

S E C R E T

From: Bogotá, Colombia Report No: TLB-1174 Local File No: 26-
(3 to Washington
No. of Pages: 1 No. of Enclosures: 4 (4 to Mexico
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Files-2
Mexico-1
Source Cryptonym: [] References: TLP-W-653

Source, Operational Data, and Comments:

Enclosure No. 1 entitled " I deported myself from the USA" by
Ferenc VAJTA

Enclosure No. 2. A letter to the Honorable Francis E. Walter,
Chairman of the House Immigration Sub-Committee, Washington, D.C.

Enclosure No. 3. A letter to Rear Admiral Hillenkoetter, Department
of Defense, Washington, D. C. This letter was submitted to the
Military Attaché for transmission, who turned it over to this office.

Enclosure No. 4 to Mexico only, is a copy of TLP-W-653 giving a
summary of information available at Hqs. concerning Ferenc VAJTA.

Should Hqs. desire to reply to enclosure No. 3 subject can be
located in Mexico through Hungarian priests of the Jesuit order.
He is also likely to make contact with the American Embassy (in Mexico)
[Hqs. may desire to consider subject's potentiality as an agent,
although he is not believed to have any potential usefulness in
Latin America.]

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

Classification S E C R E T

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FORM NO. 51-59
FEB 1948

S E C R E T

Subject: Ferenc VAJTA	Report No: TLB-1174
Place Acquired: Bogotá	Date of Information: Feb-Aug.1950
Evaluation: B-2	Date Acquired: Feb-Aug 1950
Source: []	Date of Report: 14 August 1950

1. Subject arrived in Colombia in February 1950 after a period of twenty-five months' detention on Ellis Island. He immediately made contact with members of the Hungarian Colony in Bogotá, particularly Fr. Sandor BALOGH, a Hungarian Jesuit priest. Through Fr. Balogh he made contact with the American Embassy.
2. Subject obtained part time employment teaching French literature and French diplomatic history at three small secondary schools in Bogotá. This paid him an income of Ps.800 monthly.
3. Subject entered Colombia with a tourist visa and immediately took steps to have the visa legally changed for permanent residence. He made strenuous but unsuccessful efforts to have the American Embassy intervene with the Foreign Office on his behalf. The Foreign Office communicated with the Colombian Ambassador in Washington, who apparently provided derogatory information and further extension of subject's tourist visa was denied and his application for a permanent residence visa was not accepted.
4. Subject states that he plans to go to Mexico about 15 August 1950. For the information of Mexico and of Hqs. copies of documents are enclosed because in the aggregate they give a fairly good picture of VAJTA's activities from his own point of view. VAJTA also makes accusations against certain individuals in the U.S. which may be of interest. His central theme is that he was prevented from entering the U.S. by certain Hungarians now there who are communists.

FIELD COMMENT:

On 14 August 1950 subject informed this office that due to the recent change of Government in Colombia and changes in personnel in the Foreign Office he decided to remain and attempt to have his status regularized. He expects that within one week it will be determined whether or not he can continue to remain in Colombia. Hqs. and Mexico will be advised of the decision in his case.

Classification S E C R E T

FORM NO. 81-50
FEB 1946

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I DEPORTED MYSELF FROM THE U.S.A.

BY FERENC VAJTA

I am Ferenc Vajta, a former hungarian consul, who during the late world war, allegedly helped Hitler to kill "millions of helpless people" and who, allegedly, is the great responsible of the massacre of american pilots in Hungary..Before leaving "voluntarily", under a warrant of deportation the USA, I was detained for 25 months on Ellis Island and ~~then~~. I can't return now in my country. I am 36 years old, stateless, writer of profession and living now in South America, not very far from the little french colony, where, many years ago, an other deportee, of the name Dreyfuss, sought vainly to forget his former life and the terrible injustice, what sent him in chains here.

However, I came freely, by a plane here, and on the airport there were old and dear friends of mine to greet me, and except them, nobody knows here, who am I and why chose I this country to "restart" my life, I am living in a constant self-humiliation and scarcely have a moment when I really forget "everything". I wake up every day with the decision, that from now on I shall no more remember my yesterday, ~~then~~ but even the daily routine, even this so hard climate can't kill my memory. There are days, when I would like to flee, go, run, to never see myself again, but I know, it would be of no use, because everywhere I could go, I should be again and again in the same, terrible society; I shall be with myself. And my problems, the humiliation of Ellis Island, my self-deportation from a country, what I liked (and what it's worse: I still like with all my heart) will never permit to take up these invisible chains, which are holding me with an incredible force. Before I left the Room 222 of the Island, I never imagined, what would be my "free life" and when after two years of hesitation I decided to go, I never thought, even for a moment, that really, there is no freedom for a man, who's honour was ruined, ~~maybe, for always~~. I had a too strong confidence in my youth and hoped, that the freedom in itself can be enough to close this so sad chapitre of my life. But today I know, there isn't freedom without honour, at least, there isn't for a man, who lived and acted always honestly. I am a prisoner, still now, and maybe, I ~~can~~ feel ^{more} the jail around me, as I did on Ellis Island.

I know, there will be surely people in the USA, who will vehemently and indignantly protest, in the name of the martyrs, against my tentative of comparing my "case" or my deportation to the "holy memory of the ~~case~~ Dreyfuss-case". After all, they will say, Vajta is or was a nazi and how can he be so impertinent to compare his "low personality" or "his life of crime" to the "great man", who's name alone is the best impregnation of honour and martyrdom. Well, only a nazi

FLB 117
14 AUG 50

can be so impertinent and scrupulous, will say my public accuser Walter Winchell and as I know the honorable "public opinion" of the USA, there will be enough americans, who, as they are doing customarily, even now, in this question will adhere to the "infallible". Wasn't he right also in the Walter Gieseking-case? Did he not organized against Gieseking the same "public opinion", by sending protest-letters to President Truman, to the Senators and Congressmen, by organizing public demonstrations with the help of the Jewish War Veterans, as he did in my "case"? Did he not asked just in my "case" all the american mothers to demande from President Truman my immediate expulsion? Wasn't he successful by letting (or ordering) to arrest me, by accusing even the State Department for complicity of helping "infiltrate" ex-nazis into the USA? Was he not successful by slandering all people (Cong. McDowell, and many others), who tried to help me, by seeking to know the truth, the only truth of the Vajta-case? On the end, after all, I deported myself from the USA, - isn't that alone a complete rectification for Winchell? If I really was innocent, as I pretended to be, why then, on the end, chose I this so dishonest way for getting back my freedom, why? The decision of the american justice is, will they say, above all, a just and true solution, - and wasn't I discriminated by Judge Samuel H. Kaufman, the same "great judge" of the Alger Hiss-case, as ~~announcing~~ a "prejudicial alien", because "during the late world war I advocated and acquiesced in activities, contrary to decency, on behalf of the Axis-countries", - wasn't it? Is that sentence not the same, what Winchell and the hate-propaganda made already in the first week of my visit in the USA? Well, maybe, it wasn't completely true, what they said ^{from} of the massacre of helpless people and american pilots, - but after all, they stated it only "allegedly", and what's the difference? Even for Judge Kaufman ~~was~~ I wasn't 'decent' and desirable....

