

**SECRET** Control KPL-332

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

Country: PORTUGAL Date:  
Subject: Ferenc VAJTA Info.: Current  
Origin: PORTUGAL *BD 30* Rpt.: 20 March 1947  
Evaluation: B-0 Pages: 5.  
SOURCE: RED

1. It is the belief of this office that the sub-source of the following information is Lt. Col. Anton FERENCZHALMI, former Hungarian Assistant Military Attache in Lisbon. Because of the delicacy of relations between RED and the Hungarians, which might be disrupted if the Hungarians became aware of the fact that RED had passed this information to us, and also were this to happen it might cause embarrassment between RED and his home office, we urge strict observance of the control character of this report. As can be told from the evaluation, this office is not very convinced of the truth of the report, and in at least two points has accurate information which is in conflict with it; nevertheless, the report is being sent out on the off-chance that investigation elsewhere may show some truth in it.

2. Sub-source was told by Col. Ramon PARDO, the Spanish Military Attache in Lisbon, that a Hungarian named Ferenc VAJTA had approached the Foreign Office in Madrid with the following statements:

- a) He is ostensibly in Madrid to take care of Hungarian refugee matters, but in reality he is the representative of INTERMARIUM, an anti-Russian movement formed from among refugees from the Russian satellite States;
- b) England and France, with the agreement of the Vatican, have decided that war must be declared against Russia; it is the purpose of INTERMARIUM to provide an army to fight on their side;
- c) INTERMARIUM has the full support of England and France, but America is as yet non-committal.

3. Further,

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3. Further, sub-source says that he has been told by Eugene SZANTAY, former Hungarian Military Attache in Madrid and Lisbon and at present in Madrid, that VAJTA had told a similar story to Hungarian refugees in Spain. Sub-source says that he is absolutely certain that VAJTA is working for the French General Staff, but doubts that he has any British connections; the large amount of money with which he seems to be provided comes from the Vatican, in sub-source's opinion.

(RED is of the opinion, from other sources, that the statement that VAJTA is working for the Etat Majeur is true, but denies, after advice from London, that he has any British SIS support.)

4. Sub-source knows VAJTA personally, and makes the following comments about him (translated from the French):

"VAJTA is a young man without scruples or principles, the most dangerous demagogue in Hungary. He is perhaps best described as the Nazi-Marat of Hungary.

"As a journalist he openly attacked everybody - friend and Joe alike; he denounced everyone who was not of his opinion to the German nazis, he even denounced his brother.

"In 1940, I was sent on a special mission to Rome to prepare for a personal union between Hungary and Italy; we hoped, in that way, to save Hungary from the German zone of influence. I was expelled from Italy at the request of the German Embassy in Rome on the grounds of trying to make a breach in the Axis. We had the impression that VAJTA was the one who made the denunciation.

"VAJTA also had to leave Italy, but not because he could have been anti-fascist; he had to leave Rome because the Italians themselves had enough of his denunciations.

"Ambitious and without scruples, he belonged to the MECSEB group, then to the IMREDI group, and finally he joined SZALLASY, who made him consul at Vienna."

5. Sub-source has given RED a letter from VAJTA to him, from the Florida Hotel, Madrid, dated 22 February 1947, written in Hungarian. The following translation was made by one of RED's people:

My dear

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My dear "KANIFIAM",

I have been for several days in Madrid to organize, with the help of "l'Assistance Pontificale", the transport of 1,000 Hungarian children from Austria and Germany, and whilst here I have learnt with pleasure that you are alive - also that you are divorced and starting your life again. You were very wise.

I am extremely glad that you are still in being, because you also can take part in the big problems of the renovation and independence of Hungary; - and we count on you.

But I must tell you some details:

In 1943 I was the chief editor of "ORSZAG"; later, in the autumn of 1944, I directed the transfer of refugees. I saved 680,000 men and an immense amount of material from the Russians, and this is the reason why they are so angry with me. After the collapse of Hungary I directed the Balkan section of the French General Staff at Innsbruck for nine months and, at the same time, with several of my friends and the tacit consent of the Allies, I organized the Hungarian National Resistance Movement of which I am one of the Chiefs. There was founded on 20th August, 1946, at Innsbruck, the Hungarian Popular Front. It is composed of seven members: General FARKAS; (two names indecipherable); JOSZEF NYIRO; Count MIHALY TELEKY; LAJOS LIPTAY; ELEMER KORANI and myself. I am the Secretary General and Political Director; FARKAS is the military chief. On December 10th, 1946, we came to agreement with the Royal House. On 18th December, 1946, we were admitted officially into INTERMARIUM, an anglophile organization of which the members are: ANDERSEN; the Rumanians of GAFENCU; the Royalist Jugoslavs; the MACEK group, etc., etc.; and ourselves. Hungary is represented by myself.

