

IRFE SPECIAL, GRAZ, FROM HIER, 11/23/43 130

A BUDAPEST ENGINEER AND HIS WIFE, WHO ESCAPED TO AUSTRIA ON THURSDAY MORNING, NOV. 22, SAID THEY HAD THEMSELVES SEEN SCORES OF EXAMPLES OF PERSONS BEING TAKEN OFF THE STREET BY PATROL PANZER TRUCKS MANNED BY TEAMS OF COMBINED RUSSIAN SOLDIERS AND HUNGARIAN POLICE. THEY REPORTED THESE PANZER TRUCKS ON PATROL THROUGHOUT THE CITY FOR THE PAST 8-10 DAYS. SOME OF THE VEHICLES ARE SITUATED AT STREET INTER-SECTIONS WHILE OTHERS MOVE ABOUT IN LOW GEAR.

THERE SEEMS TO BE NO PATTERN TO EXPLAIN WHO IS PICKED UP, ALTHOUGH THE MAJORITY OF THOSE TAKEN ARE USUALLY BETWEEN 12 AND 25 YEARS OLD. PERSONS WALKING ALONE ARE THE MOST FREQUENT VICTIMS.

THERE IS APPARENTLY SAFETY IN CROWDS. THE ENGINEER HIMSELF WITNESSED AN INCIDENT ON NOVEMBER 16 WHEN THE CHIEF OF THE KERRIVILL APPLIANCE FIRM (BICYCLES, RADIOS AND MOTOR CYCLES) WHOSE LAST NAME IS FRANK (FNU) WAS RETURNING TO THE STORE SHORTLY AFTER NOON. AS SHE REACHED THE CORNER OF ANDRASSY AND ISABELLA STREETS A CALL FROM A PANZER TRUCK ORDERED HER TO STOP. SHE CONTINUED WALKING TO THE NEXT STREET CORNER, CSENGERI, WHERE SHE MET A MALE COLLEAGUE FROM HER OFFICE. HOPING TO ENLIST HIS AID SHE STOPPED HIM, BUT THE POLICE AND SOLDIERS BORE DOWN ON THEM BOTH. AT THE LAST MOMENT THE GIRL BROKE AND RAN, DODGING BULLETS AS SHE SWENT. SHE GOT AWAY APPARENTLY UNHURT BUT HER COLLEAGUE WAS HUSTLED INTO THE PANZER TRUCK AND DISAPPEARED.

ALSO ON THE SAME DAY THE ENGINEER HAD A RENDEZVOUS WITH A FRIEND WHO LIVED IN THE 11TH DISTRICT BETWEEN MICHAEL AND SANZ STREETS. THE FRIEND DID NOT SHOW UP FOR THE MEETING AND REPORTED TO THE ENGINEER THE NEXT DAY THAT HE DID NOT DARE GO INTO HIS STREET AS EVERYONE, REPEAT EVERYONE, IN IT WAS ARRESTED AND TAKEN AWAY-MEN AND WOMEN, OLD AND YOUNG. HE ESTIMATED FROM 200 PEOPLE WERE PICKED UP WITHIN A SPACE OF A FEW HOURS.

THE ENGINEER REPORTED THAT ON NOVEMBER 10, TWO STUDENTS CAME OUT OF THE BARTOG BELA STUDENTS HOUSE TO PICK UP LEAFLETS THAT HAD BEEN DROPPED BY PLANE. THEIRS WAS A FATAL CURIOSITY; THEY WERE TAKEN AWAY IN A PANZER TRUCK BY AN AVH CAPTAIN NAMED SCHMIDT (FNDF) AND TWO RUSSIAN SOLDIERS AND HAVE NOT BEEN SEEN SINCE.

A 22 YEAR OLD GIRL CHEMIST FROM THE SAME STUDENT HOME DISAPPEARED ON NOVEMBER 12 AND HAS NOT BEEN SEEN SINCE. SHE IS ASSUMED TO HAVE BEEN DEPORTED. SHE WORKED WITH THE RED CROSS ALL THROUGH THE UPRISING.

ON NOVEMBER 19, SAID THE ENGINEER, THE WHOLE OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL OF THE EOTVOS LORANT UNIVERSITZ WAS PICKED UP - DESTINATION UNKNOWN.

ON NOVEMBER 7, THE 20 YEAR OLD SON OF THE ACTRESS ERZEBET PALOTAI WAS TAKEN FROM THE NORMAFA PENSION IN SVABBERG (SANATORIUM) BY RUSSIAN SOLDIERS, DESPITE THE FACT THAT HE HAD BEEN LYING ILL IN THE PENSION SINCE OCTOBER 20 AND HAD TAKEN NO PART WHATSOEVER IN THE UPRISING.

THE ENGINEER SAID THAT HE HAD NO ~~POSITIVE EVIDENCE~~ ^{POSITIVE EVIDENCE} OF DEPORTATION IN ANY OTHER CITY OTHER THAN BUDAPEST. HE HAD HEARD OF ALL THE GIRL STUDENTS BEING DEPORTED FROM TWO SCHOOLS IN SOLNOK BUT HE HAD NO COLLABORATING EVIDENCE.

EVALUATION COMMENT: The the individual incidents are unconfirmed. They are definitely in line with a growing body of reports on deportations.