It's a long and cruel story, my experience with the american justice and surely, I ~~could~~ never ~~try~~ to tell it to any american, if I would be not sure, that behind the New-York facade there are millions and millions ^{of Jews} americans, who are eagerly aware of the "mistakes", what can be made sometimes in the name of the american people. I am not seeking any rectification or justice by exposing the facts of my case, as I know, that now, ~~such~~, such a tentative would be too late. But as during all my imprisonment it wasn't never permitted to me to tell "my side" of the Vajta-case and as the Immigration Service, by censoring illegally my letters, never allowed me to enter in relation with any american newspaper, I think, it is now not only my right, but ~~also~~ it is my moral obligation, my duty to defend my name and my honour. I hope, that by doing so, I can at least to ease the moral burden, what I have to carry. Naturally, I should like also to meet, if not the sympathy, but at

least, the comprehension of those americans, who think, that without a fair hearing nobody can be condemned.

It's for that fair hearing, that I asked ~~him~~ Mr. Westbrook Pegler to publish this "confession". If somebody, he really knows Judge Samuel Kaufman and he knows too, what are the so "human methods" of ^{Walter} Winchell. When Gieseking, the famous german pianist got the same "treatment"; it was he, who protested the first against the red dictature of certain new-yorkers (and a little later, the Saturday Evening Post did the same).

There are many similar points in the two cases: as Gieseking, I myself arrived with a valid visitor-visa in the USA, and as the german pianist, I was also "advised", consequently the scandal organized by Winchell and Pearson, to leave the USA. We both were accused of being a nazi/european intellectuals, who betrayed the human feeling and right. But, there was also a great difference: Gieseking was really, -willingly or not,- a nazi and after his arrival, the Secretary of State recalled his visa. As to me, I never had been a nazi, and the Department of State never recalled my visa, -on the contrary-, it stated, on the demande of the Immigration Service, that I got legally, without any false statements of my side, the visa. This fact had been recognized also by the Commissioner later, but even after 25 months of fighting, of renunciation and of supporting Ellis Island, I still had to leave, as had Gieseking too, from the USA. I believed in the american justice and I believe in it still now, -but when I was following in June 1949 the process of Alger Hiss, I knew already, -that Kaufman will never decide in my favour. And I wasn't wrong: he really did so, on July 18 1949, a week after the Hiss trial. *I lost my case.*

I.

By my intellectual formation, by my familial traditions, I am conservative and nationalistic, as mostly the hungarians of my generation. When in 1919 Bela Kun and his comrades overthrew the old hungarian kingdom, we were only children, but even, if we can't recall personally ^{the memory of} these bloody days, all our youth and education had been influenced by the "experience of 1919". Our parents, -as a natural reaction of this so terrible revolution, became more conservative, than they already, by Hungary's history and creed, always had been. The anticommunism, what they learned ^{infiltrated} ~~infiltrated~~ not only on intellectual, but also our instinctive formation. That was also the reason, why our generation became more religious, as the average youth of Europe. But if ~~even~~ we've been more attached to the Church, we never have been extravagants or bigots, and we never knew, just because of our liberal national character, that religious extremism, which is so characteristic in today's Spain. Our patriotism, or nationalism, however, transformed to a very strong, and sometimes maybe to a blind feeling. *But it couldn't be otherwise.*

The blindness and ^{credulity} ~~stupidity~~ of the Trianon Peace Treaty, which condemned millions of hungarians to ^{and forced} a complete political ^{they} escalavage in a milieu, where for thousand years always ~~the hungarians~~ had been the leading nation and the rude, ultranationalistic betrayal of the Wilson-principles, was, ^{in fact place the real} ~~natural~~ responsible ^{for} ~~the~~ reaction. But I think, even without the provocative policy of Prague, Bucarest and Belgrade, we should ^(the same) ~~have~~ evolved ^{red} toward a nationalist attitudes; no hungarian could ever forget the gallows of 1919.

If I return to this periode, I ~~do~~ ^{can} only ~~for~~ explain, why had I already in my childhood, (as many great criminals) a predestination to become a day a prisoner of Ellis Island. ^{had} ~~for~~ I always had an almost extremist and blind love for my people, for Hungary. I knew ^{too} ~~the~~ ^{through} the life of the "ethnic minority"; ~~as~~ I was born in Northern Hungary (in a little town, what after the first world war was given to Czechoslovakia) and ~~as~~ I myself, became ^{in 1919} a Czechoslovak citizen. I had only five years, when the communists arrested my father, and I was only seven, when on a December-dawn I was forced to witness again his arrest, at this time, by the secret police of Prague. His ~~only~~ ^{crime?} ~~was~~ he was hungarian and patriot... In the school I learned, that my nation was the lowest, the worse of Europe and that we, the hungarians, ^{had been} ~~was~~ responsible for all the european tragedy. At 17, I conspired already with my colleagues, to place, in secret, red and white roses on March 15. th, ~~at~~ ^{in Komsomol} the monument of a hungarian poet. It was our tradicional National Day, the Kossuth-Day, and I had to sing with my friends to czechoslovak national hymn. ^{is} ~~that~~ a wonder, that we felt very humiliated, very sad, and that with our opening heart, ^{we} turned toward the ^{beautiful} ~~promises~~ promises of a growing nationalisme. ~~that~~ ^{we} could not be enough intelligent to understand, that on the Danube-river never was living a happy generation.

As a czechoslovak citizen, I could not go on the Budapest University to continue my studies, because for such a "dangerous excursion" no hungarian ^{boy} ~~was~~ ^{granted} a passport by the police of Mr. Benes. ~~So,~~ ^{in 1932} I went to Geneva, Switzerland and after studying in Paris, in Italy, it was in this dear ^{old Suisse} city, where I was graduated four years later, from political sciences, ~~in 1936~~. In the meantime, for "technical reasons", I lost my czechoslovak citizenship and now, I was again hungarian, not only ~~by~~ my heart, but also "officially". I was happy and truly satisfied, ^{but} ~~for~~ "reasons of security" I was no more permitted to reenter my old home, ^{Czechoslovakia} and I could meet my parents only in Budapest. What crime had I committed? As the president of the Hungarian Associations of Switzerland, I held many speeches, and I tried to demonstrate to the international world of ~~the~~ ^{damned} students, that ~~the~~ ^{their creator} States, created by the idealisme of Wilson, never respected, in any ^{point} ~~point~~, the ideas of ~~Wilson~~. That was all, that was true, the best documentation ^{and} ~~was~~ my old passport, which allowed ~~me~~ to travel in all ~~the~~ european countries, except Hungary.....

