

# Hungarian Officer Tells Why He Confessed Falsely

By JOSEPH CLARK

New information on the real views of Laszlo Rajk, late Hungarian foreign minister, who has been exonerated of false accusations for which he was executed, has been brought to light on Hungary. At the same time fresh light has been thrown by one of those accused as to why they confessed to crimes they never committed.

These revelations coincided last week with the visit of a Hungarian Communist Party and government delegation to Yugoslavia. And in the other Peoples Democracies there were additional signs of a continuing process of redefining the relations among socialist countries based on independence, friendly mutual criticism and stress on the different paths to socialism. An outstanding development was the return of former Polish First Secretary Wladyslaw Gomulka to a position of leadership in the Polish Party.

The new information about the Rajk case appeared in the Hungarian trade union paper Nepszava of last Sunday. An article by Pal Justus in that issue tells the story of what he claims Rajk told him during the trial. Justus, a former Left Wing Socialist was charged with "Titoism" and served five years and eight months of a life sentence. He was released and exonerated of the accusation six months ago.

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JUSTUS SAID he had a conversation with Rajk near the end of the trial and that Rajk told him: "It is true that my opinions on certain questions are different from the standpoint of Rakosi. I never made a secret of this.

"On the question of an independent front, I believe this should be a serious organization embracing all people; also on the Yugoslav question I do not believe that Tito is a traitor and find it catastrophic that this is causing a split in the Socialist camp.

"It is also true that I wanted a party congress or conference called and there I would have put my point of view forward before our

party to try and get the position changed."

In recent weeks the Hungarian government has methodically been bringing to the dock officials involved in the frameup of Rajk and his companions. Two weeks ago the remains of Rajk and the others executed with him were reburied with the highest honors.

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A WEEK AGO Saturday five Hungarian generals, a colonel and a police colonel, who the Hungarian government announced were "unjustly executed during the Stalin period in Hungary," were given a solemn reburial. At this ceremony Police Colonel Gyula Oszko, who had himself been on trial with two of those executed and had received a jail sentence asked in a graveside speech:

Why did they sign false confessions?

"To say that we suffered physical and moral tortures does not provide adequate reply," Col. Oszko said.

"The truth is that we believed for a time in the justice and necessity of those actions. We became ensnared by the false theory of political necessity.

"We adopted the false theory according to which there exists political necessity that is opposed to the truth. We believed if we told the truth, we should serve the imperialists and by lying we would serve the camp of Socialism.

"We are convinced that all this should not have happened, that the illegalities committed in the past were not dictated by historical necessity, and that the victorious building of Socialism does not at all call for similar horrors.

"As regards responsibility for the crimes, it would be inhuman, stupid and reminiscent of fascist methods to make it of a collective nature.

"It is possible to trace the extent of responsibility. Our laws and our people demand that those whose hands are covered with blood should be brought to justice."

THE SPEECH was made just

after the arrest of Mihaly Farkas, former Defense Minister, his son and four other security officers, for their part in the frameups.

At the same time ex-Premier Imre Nagy was readmitted into the party and a C.P. central committee statement said frankly that the prejudice of former party secretary Mathias Rakosi was responsible for Nagy's expulsion. It was in July, 1953 that Nagy succeeded Rakosi as Hungary's Prime Minister. Nagy introduced a policy which emphasized consumer goods more than heavy industry. The CP statement which readmitted Nagy said that although he had made mistakes they definitely did not warrant expulsion. Nagy was expected to receive a responsible leading post shortly.

Meanwhile in Belgrade, Hungary's Communist Party secretary Erno Geroe agreed with President Tito on closer relations, increased exchanges of socialist experiences and emphasis on independent development of socialist countries.

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AN ITALIAN Communist Party delegation in Yugoslavia headed by Luigi Longo expressed great admiration for the forms worked out by the Yugoslav Communists in building socialism. The Italian Communists were especially impressed by the decentralization and by direct worker management of industry. The Yugoslav Communists have stressed these in a fight against bureaucratic tendencies inherent in great centralization. Longo declared on leaving Yugoslavia:

"This is the most original and effective form of management as far as we have been able to see and establish. This method of wider participation by workers in the management of factories and public institutions provides for realization of the most effective form of peoples democracy."

Longo's statement also laid to

## THE WEEK IN WORLD AFFAIRS

- Adenauer's Armament Crisis
- British Jets for Jordan

WEST GERMANY'S Chancellor Adenauer dismissed his armament minister and three others in a shakeup brought about by a crisis in West Germany's rearmament program. The Social Democrats have gained ground steadily by their opposition to the draft and to incorporation of German armed forces in NATO.

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JORDAN announced that it has received a pledge from the British that jet airforce squadrons would come to the aid of Jordan in the event of war against Israel. Meanwhile the French indicated that they and the British were concerned about the upcoming elections in Jordan which were expected to go against the supporters of Britain and France in the Arab land.

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SECRETARY of State Dulles said that the deterioration of relations between Jordan and Israel were brought about by Israel's retaliatory raids against Jordan. The Israeli raid followed the murder of two Israeli orange pickers by Jordanian marauders who cut off the ears of the Israeli workers.

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SOVIET deputy premier An-

astas Mikoyan said that Israel along with all other countries, should have the right of shipping in the Suez canal. Mikoyan made his statement at a reception in the Afgan embassy of Moscow. Mikoyan also expressed strong confidence that the Suez situation would be settled by peaceful negotiations in which the UN was playing a very useful role.

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PREMIER HATOYAMA of Japan negotiated an agreement with the Soviet government in Moscow to end the state of war between the two countries. Unsettled territorial disputes would be put off under the arrangement worked out.

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ITALY'S COMMUNIST Party had put out a draft program which stresses the peaceful, constitutional path to socialism in Italy. The draft points out that such a transition is possible because conditions in Italy today are vastly different than they were in Russia in 1917. The present Italian constitution was adopted with the strong backing of the Communists and socialists.

rest reports of a split between Longo and Togliatti, the Italian C.P. general secretary. Togliatti was among the first Communist leaders in Europe to emphasize the importance of studying the Yugoslav experience in order to avoid bureaucratic developments and the weakening of democracy in socialist countries.

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ADDITIONAL SUPPORT for the independent developments taking place in the Peoples Democracies apparently came as a result of the nearly two weeks of discussions between Soviet and Yugoslav Communist leaders first at Brjoni on the Adriatic and then in Yalta on the Black Sea. The Yugo-

slav Communists said frankly that while there were theoretical differences between them and the Soviet Communists their solidarity had been strengthened and they felt confident differences would be worked out in continuing discussions.

At the same time the Yugoslav government took sharp exception to a statement of the U. S. government that aid would be continued to Yugoslavia in order to protect her from the Soviet Union. The Yugoslavs replied quickly and firmly that they were in no way threatened by the Soviet Union and they criticized the effort to attach strings to the aid from this country.

PRO  
and  
CON

John McManus Joseph Starobin Sid Stein

Discuss the Communist Party's Draft Resolution

—See Pages 4-5