pro-German generals, but this report is believed to have been planted for the benefit of Western powers who did not approve of their fascist-tinted activities among Hungarian emigres in Germany and Austria. (ZAKO's efforts to obtain recognition by the Hungarian National Committee as a whole have been unsuccessful because of the unwillingness of emigre political leaders to associate themselves with the extreme right which the MHBK represents.)

Relation to other Hungarian Refugee Groups

6. According to one report, the MHBK, sometimes called the "Military Group", is an affiliate of the Hungarian Liberty Movement (Magyar Szabadsag Mozgalom) led by General Ferenc KISBARNAKI-FARKAS. HLM has the support of ex-officers and enlisted men, Volksdeutsche, Boy Scouts, and elements of the far right. It also has contacts with French military circles, particularly de Gaullists, and with ex-Ukrainian, Croatian, Bulgarian and Slovak officers, particularly General Lev PROVALA. This report does not mention any connection FARKAS and ZAKO have with the Arrow Cross Party in exile allegedly headed by General Arpad MERTSEY, Jeno SZERAK, Jeno ADREJANSKY, and Ferenc HORVATH, but it is believed that there is a connection and that it is a close and continuing one. As a general rule, politicians to the left of Tibor ECKHARDT have shunned the MHBK because they are convinced that ZAKO is using his virtual monopoly over former military personnel to assure bargaining power for adherents of the Arrow Cross if and when an anti-Communist regime is established in Hungary.
7. The personal relationship between ZAKO and FARKAS has been the subject of considerable speculation. ZAKO has attempted to disassociate himself from FARKAS's known fascist and pro German background, saying that the MHBK is a purely military organization, that his allegiance will be given to any recognized government established after the "re-occupation" of Hungary, and that he wants to preserve the political character of his group. Possibly a more accurate assessment of the situation is that ZAKO and FARKAS are engaged in a struggle for control over former members of the Hungarian Army, with FARKAS retaining a hold over the older officers dating from the Imperial Army while ZAKO claims the younger and more active elements. In any event, it seems doubtful from available evidence that the differences between them, if any exist, are based on ideology.
8. There are definite indications that ZAKO tried to obtain recognition of the MHBK as a legitimate military organization, although this may have been in service to the Western powers which are backing it. During a reorganization meeting of the MHBK in Munich on 25 July 1950, however, ZAKO seems to have qualified this policy somewhat. He made it clear that he would no longer

consider collaboration with the Ferenc HAGY group in the National Committee, but announced that several other of its members, including Tibor ECKHARDT, were sympathetic with the MIBK and wanted to collaborate. Other reports say that ECKHARDT is seriously considering use of the MIBK counter-intelligence service to screen Hungarian refugees on behalf of the National Committee and that he has announced himself to be Committee representative for the "Military Group".

9. Otto von HABSEBURG has recently taken an interest in the MIBK and has announced that he arranged with General FRANCO for asylum of MIBK members in Spain in the event of war. He addressed the MIBK meeting on 15 July and is reported to have impressed those attending to such an extent that ZAKO has become a legitimist.