I was only 21, still a student of the Geneva University, when I published my first book. The hierarchy, in hungarian language, ^{as} it was the sociologic history of the ~~history~~ ^{of} nation and as it was the first ^{of} social study of our history, it provoked an enormous and unexpected echo in the public opinion of my country. Every great newspaper criticized it and immediately, I had friends and enemies. To tell you the truth, at that time I was "reformist", I fought against many old traditions which closed the free ways of our evolution, -but in one question, -and this was the main-problem of all our discussion, -in the question of the hungarian constitution, I was already in 1935 on the conservative side. In the face of all the "accidental ideologies": democracy, fascisme, radicalisme, I preached, as did the conservatives of my country always, the "hungarian way", our own traditional solution. But if in this question I refused to go with the rest of Europe, I never denied the necessity of reforms and the slow, but definitive adaptation to the ^{western} ~~contemporary~~ conception ^{of} ~~of~~ doing so, I wrote naturally a very strong critic of the falsification of our history and I accepted ^{the} ~~an~~ economic-social attitude in face of the old traditionalisme. So, when in 1936 I returned to Hungary, I had already a largely known name, as a writer, in my country, and it was very easy to find newspapers for my activity.

Educated in Geneva, ⁱⁿ Paris and in Italy, I think, I was far more "democratic" as my generation. The great majority of my "contemporains", the good 95 % of the hungarian youth never left Hungary between the two world wars and, because of financial reasons, ^{they} ~~was~~ never allowed to travel in Western Europe or at any other part of the continent. They were living, ~~always~~ ^{by} not in misery, but anyway, in a very bad financial position, and I think, this ^{was} ~~was~~ one of the strongest reasons, why never could the western democracy, even in these years, infiltrate Hungary. Vienna, Venezia or Berlin were the farrest points, to where an average, middle-class-hungarian had had a "financial possibility" to go. The "democracy", ^{was} ~~was~~ a dangerous word at that time in Budapest: it was ~~was~~ interpreted in the same way, as is today the socialisme in the States. Bela Kun and all his friends preached "democracy" ^{before} ~~before~~ arriving on the power, and now, when even the saintest principles of an other democracy, of the Wilsonian humanisme, had been cheated in the neighbor-countries, by oppressing nearly 4 millions hungarians, it was almost a treason to teach its theories.

First, ^{for five years} (and this is maybe my all defense) ^{antidemocratic} I opposed this general course and I really tried to start "something new", something european. It existed in Hungary only one great youth-organization, the Turul ^{Association}. It was naturally ultra-nationalist, antisemite and romantic. With my new friends, I founded a second Turul and to oppose our programme to the old one, we denominated our organisation: the Turul Social movement. Instead to go to recruit our members on the Universities, we went ^{to} ~~to~~ the great

manufactories, in the proletarian suburbs of Budapest and instead to promise the "revision of the peace-treaty", we promised a new Hungary by reorganizing our social and economical life. I can't say, that we had a "great" success ^{even} the atmosphere was against us, -but still, after 6 months of propagand^{ing}, we had alone in Budapest 3.000 members. This wasn't naturally too much, but it was enough, that one day I should be called at the Ministry of Interior. I was told, that if I should not immediatly cease "that dirty socialist propagande", I shall be arrested with all my friends. Yes, nobody ^{was allowed to} touch the social problem in Hungary, not even such young men, as we have been: ~~to~~ the sons of the leading class.

I don't know, what happened in secret, but a few days later, I was called ~~also~~ in the Foreign Office, ^{too} where I was told, that I am losing my precious time in Hungary and I could do better in Europe. I was offered different posts in warsaw and in Vienna, but, I refused to go. I forgot in my idealisme, that my friends, the leaders of our movement, weren't in the same financial situation, as I've been and that they will surely not refuse a "honest" and a "friendly" solution. ~~And~~ When a few days later, I faced the executive session of our movement, from 14 "leaders" 12 voted a very well and carefully prepared "resolution", which opposed ~~any~~ social programs... before "whole Hungary can be free again". With that, I was excluded from my own movement. The sad and tipic side of this story was the behavior of the most poor boys of our movement: they were the first to vote against ~~the~~ "social lies".

This was ^{on} February 4, 1937 and three weeks later I was already in Vienna.

~~Only~~ two years later I saw again my worker-friends of the Budapest-manufactories. They came, as members of the ^{National} Worker Front, for an official visit in Rome, Italy. The government changed his mind, in the mean time, and to copy the "western systems", Hungary organized also a State-supported worker-movement. The members of this operette-sindicalisme were beautifully ~~clad~~ ^{clad}, and I think, even Mussolini's uniform-makers were a little jealous by seeing them on the Piazza Venezia. But this was all, what they had: a beautifull uniform...

II.

Not this was my ^{only} tentative to turn toward the social problems the interest of my generation. To do "something", I sought an association ~~also~~ with the "young agrarians", -but I wasn't revolutionaire. And, maybe I knew too well my class and the dominating social and politic system: only a terrible revolution could have change their "negativisme" and.. was that the right moment for a revolution? Hungary was fighting for "his" justice, for the revision of the peace-treaty. I knew, the life of the "ethnic minorities", ^{as} for 18 years I was living also as a third-grade citizen. Was that my right to start troubles, -when four millions hungarians were dreaming, -and among them my family too- on the "other side" of the borders, of freedom and of the return to Hungary? Could I ~~also~~ ^{too} act without any respect?

Person's name

Address

that if You will feel so,-that a great injustice has been done to a man, who like
and who still likes Your country,-and who really did his best to help the Ameri-
cans in Europe,-you will surely find a way to restart my case, or to reopen it.
There are many formal reasons for it,-and even the review of the Ellis Anauuff case
might help in it.

In this moment I am professor in three colleges of Bogota,-but as soon as I
shall be able to give courses in Spanish,-I will get a position on the Catholic
University here. I write of that, only to tell You, that I have a living and there
are not the material reasons,-which influence me by asking you to help. But,-I
suffer really very much under this terrible injustice and I can't be nor by a
"whole man" again, until the day,-that I don't get moral satisfaction for the
so rude and unjust force of Ellis Island.

In the hope,-that You will really understand the only one reason of my desire
to fight for my honour,-and that You believe me; I never merited be disqualified
by Your government,-and You really may help me,-please, accept in advance, my
most heartiest thanks,-with what I remain,

Very sincerely Yours:

Carrera 7 A., Numero: 69-64
Bogota, Colombia

To Hon. Francis D. Walter
Chairman of the House's Immigration-Subcommittee
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir,-

I read in the New York Times(April 4, 1950) a report, concerning the admission of Mrs. Elie Knauff, by a Bill presented to the House's Immigration- Subcommittee. This same report gave also a very ample description of Your personal action and of Your attitude in the Knauff-case.

As I know, that this isn't the first time, that You are defending bondless aliens, in the face of the very arbitrary behavior of the Immigration Service,-I submit You, herewith, the dates and the facts of my case.

