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Deportations in Hungary

Russians Seen Copying Nazi Methods in Abducting Children

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES

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I read with considerable interest Bela Fabian's letter in THE NEW YORK TIMES of Sept. 8 about the continuous mass deportations and evictions that are now taking place in Hungary. He fails to mention, however, that not only deported boys and girls under 18 are separated from their already deported families for the purpose of re-education and for possible use in military formations of the secret police in time of war. It has been revealed in numerous letters smuggled out of Hungary that deported children under 6 are also taken from their families.

The children are placed in so-called "Rakosi Children's Homes" because, in the authorities' opinion, they cannot be properly cared for by their deported parents. The real purpose, however, is to give these innocent children a thorough education and indoctrination in Communist principles, to make them forget their origin and to train them to become fanatic Communists. There are also indications of name changes and of destruction of documents in order to cut every possible link between parent and child.

Not Russian Invention

This procedure is not a Russian invention. The Janizaries consisted at first of Christian youths who were taken to Turkey every year from their parents, from occupied countries, to be trained as infantry soldiers. By the time they grew up they had forgotten their mother tongue, their nationality and their names. They were completely changed and Mohammedanized. This is what the Communists are doing in Soviet-occupied territory in Eastern and Central Europe.

The same idea was adopted successfully by the Nazis. When the Allies occupied Germany it was learned that there were a great number of unaccompanied alien children there who had been brought to Germany by the Nazi occupation forces for the purpose of Germanization. U. N. R. R. A. and later its successor, I. R. O., was given the task of searching for these children, to register and to repatriate them if their nationality could be determined beyond doubt. Child search teams were formed and every "Landkreis" was

systematically searched by qualified U. N. R. R. A. personnel covering the American, British and French zones of occupation. Some nations (as the Netherlands and Czechoslovakia) even sent special missions to assist in recovering their lost children.

By investigating documents and interrogating personnel connected, or formerly connected, with children's institutions, Nazi welfare organizations or the German municipal government it was possible to reconstruct the general kidnapping policy followed by the Nazi welfare agencies, to follow the itinerary of evacuations, and to gather scattered members of different groups who had been dispersed by the Nazis for the purpose of assimilation in the German communities.

Soviet Denunciation

While there was no search permitted in the Russian zone, the Soviet Government was quite anxious to have the Ukrainian children returned, and Russian liaison officers never missed an opportunity to denounce the Nazi atrocities committed in the form of mass infanticide. Yet the Russians seem to have learned the Nazi methods.

The President of the United States in connection with the mass deportations in Hungary, declared on July 27 that the American Government intends "to take such steps as may appropriately expose this situation to public view and judgment and render the Hungarian Government accountable before the world for its infamous conduct." Mr. Truman later announced that the American Government "will submit to the Secretary General of the United Nations, and through him, to all member Governments of the United Nations, detailed evidence which the Department of State has in its possession regarding many such violations."

It would seem desirable that the leaders of the free world, and especially of the United States, while submitting the facts about the barbarous brutality of the Hungarian Government—at the very moment that the drafting of an International Covenant of Human Rights is being completed—will introduce definite proposals before the forum of the United Nations, lest the matter end in a mere verbal protest without action. In the meantime mass deportations, seeking to break Hungarian passive resistance, continue. Stalin once remarked that "the Hungarian problem is only a matter of box cars." And these box cars are now rolling.

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