Organization of the MIBK

10. According to a recent report, the MIBK was reorganized during the course of the 15 July meeting mentioned above. As a result, the following sections were set up and appointments made:
- a. Presidium: General ZAKO heads the MIBK with Lt. Ervien GEVAY as his adjutant.
 - b. Strategic Section: Strategic preparations, operational planning, and the registration of refugees for a future Hungarian Legion or Army. The section is headed by Colonel Lajos NADAS who was formerly in charge of intelligence procurement.
 - c. Press and Propaganda Section: Conducts political propaganda and campaigns among refugee groups. The section is to be headed by Miklos KOPFOMAY, who was also assigned to pose as head of MIBK intelligence sections so that attention would be diverted from the true operations chiefs. A number of inaccurate reports have been received since 1947 to the effect that KOPFOMAY was either head of the MIBK itself or in charge of all intelligence collection, so his use as a decoy is not exactly a new procedure.
 - d. Offensive Intelligence Service: Procurement of intelligence from Hungary and the recruitment and training of resistance units and radio operators for use in war-time. This section is to be headed by Captain Laszlo BERTALANFY, possibly a garbled version of BERTOMNY, the person previously reported as successor to Attila KOVACS as operations chief of the Offensive Intelligence Section.
 - e. Defensive Intelligence Service: Coverage of AVG and other Communist agents in the west. Headed by Albin KAPITANY who conducts CI liaison with the French and, according to other reports, with the British and the Austrian police.
11. The MIBK also maintains a number of representatives in other countries, whose job it is to try to enlist the support of the local governments and to collect dues from former MIBK members who have emigrated. Known representatives of the MIBK abroad are:
- a. Germany: Jenoe HAINAY, Address: Weilheim, Schistadtweg 3 and Munich-Schwabing, Siegfriedstrasse 5/I, bei Graner.
 - b. Italy: Major Janos SZAKVARI, living in Brescia, who succeeded Captain Bela KOROS.
 - c. France: Colonel Andras BAK, Address: 78 Rue Blomet, Paris 15.
 - d. Switzerland: Captain Ferenc ORDAN, Address: Muralto House, Neuschelersstrasse, Zurich.
 - e. Great Britain: Miklos KOPFOMAY, Address: 5 Courtyard, ...
 - f. Spain: Colonel Jan. ... Address: ...
 - g. Portugal: Major Antal FENYCHALNY, Address: Rua Ponta Delgada 24, Lisbon. Reported elsewhere as Major (fnu) FENYCHALNY.
 - h. Canada: Ervin DEMIANY, Address: 212 West 4th Avenue, North Vancouver. In another report, Jozsef FUDOP is listed as Canadian representative.

- i. Belgium: Ferenc KOZMA. Address: 15 Avenue de Margueritte, Winterslag.
- j. Algeria-Tunisia: Lorand DOCZY. Address: Chemin D'Hydra Dar el Am, Alger El Biar.
- k. Brazil: Janos DEZSEFY. Address: Caixa Postal 3081, Sao-Paulo. A conflicting report lists Colonel Kalman BARTALITS as the Brazilian representative.
- l. Argentina: Ede SZENTKIRALYI. Address: Calle San Eduardo 581, Buenos Aires. The name was reported elsewhere as Major (fnu) SZENTIRAY.
- m. Dominican Republic: Zoltan KEMES. Address: Avenue Constitucion 118, San Cristobal.
- n. Venezuela: Endre FARKAS. Address: Plaza Bolivar, Edf. Francia, Caracas.
- o. Australia: G. GOOR (or GOORS). Address: Nelson's Bay Hostel, Port Stephens.
- p. U.S.A.: Dr. or Captain Laszlo AGH. Address: Washington, D.C.
12. Until the past few months the "Kopjas"/MIBK maintained channels of communications to resistance groups within Hungary but it is believed that, by early 1950, the mother groups were virtually extinct due to the compromise, arrest or escape into exile of its members during the six years of its existence, and to the scarcity of funds which were necessary to keep alive its channels with the West. In the spring of 1949 a number of MIBK intelligence operators and staff members in Austria and Germany were arrested and imprisoned as agents of the Hungarian State Defense Department. In January 1950 Attila KOVACS, head of the MIBK network, who ran things on a very personalized basis and apparently committed none of the operational details to paper, was murdered by two agents of the Hungarian Intelligence Service. These two events dealt a severe blow to MIBK's collection of intelligence in Hungary, and operations now seem to be limited to debriefing of refugees and to counter espionage among Hungarian emigres. There is a possibility, however, that some limited contact with informants in Hungary still exists.
13. The MIBK maintains liaison with and disseminates reports to most of the Allied intelligence services in Western Europe. A number of reports on Hungarian matters received from these services have been traced to the MIBK and, on occasion, have been duplicated by reports disseminated to this Agency by other services. Evaluations of this material, based on content rather than on source, have been uniformly low.
14. In order to arrive at a clearer evaluation of such material, addressees are requested to furnish this office with any further information concerning the MIBK which may be at their disposal.