After a long juridical battle, where I won my case four times before the door of Appeals, The Attorney General excluded me from the USA, on April 5, 1949, on the base of a Court's decision(concerning Mrs. Knauff's case), using his "discretionary power" to exclude aliens on the base of "confidential information". My writ, which was presented on March 3, 1948 to the District Court of New York, N.Y. and in which procedure Judge Samuel H. Kaufman held a hearing only on April 12, 1948 was dismissed by the same Judge on July 18, 1949,-again with appealing to the "precedence case" of Mrs. Knauff. This was, the case and the court's decisions concerning Mrs. Knauff,-the only way to exclude me from the USA.

Now, that You defended Mrs. Knauff and that the House overruled the Attorney General's action,-I appeal to You with the greatest confidence. In the past many Senators and Congressmen tried to help me,-while still being on Ellis Island, but they never could do anything, because the Immigration Service or refused to give informations about my case,-or simply,-gave untrue informations. The former Attorney General, who handled my case(Thomas Clark), called many time a "dynamite-case" my arrest and detention,-and the Immigration,-fearing that a day the Truth still can win- did everything to make afraid all people, who wanted to help me, by seeking the truth. And, I was even more unfortunate, as Mrs. Knauff had been: I had against me Walter Winchell and the leftists of the USA,-so, there wasn't for me an other solution, after 25 months of detention on Ellis Island, but to leave "voluntarily, under current of deportation the USA"(on February 5, 1950). However, I think, that if I was disqualified without any juridical reason,-I have still the hope to reopen or to restart my case. And that is just the reason, why I am writing to

TEB-74
14 AUG 50

You,

I. The history of my case.

a./I arrived by a plane, in the company of Mr. Terral W. Pondron, USA-viceconsul in Madrid, Spain, on December 16, 1947 in the USA, with a legal visitor visa. The same day, without any difficulty I was legally admitted to the USA.

b./On January 4, 1948 Walter Winchell, on the instigation of different Hungarian leftists, started a slanderous campaign against me, by securing me that during the late world war I helped Hitler to kill "allegedly" millions of Jews, and that even "allegedly", I was morally responsible for the massacre of American pilots in Hungary.

c./On January 8, 1948 the Immigration Service arrested me in Washington D.C., with a warrant signed by Mr. Mackay. The next day, on January 9, 1948 they sent me on Ellis Island, where I was held "strictly incommunicado" for 6 months, detained in a cell. All my letters were illegally censored, opened and a few of them even stolen by the Direction of the Island. I wasn't even permitted during those 6 months to speak to the fellow-prisoners.

d./I had different hearings from February 11 until February 18th, but the presiding inspector, Gilbert Zimmerman made a proposition for my deportation only on April the 12. There wasn't produced any evidence against me.

e./on August 30, 1948 the Commissioner ordered my deportation to Hungary. I appealed to the Board of Appeals, and on January 13, 1949 the Board of Appeals dismissed the warrant against me and stated, that the Attorney General had not jurisdiction over my case. All the accusations were dismissed too: that I entered without inspection, with false papers, with false name, with false statements in the USA. The charge, that I had tuberculosis at the moment of my entry, was also dismissed against me. Concerning the last charge, made against me by the Commissioner, that I was a "prejudicial alien", that Board stated that to decide that it was a duty of the Secretary of State. But, as I was granted legally a visa, it was to be supposed, that he didn't consider me a "prejudicial alien". And as I wasn't excluded at the moment of my arrival, the Attorney General had not even the right to arrest me, or exclude me later.

f./ the Commissioner of the Immigration Service appealed three times against the decision of the Board of Appeals, but he lost all his appeals and the Board on March 30, 1949 again ordered to terminate the case and my release.

g./In the mean time, I sent a writ of habeas corpus, on March 8, 1949 to the District Court, asking my release. However, the Immigration Service won a few "postponement" and so my case was only heard on April 12, 1949 by Judge Samuel H. Kau

Ferenc Vajta

-2- To Hon. Francis E. Walter

man,-on a date, when the Commissioner had already obtained a reversal from the Attorney General (April 5, 1949). In his decision, with what Judge Kaufman, a year-long immigration-employee, dismissed my writ on July 13, 1949, stated, that however the Board three times overruled the Commissioner,-the Attorney General had the "discretionary power" to order my deportation,-on the basis of the "Knauff-contra Watkins" decision made by the USA Court of Appeals, of Second Circuit, on March 11, 1949.

SO THE WHOLE REVERSAL OF THE RELEASE-ORDER WAS JUSTIFIED BY JUDGE KAUFMAN ONLY WITH THE ELIA KNAUFF CASE AND WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S DISCRETIONARY POWER, EMANATING FROM A COURT'S DECISION.

a./I appealed to the Court of Appeals of the Second Circuit in New York, N.Y., but as it was just this Court, who made the so famous and so much discussed decision in the Elia Knauff case,-naturally it didn't waver alter its opinion in my appeal. At that time,-in January 1950 I was already for two years (as the Board of Appeals stated; ILLEGALLY) detained on Ellis Island and as I had to fear,-that in the so humid climate of the Island my illness might reactivate,-after a medical visit in the USA-Marine Hospital on January 12, 1950 (which stated that it's possible that I have again an active TBC,-) I decided to leave the USA,-even by the worst humiliation; accepting to leave under the warrant of deportation.

i. But even then, the Immigration Service organized a shantage against me; they wanted, by all means, that I return to Europe,-if not,-then, as they told me officially they will deport me to communist Hungary.... I asked the intervention of Senator Homer Ferguson, McCarran and others,-and then,-they really accorded me a voluntary departure on February 2, 1950. Three days later I left for Bogota, Colombia,-and I am still here.

II. The Behavior of the Immigration Service in my case

Naturally, I am very bitter, concerning my detention and the behavior of the Immigration Service. I could have thought, that I am ~~now~~ in some place, behind the Iron Curtain,-and not in the USA, in a country, which is so proud of his democratic principles and of his juridical systems.

a./They always lied to everybody, who asked officially informations, concerning my case. And they did it deliberately,-not because as they said, "that they were afraid of Walter Winchell",-but because they wanted justify themselves. Please, ask from Senator McCarran my long 15 pages letter, that I had sent him on July 29, from Ellis Island (1949). You will find all the documentations to that point.

b./ They made a terrible mistake by arresting me and they were prepared even to commit a greater crime: to deport me to the russians,-only to avoid the possibil-

Ferenc Vajta

- 4 -

To Hon. Francis B. Winter

ty, that their "mistake" will be known also by other authorities,--as the Justice Department itself. When they arrested me,--they were sure,--that they hold really a great criminal in their hands,--but after the hearings,--they were forced to admit it that I never did nothing to be discriminated in the USA. And this was then the reason, why they never freed me even on a bail or a bond : they were afraid of the public opinion.

c./In these two first months of my freedom,-- I collected an enormous documentation against the Immigration Service: how many letters never were handed to me! They simply stolen all my letters, from what they thought, that it might be a help in my defense.

d./I never merited however, this behavior, because during the 25 months of detention I never forgot, even for a minute, the necessary courtesy toward them.