We have centers in Paris, Rome, Frankfurt, Munich, Baden-Baden, Innsbruck, and in a few weeks we shall have a center in London also.

We want the closest possible collaboration with the Allies and - in great part - we have already found it. England, and especially France, help us intensely; America waits. The Holy See also helps us much, especially the Jesuits, and naturally we are friends of the Danubian Federation - Hungary, Slovakia, Croatia, Slovenia. We are in relations with all these people.

Behind our movement is the last legitimately elected Hungarian Parliament and the Upper House, of which 171 members have reunited in Germany. The present Government considers us illegal and friends of the Soviets, and we are on the basis of Sainte Couronne (sic - translator).

I travel

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I travel very much, but I can not easily support these journeys because, unfortunately, in my different prisons tuberculosis has started again and sometimes I am completely exhausted. But one must fight on, and today we must all be on the same side as the English. The Russians have eighteen times demanded my extradition, but in vain, because I am under the protection of the Allies and I work for an honest European cause. Until now we have done a very good job. At the moment I am working to save 30,000 Hungarian refugees. It is possible that we shall arrange to send all these to the Argentine and to Spain. This work is directed by the Holy See, which is politically behind us. I work with the priests because, in my opinion, we must first save the Hungarian masses and afterwards it will be permissible to indulge in politics. Soon I shall go to Buenos Aires with the Jesuits.

What can I tell you about myself? I am married for the second time. All is well except for my health, which is not good. I have become a democrat, heart and soul. I have finished altogether with the other political side of my life. This too is good; unfortunately I did not previously appreciate this way of life.

I travel much in Paris, Germany, Austria, Rome and, if God is willing, I shall go to London soon.

On March 15th our movement will be transformed into a "National Council".

I also wanted to go to Lisbon, but unfortunately I shall not have the time, because I am awaited in Rome. If possible I will visit you on my way to the Argentine.

To recapitulate: I count on you for your intelligence and your honest Hungarian sentiments. With the MACEKS we have several times spoken of you, and also many other mutual friends remember you. Old INSABATO is still alive and from here he will soon start to edit a big Hungarian-Croat-Slovene-Slovak journal named "EST". He also thinks very kindly of you. At the moment he is Vice-President of the Peasant Party.

Our principles? All Hungarians are to be united and nobody is to be excluded provided he is neither communist nor nazi. The Ministers also wish to join our movement, but we are waiting. There was a time when they were not anxious to work for Hungary, although they were in a good position and had plenty of money. But they did not have the courage.

We represent advanced socialist principles. We are on the side of agrarian reform, but above all we have as our object the liberation of Hungary. We are anti-bolshevist - we believe in the right to live freely,

past and

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past and future. We want a democratic Hungary without a predominance of aristocrats or of communists.

My dear Kani, God be with you and write to me. If possible you will see me in March. Write to me in Rome. I shall be there between my two trips.

Salutations to UJPETERY and MARJAY.

Your old friend  
PERI.

My address is: FERENC VAJTA  
Rome  
via Cosseria  
(c/o INSAHATO).

You can also write to me through the Portuguese Minister to the Vatican, in which case the address is:

R.P. TIBOR GALLUS S.J.  
Rome  
Collegium Germanicum  
via San Nicolo da Tolentino 13.

GALLUS is a Jesuit priest, our good friend.

6. The two statements in direct contradiction to information available to this office are the following:

- a) It is not only not true that he has British support, but he will not even be allowed a British visa.
- b) The Rumanians of GAFENCU, with whose Lisbon representatives this office is in close contact, deny any acquaintanceship with INTERMARIUM.

7. UJPETERY and MARJAY, to whom VAJTA sends regards, are former Hungarian diplomats in Lisbon. Dr. Elemer UJPETERY was a secretary at the Hungarian Legation here, and FRIGYES (Frederic) MARJAY was the Cultural Attache. Since there is no longer any Hungarian diplomatic representation in Portugal these two men have ceased to have official position.

8. VAJTA is believed to be at present in Rome.

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