III. Why and who started my case?

a./My case was started by former hungarian reds in New York. The first to write about me was Mr. Ferenc Gündör (alias Nathan Krauss), the editor of the "Küster", a hungarian weekly in New York. Mr. Gündör was in 1919, during the first communist revolution of Hungary the mobilisation-commissioner,--and was, himself naturally, one of the leaders of the bolchevik revolution. The second was the American Magyar Hepszava,--a hungarian daily, which is edited by Mr. Szekely Iszo (alias Schleringer, a former swindler, wanted by the european police,--but now a respectful democrat). The chief-witness, and the real organizer of the whole campaign was Mr. Martin Hinder (alias Max Himmel) a former procommunist OSS-agent,--who declared at the moment of my arrival into the USA,--that he "will do everything", that Ill be expelled from the USA. The reason: vengeance,--because I denounced Hinder to all american and catholic authorities (even to Father R. Leiber, privat-secretary of H. S. Pope Pius XII) for his behavior in Salzburg, Austria, in the years of 1945 and 1946. Mr. Hinder, in the fact, is gone far, very far in his interpretation of the Yalta and Teheran agreements,--by sending back thousands and thousands D.P.s in the two consecutive years after the war,--to the communist occupied Hungary. There three persons found in their friend, Mr. Kath an "agent of liaison" to Drew Pearson and Walter Winchell,--and it was so, how the whole Vajta-case started.

But,--during the hearings it became clear, that

1. I was never nazi, or that I never participated at any nazi-activity,
2. that I was member of the hungarian conservative party,
3. that during the late world war, while being a hungarian citizen, I followed the official way of the hungarian policy and that I never participated in any activity,--what could be disqualify me for an entry into the USA.
4. That I was always anticomunist, and that when Hungary was occupied

Ferenc Vajta

-5-

To Hon. Francis J. Walter

or "liberated" by the russians, I immediately went to work with the french intelligence for organize the anticommunist counter-intelligence,

5. that I became the secretary general in August 1946 from the first Hungaria Resistance Movement, founded in Western Europe,

6. And that in this quality of mine, first I worked with the english-influenced "Internarium",-and later with the americans in Europe, by giving them information and documentary help in the battle against communisme,

7. that the Department of State, and specially, the USA Embassy in Madrid, who gave me the visa, knew all my past,-but even for that they granted me a visa,-

8. that the secretary of State didn't recalled at any time my visa, nor during the hearing, nor later, nor in all the two years of my detention,-as he did for exemple in the case of Walter Giereking.

9. That I had merits to be admitted to the USA.

(Concerning all these points You might get a complet documentation or from the letters, what I sent to Senator McCarran, while being detained on Ellis Island, or from Mr. Joseph Balogh, 508 Timpson Place, Broux, 55, N.Y. or from Mr. Otto J. Jekes research staff of the Immigration Subcommittee (Senate).

IV. The complications of my case

However I have testimonies from eminent Church-dignitaries concerning my help accorded to the refugees, and concerning my activity,-as leader of the hungarian emigrees,-my case was very complicated,-because during my presence before the House's Un-American Activities Committee even Ferenc Nagy, under the influence of the hungarian leftist circles of New York,-turned against me. But, this is also a very easy problem: there are two hungarian emigrations. The first one is that,-what after the war immediately remained in the Western Countries to organize propaganda, etc. against the russian domination of Hungary,-and the second is that group, which after the war firstly tried to cooperate with communisme and with Soviet-Russia,-and fled Hungary only after June 1947,-when Ferenc Nagy himself lost his power in Hungary. There is a natural jealousy between the two groups,-and naturally,-Ferenc Nagy...turned against me,-as I was one of the leaders of the first group. But even that would have not disqualify me, as all the USA Ambassier in Europe, or even the C.I.C. worked with me,-before I went in the USA.

V. The main-problem of my case

If the USA-diplomacy or the Department of State had considered,-that it was a mistake of giving me a visa,-the Secretary of State surely would recalled my visa. But,-the Immigration never could obtain that from the Department of State.

Parenc Vajta

- 0 -

to Mr. Francis A. Walter

(How easy was the same in the Ustetaking-case?)

As I got legally my visa and I was legally admitted to the USA,--whatever was my past(controlled by the Embassy,which gave me the visa)-the Immigration had not the right to arrest me.

The use of the Ella Knauff-case and the decisions,concerning this case,-was also illegal,-not only in the light of the House's decision concerning the admission of Mrs. Knauff,-but also because Mrs.Knauff was,in the fact,never admitted to the USA,-she was immediately excluded at the moment of her arrival into the USA. On the contrary,-I wasn't excluded,-but I was admitted. The "precedent" anyway,-can't exist,-because these are two very different cases.

As the Board stated only the Secretary of State would had the right to exclude me temporarily,-by refusing me a visa. That is the only way,-to exclude "prejudicial aliens". This is a political right,-and the Immigration-laws gave all authority to the Secretary of State.

Now,-if even,the decisions concerning MRS.KNAUFF,-would have changed this power,-this all happened only AFTER MY ARRIVAL in the USA and not before.So, this "precedence" could not be used against me,in no way.

VI. My defense

My defense, formally,was in good hands, as it was Mr.Hyman Margolier, 112 Four Street Brooklyn 2,N.Y.)-who defended me. But,I have in my hands seven letters of Mr.Margolier,in what he exposed his point of view,-that for the interest of his "other cases",-he had even in my case to cooperate with the Immigration authorities. If my case would not be really a "dynamite case",-then such a cooperation would have helped enormously,-but when the Immigration was fighting to justify itself,-then naturally,all forms of cooperation were damaging for me.I can repeat it under oath,-that Mr.Margolier was,as he told me, under a continuous pressure of the Jews(who erroneously believed,that I was their enemy)and of the Immigration too;they all wanted,that he quits my case....and...

VII. My demands

I am asking You,with the greatest respect and confidence,-Dear Sir,-to review my case and to undertake all eventual actions,which would be possible. Here attached I am sending You a copy of my article,what I wrote for an American newspaper;it contains enough data about my point of view or about the facts. But if You need more,-I can immediately write to everybody,-who might give You a more detailed information(first of all the above mentioned Mr.Joseph Balogh).

Naturally,to do something in my case is more difficult,-as for MRS-Knauff,-as I left already the USA and I signed(under moral pressure)my warrant.But I think

Maybe, I could, but I didn't. In the long nights of Ellis Island, I had plenty of time to examine my character, my past, the system of my thinking and if ~~even~~ I had to admit, that later, after the second world war, I became really a ^{country boy} revolutionary, in normal conditions I could never have been a "perturbator". Hungarian, slave, austrian blood influence my intellectual system and however I feel hundred percently hungarian, I could not tell, which one: the hungarian, the polish or the austrian blood was the strongest in the phigical determination of my "ego". ^{Anyway, I am a man of the order and of the slow evolution.}

And even today, when I know, that I acted too comodly, by accepting my "evacuation to Vienna" and ^{that} in the responsibility toward my nation, I should have ^{rather} more sacrifice, ~~and I~~ ^{can't tell}, if on february 4 1937 I had a better way, or not? It's always difficult to criticise our own acting, as there is only scarcely a system in human life. But, ^{the} naturally, -and, yes, here I am responsible, -later on I had always a possibility to change my life or the orientation of my carrier. I could ^{do it} ~~maybe~~ on the first day of the war ~~change my practice~~, or even later, but I didn't. With the growing years, I lost my idealisme and I adhered to the hungarian conservatism. The traditions, the basic factors of my education, the "milieu" were stronger and not me. I never revolted again, I never opposed our "ancien regime", on the contrary, in the face of the total nihilisme of the russian danger, I became, as my enemies told to the american people, one of the most decided and strongest defenders of "old Hungary". ~~(I think, a kirabon felt in the same way, when he saw the "last point" of an evolution.)~~ There was no other choice: to fight for Horthy-Hungary, or by the force of the events, become a russian servant. The other hungarians, who believed in a third practicable way and who even in this cathaclysme tried to fight for freedom and humanity, by ~~denying~~ the terrible mistakes of the old regime, ~~found themselves~~ a day in Stalin's arms. I know, our end wasn't better or more independant: we finished our fight in Hitler's arms. But for long time, even in the last months of the war, I hoped, that by defending "old Hungary", -we can save at least a promise of freedom and independance.

I not remained long time in Vienna. However, as a catholic, I had a great sympathy for Schussnigg's regime, I felt immediatly the impossibility of his tentative. To oppose the traditional catholic faith of the austrian people to the nazis, in itself wasn't a bad ~~and~~ an impossible idee, but to try the same in a periode, when the Church was itself in decadance and in crisis, was really a suicide-policy. Not the Bidaults, the De Gaulles, the De Gasperis created a new social catholicisme, but the catholicisme, the "renaissance of the Church" created their mouvement, and poor Schussnigg wanted the contrary... In Paris, in Stockholm, in Madrid, in Geneva, in Rome, in Belgrade, in Bucarest found me the same year and when in february 1938 the hungarian government sent me to Rome, I was already sure, that we can't

avoid the war.

During the ^{whole} war I was on the "hungarian side". I consider this behavior, still now, the only one possible and I am sorry, that many americans could not understand me on this point. When I was called before the House's Un-American Committee, I didn't denied, that I worked through the whole war only for my government and that I never had the idee to help the Allies, who at that time, were our "ennemies". Later, when I exposed my case to Senator Pat McCarran, I could not, but repeat again: I am not an adventurer, for me, my oath, my fidelity ^{are} the most sacred things ^{of my life} and untill the day, that Hungary existed, I never served ~~any~~ any other government, ~~any~~ any other power. The witnesses used against me could ^{at all times} tell more to the different committees: they all served the Allies, too, by giving or transmitting informations, by using their personal influence. I dont' want discuss here Hungary's attitude: it was just, or it was wrong, from my point of vue, it's the same. I acted always on the base of an inconditional fidelity toward my people and I even then didn't ceased to serve Hungary, when already it doesn't existed, but in our heart.

I know, today this ^{seems to} be a very oldfashioned behavior and it's difficult to understand. But, if there was something wrong in this conception of life, then not only my education is responsible for it, but ^{my own character} ~~also~~. For example, we never liked the germans and we knew, that they dont' like us, -but untill the day, that they were our allies, I could not betray them. I hated their rude manners, I hated their philosophic, their form of life; ~~and~~ I was pro-latin, I liked the french culture ^{and} I had a great estime for England. And when in 1942 in Istanbul an english ^{but} diplomate asked me to help them by giving secret informations, I refused to do so ^{because} not because I should not wanted to help, -simply, I could not betray myself. This rigid, inchangeable character of mine was my greatest enemy, I know, -but what can You do, when You feel, that by changing Your principles, You betray yourself...

Pro forma, I was progerman, ^{too} that was our ^{official} policy. But I did my best, even during the war, to recall the attention of the hungarian people to the always growing danger of the pangermanisme. I spent a half year in Germany to study the literature, the institutes of the "scientiphique expansion" and I ^{was sure} ~~was~~, that if Germany wins the war, we will have to face maybe a greater danger, as we had between the two world wars, -but was there also an other way? It was the Regent and the parliament, who decided our ^{official} orientation, and I, as a simple citizen, could not do anything but submit myself to the ^{official} course and ~~help~~ ^{try} to prepare Hungary for his to-morrow. Ferenc Nagy and other emigrees, living now in the USA, ^{freely} under the moral pression of the hungarian-american leftist circles, accused me of being ~~as~~ a "convincd progerman", -but didn't even ^{Nagy} held great speeches in the Parliament during the war, ^{great results of} preaching the "new-german exemple"? There ~~was~~

^{at least}
 was an official ~~historiography~~, what everybody of us, who played at that time a leading part in the hungarian life, was forced to use in his speeches, writing, etc. Wasn't, ^{repeated} the same later, during the russian periode? Sure, it was, but it would be silly to accuse ^{of pro-communism} the eastern european leaders, ~~of pro-communism~~ ^{only} because they preached the "great results of the stalinism" or because...they "believed" publicly, that Stalin is the leading man of the XX.th century. *They had to act so.*

For two years I was the ^{in charge} editor of the Donau-Europa (1941-1943), ^{a famous} scientific "revue" of the eastern european questions. Nobody can accuse me, that by directing this magazin, I helped Germany. My only german editors were Von Hassel, an ex-ambassador, condemned ~~himself~~ to death in 1944 and executed in Berlin, and Freiherr von Wilmsky, a great-manufacturer, condemned, he too, in 1944, to life. This was my "german-staff": two germans, who knew, what was wrong ^{with} Hitler's eastern european policy. And the so much discussed "Orszag"... ^{was} a conservative newspaper, that I founded with the help and moral support of Mr. Nicolas de Kallay (at that time, 1943 premier of Hungary). My chief-accusator, a former procommunist OSS-agent, Max Himmel (alias Himmler) stated under oath, that I founded this newspaper with german money and for support (the pangermanism in Hungary. (Judge Samuel H. Kaufman's statement that I "advocated and acquiesced in activities, etc. is based entirely on his testimony.) Mr. Kallay is still living, and I handled a Kallay-testimony, concerning this question, to Senator Pat McCarran. In this testimony it is stated, that I founded the Orszag with the money of the hungarian government, that my newspaper and my own activity was, in the fact, antinazi and antigerman. Mr. Max Himmel past the whole war in New York and in the USA, ^{where} he organized the "antinazi resistance". ~~Mr. Kallay and I have been in Budapest... and Mr. Kallay went to Washington.~~ But, why ^{could} not ^{he} get more credit a Himmel, when he ^{lost} his post with the help of Lee Pressman and other well-known "democrates" and... we were only the exponents of a "pro-nazi policy"... Naturally, he won.

III.

When the russians in November 1944 encircled Budapest and the first thousand refugees ~~led to~~ ^{obtained} Vienna and when it was already sure, that Stalin ~~had~~ ^{obtained} whole Hungary, I accepted a post in Vienna on the hungarian consulate to direct the refugee-problem. ~~in 1944~~. In December 1944 there had been already 200.000 hungarians in Austrian territory and in April 1945, just before the end of the war, we counted nearly 400.000 refugees. It was an enormous work ^{to} direct ⁱⁿ their settlement: we had to fight for every camp, for every train, for every transport, as the nazi-authorities of Austria ^{did} ^{to} want support our aims. Thousands and thousands refugees came also from Northern Germany, from Silesia, and naturally, the austrians ^{their "blood-brothers"} preferred ~~that~~. I worked sometimes 14-16 hours a day and still that wasn't enough.

Ly's letter

In the always growing disorder (the allies bombed dayly the austrian rail-roads) it was no more possible to find an adequate solution for everybody, but we did, what we could.

In May 1945, when, at last, the Allies liberated Austria, these refugees weren't yet called D.P.-s, ~~but~~ ^{as they were seen} nazis, and they weren't yet helped, ~~by anybody~~. And so, I figured for long time, as the "first protector" of the nazis.. This ~~same~~ accusation was replanted against me also after my arrival in the USA. I was accused by the Immigration Authorities, that if I accepted my post in Vienna, I did it only, because I wanted to help escape the nazis, ^{from Hungary} what could I say ~~of~~ ^{about} that accusation? Was or it is ~~nazi~~ ^{called even today} a family, who try to escape from the communist paradise? Were these refugees ~~nazis~~, ^{all} -because they never believed in the rusian promises and they escaped already in the moment of Hungary's liberation from their homes? Was everybody first supposed, as Ferenc Nagy and his friends, ^{all} to try to cooperate with Soviet-Russia? Was the accord of Teheran and Yalta, which gave Hungary for Stalin, really a death-warrent against every hungarian? Was I, or am I a "criminal" because I helped to escape this people and I helped to evacuate also their fortune to Austria? Yes, -the Immigration Inspector (himself a german-jew refugee) Gilbert Zimmerman, stated in the warrent, that yes, -this was a criminal act, -because Hungary at that time (January 1945) signed already an armistice with Soviet

Russia and with the Allies, -and I had no more legal and moral power to help this ~~people to escape from Hungary~~ ^{at} ~~at that time~~ ^{Simply, I should have left my office.}

That is the official story of my "crime": I directed two conservative newspapers during the war in Hungary ~~to~~ ^{and} published also the news of the German General Staff; -and as a consul, I helped escape 400.000 refugees to Austria (by cooperating with the austrian nazi-authorities). The inspector never considered the facts, that during the war even the marxist newspapers had been forced in Hungary to publish all official news about the fronts.. and that I could not cooperate, as a consul, in 1944 and in 1945 in Vienna with other "authorities", as nazis, -as there weren't any other authorities, at that time in Vienna.

The USA-Babassy in Madrid, when gave me ^{on 1 september 1945} the visa, knew everything about me, and ~~didn't~~ ^{he} didn't refuse me ^{the} visa. It's true, that after the war I worked for a year with the French Military Governement in Austria, and later, ^{one of the} as a leader of the hungarian emigration, -I tried to help even the americans. It's true, that by organizing the anticommunist underground in Europe, and taking part actively ~~and~~ ^{even} in the counter-intelligence, I risked my life. It's true, that I published also after the war books and propaganda-pamphlets against Soviet-Russia, -why ^{have} should they refuse me a visa? Only, because also during the war I was strictly anticommunist and I never believed, for any day, in a compromise with Soviet-Russia?

Was that a crime, or a reason for discrimination, - that ~~somebody~~ ^{I never} liked Roosevelt's suicide-policy, that ~~somebody~~ ^{it} opposed always, in all ^{its} forms, the communists? No and no! The American diplomats in Europe, who ^{tried to} ~~organized~~ ^{deal with me} ~~contacted~~ ^{an anti-communist friend,} ~~me~~, who demanded my advice, and who were my friends, - surely weren't neither nazis, nor defeatists; they were fighting for win the peace, what ^{was lost by} Roosevelt ~~lost~~ at some place, between Teheran and Yalta... How was then possible, that a man, who was estimated ~~and liked~~ ^{by the Americans} in Europe, who in the great after-war battle fought on the side of the USA, - was then treated, as a gangster, or even worse as a gangster, in the USA?

There are two answers on this question. First, the Immigration Authorities, when I was arrested, were still favorizing the communists, the ex-allies of the war. I shall never forget the difference, how was treated an Eisler, a rotarb, and how was I treated on Ellis Island? For six months, I was "strict incommunicado", I could not speak with anybody, and I could leave my cell only for an hour, ^{a day} ~~all my~~ ^(sometimes confiscated too) letters were opened and censored, and I think, a murderer ^{was} ~~to~~ better handled in the Sing-Sing, as the direction of the Island handled me. As I knew ~~anybody~~ ^{anybody} in New York I had not "witnesses", and an immigration procedure is merely based on the testimonies: ^{where was, or how was assured my equality?}

~~then~~ ^{then} The Immigration knew, that ^{it} made an enormous mistake by arresting me: it was forced ^{then} to defend himself with all legal and illegal arms. This was the worse point of my "case". ^{that was the point, when they heard that} ~~the star-witnesses~~ ^{was} ~~was~~ ^{admitted}, that I never had been a nazi, that even in Vienna, I never take part in any nazi action... and that they nazis wanted to "liquidate" me, in March 1945. This was naturally very bad. When on the denunciation of Walter Winchell, of Ferenc GÖndör (alias Nathan Krausz, now an editor in New York, in 1919 a communist people's commissar in Budapest), of Izso Székely (alias Schlesinger, now the editor of the greatest hungarian newspaper in New York, before 1920 a swindler, wanted by the whole european police) the Immigration arrested me, the dear inspectors were really convinced, that I am a famous "nazi murderer", a man, who sent millions of jews in the death... Later, during the hearing, they ^{wondered} ~~were forced to admit it~~, that I had nothing to do with the jewish atrocities. However, as a "last defense", Mr. Himmel declared under oath (to justify Winchell's "allegedly") that I wrote a letter to Szalasi (hungarian nazi leader) ^{in what} ~~to~~ demanded ~~me~~ to transport the jews from Hungary to Austria... Naturally, I never wrote such a letter and even Mr. Himmel admitted it, that except him, nobody ^{ever} saw that letter.. (The same falsification, as in the Dreyfuss-case, but there, at least, existed a false letter, - but here, doesn't exist at all "the letter".) ^{And so I was "arrested" morally, because I was a "government} ~~officer~~ ^{during the german occupation of my city.}

The Commissioner on August 30, 1948 justified his inspectors and ordered my deportation to Hungary. This order, later in January 1949, was revoked by the Board

of Immigration Appeals. The Board condemned the Commissioner's action and declared that I was illegally arrested and ^{illegally} detained, as in my case only the Secretary of State had jurisdiction, but not the Attorney General. Three times appealed the Immigration Service against this decision, but it lost all its appeals. In the mean time, naturally, they continued my illegal detention, and as they had no more hope, in April 1949 they demanded the intervention of the Attorney General. Everybody knew the pressures, what Winchell and his friends exercised in my case, and so even I wasn't surprised, when on April 5, 1949 the Attorney General decided against the Board of Appeals ^{order} my case. This was the moment, when I went to the Court. There, the Immigration again restarted his play and postponed my case until, that they got Samuel H. Kaufman, ^{as judge}.

And I lost. *Wasn't that a wonder?*

IV.

Two years have been stolen from my life: I remained for 25 months on the Island. During all this time, I always hoped, that one day I shall win my case and get complete rectification for all ~~that~~ what happened. But, I was mistaken.

If somebody ask me ^{today, that} I hate the americans, I answer always: not, - why should I hate the ^{americans?} What had the americans to do with my case? Honorable americans, whom I appreciate very much for their ^{and just} human behavior, ~~and honor~~, as Senator McCarran, Senator Ferguson, and many others, always helped me, when I asked their intervention. The Archbishop of Washington, the jesuites from New York, the hungarian catholics and protestants always ^{helped me} ~~interested in my case~~ while being on Ellis Island. But, - the justice in my case never could win. Today, I know.

I am, ^{too} ~~not~~ not objective and I know, that ~~even~~ the american jews had nothing to do with the pressures, my arrest, etc. A hungarian newspaper published the american officials' names, who ~~had~~ directed the whole Vajta-Case and concluded, that it was "a jewish vengeance". Gilbert Zimmerman, the inspector of my case, is a jew, Alwine Lieberman, the Immigration's legal adviser, who fought my case before the Court, is a jew, the three other immigration-lawyers, who ^{and honor} wrote the accusation against me: Max Blau, Steinberg and Feinberg, are jews, Judge Samuel H. Kaufman, is a jew, - the men, who organized the whole campaign against me: Gündör, Székely, Madányi, Himmel-Himler, are jews... Yes, I know, one can easily conclude, that my papers passed always from a jew to a jew, - but, if somebody know the USA, can't say, that there was, in this method, a special discrimination.

In the first decade of our century, when Dreyfuss was accused and condemned, there existed a very strong antisemitism in Europe and this blind, and some times savage discrimination easily transformed to "traitors" the most honest men... Now, in the USA, directed by Winchell, there exists another discrimination: all christians, who were at home during the war in Europe Central and who had a more or less

Ferenc Vajta
Calle 22, Numero 5-33
Bogota,- Colombia

June 26, 1950

To R. Admiral
Roscoe C. Hillenkoetter
Department of Defense,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir,

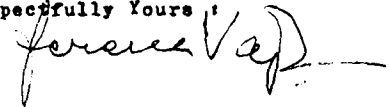
Two years ago, when I was yet detained on Ellis Island (accused by hungarian communists and others),- I informed You three or four times about my situation and I asked also Your intervention,-which You accorded to my case. Later, in August 1948, I got a letter from General E. Withcell, Adjutant General of the Secretary Of Defense. I was told, that if I renounce on my hungarian citizenship and I make a legal statement, concerning this question, I may enter in the USA- Army. I wrote immediatly to ar. James Forrestal, Secretary of Defense, and I thanked him very much for his kindly interest,- but in the same time, I expressed my opinion,- that untill the day, that I am still detained and I can't finish my fight for my honour,- I can't decide myself to such a step,-because it could seem very opportunistic. I hoped for very long time, that I may win my case and clear my name from all false and tendencious accusations. However, I partly succeeded in that only,- as after winning three times my case before the Board of Immigration Appeals, I lost it before Judge Samuel H. Kaufman. This,- and the so long detention (25 months) forced me on the end, to leave "voluntarily", on February 5, 1950 the USA. From that time, I am living in Bogota, Colombia.

Now, in these so decisive days, when the USA might be forced from an hour to the other, to fight again for human freedom and for the ideals, what, in the battle of my people against Soviet Russia, I represented too, I want offer inconditionally my help and my service for the USA. Before the flight and escape of Ferenc Nagy from Hungary, between 1945 and 1947, the hungarian resistance was connected with my name. Even in the international organisations of the emigrees I had a leading part. It's true, I lost all that with my arrest and detention,-on Ellis Island. But,- it isn't my condition or my position, what I want to offer to the USA : it is my life. Simple soldier, or officer,- I want to fight on the side of the USA and if necessary,-to die for the USA, because I am sure, that if it comes to a new war, only the USA can free my own country and the world from the tyranny of Soviet Russia.

Whatever and wherever I can do for Your country, I shall be glad to do it immediatly, or at any time, when You will permit me,-to do.

Waiting Your answer, I remain

respectfully Yours :



TLB - 1174
14 AUG 50

Ferenc Vajta

to R. Admiral Roscoe C. Hillenkoetter

I was born in 1914, in Leva, a part of Northern Hungary, which after the first world war belonged to Czechoslovakia. I am graduated from political sciences (Geneva, 1936) and from Law (Budapest, same year). I speak correctly french, italian, german, hungarian, spanish and fluently english. I write and understand nearly in all slave languages. Between 1936 and 1945 I served, as diplomate my country, in minor post (my last post was Vienna, where I served as 1st. consul) I published 6 books in different languages, all about history and politics. I know all european countries and North Africa and Turkey. I founded in Hungary two newspapers (one scientific: The Europe Danubian and the Orszag, which was Hungary's greatest conservative paper. After the war I worked in Innsbruck for a year with the French Secret Service, helping them to organize the counts intelligence. I founded two hungarian Resistance Committees (the Front Patrio-tique Hongrois and the Hungarian national Council (1946 and 1947)). I worked with the USA too in Rome and in Madrid (in 1947), mostly to organize a proamerican refugee-front in Europe, -and I cooperated also with the CIC in Rome, by helping with informations about Soviet Russia and the communist underground. I went in December 1947 to the USA, where I was supposed to be represented by Colonel Albert L. Hoffman, USA military attaché in Madrid, to the Department of Defense. But after my arrival in the States, the hungarian communists, leaded by Ferenc GÖndör, ex-~~minister~~ people's commissioner of the first hungarian bol-chevick revolution (now editor in New York) and later on his influence, also by Walter Winshell. I had only one witness against me : Martin Himler, ex-OSS agent, a former active communist, a close friend of Ferenc GÖndör, who made a false testimony against me. On the base of this testimony, I lost my case before Judge Samuel H. Kaufman (the same judge of the Alger Hiss trial). Now, in March and April 1950 Himler was demasked before the Senate's Judiciary Committee, as a communist and a cooperator of the russians in Budapest (in 1945 and 1946) Also all documents, letters, reports, what I sent from Ellis Island in 1948 and in 1949 directly to You, or to Your office, -might demonstrate the same : I always accused Himler of being a communist, and making his testimony of vengeance and because of the "party-line" against me. In the fact, -my "case" lost all its reasons : I appealed to the Senate and to the Secretary of State for reentry. But, -it's the same : even without that, I shall be glad at any time, in any country, -even with this so sad memory from Ellis Island, to fight, as I did in 1947, - for the USA.