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Hungary
Apr. - July 1944

ATHQ FOR G-2 BRITISH RESMIN AND US POLITICAL ADVISER
 REPEAT GSI AAI ADV

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SECRET

PRIORITY

POLITICAL

FOLLOWING GERMAN OCCUPATION OF HUNGARY ON MARCH ONE NINE THE GERMAN MILITARY FORCES
 ARRESTED THE MEMBERS OF THE ITALIAN LEGATION AT BUDAPEST WHO HAD REFUSED TO ADHERE
 TO THE REPUBLICAN GOVERNMENT BUT WHO HAD BEEN ALLOWED TO REMAIN BY THE HUNGARIAN
 GOVERNMENT PD PAREN TO ATHQ FOR GEORGE TWO BRITISH RESMIN AND US POLITICAL ADVISER
 REPEAT GSI AAI ADV FROM ACC SIGNED STONE PAREN THEIR NAMES WERE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES
 DE FERRARIIS AND SECRETARIES DOCTOR GIORGIO CIRACLO CMA DOCTOR ATTILIO PETRONE CAPANO
 AND MILITARY ATTACHE GENERAL VOLI PD PARA ACCORDING TO ^{ITALIAN} ~~THEIR~~ INFORMATION DE FERRARIIS
 HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED TO NORTHERN ITALY BUT THE OTHER THREE ARE BELIEVED TO BE INTERNEED
 POSSIBLY IN GERMANY PD ITALIAN GOVERNMENT REQUEST THAT THE ALLIED GOVERNMENTS ASK THAT
 THESE THREE INDIVIDUALS BE EXCHANGED FOR SOME OF THE GERMAN DIPLOMATS TO THE VATICAN
 WHO ARE AWAITING REPATRIATION PAREN MY TELEGRAM FIVE FIVE SIX OF ONE SIX JULY REFERS
 PAREN IT IS RECOGNIZED THAT THIS WOULD INVOLVE EXCHANGE OF DIPLOMATS ACCREDITED TO
 A NEUTRAL STATE NAMELY THE VATICAN BUT THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS REASON TO BELIEVE
 THAT IF THE VATICAN WERE APPROACHED OFFICIALLY IN THIS MATTER IT WOULD RAISE NO
 OBJECTION

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Ministero degli Affari Esteri
Ufficio Collegamento

When the Fascist Republic was formed, four secretaries to the Italian Legation in Budapest refused to adhere and with the authorization from the Italian Government in Paris, opened another legation in Hungary which was unofficially recognized by the Hungarian authorities.

Following the German occupation of Hungary on March 19th last, the German military forces arrested the Chargé d'Affaires Baron Carlo de Ferraris together with the Secretaries Dr. Giorgio Ciracolo, Dr. Attilio Perrone Capano and the Military Attaché General Voll.

After four days in a Budapest prison, the Chargé d'Affaires Ferraris was interned for twenty-eight days in the Kaisersteinbruch concentration camp, situated at about thirty kilometres from Vienna, and on May 30th was transferred to the village hotel of Gussaci, Luzzane (Brescia-Italy).

It is believed that General Voll was deported to Germany but no precise news is known.

Dr. Ciracolo and Dr. Perrone Capano were taken to the Political Prison of Ruzsca (Budapest) and, according to private information, they were still there on May 31st. On the 20th of the same month the Apostolic Nuncio in Budapest informed the Noly see that the above said secretaries had been taken from prison and interned, but the place and the treatment they have been subjected to, are still

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Rome, July 7th, 1944.

March 20, 1944

HUNGARY SEIZED BY NAZIS

Toward the end of March 1944, Hungary's Regent Nicholas Horthy paid a visit to Hitler's Berchtesgaden. The Russians had crossed the Pruth into Romania and were entering the foothills of the Carpathians. Hitler's summons was urgent and he demanded full military occupation together with a more tractable government: more Hungarian workers for German industry. While Horthy thought matters over, Nazi paratroopers dropped on Hungarian airfields and early Monday morning, March 20, German infantry motored into Hungary. Soon Budapest Radio ceased playing the Rakoczi March with its impudent first line: "God of the Hungarians, destroy the German army."

The Budapest Government demanded a meaning of troop concentrations along the Austrian border, but the troops were over the line before the official answer came through. Occupation was complete before those who might have tried to fight knew it had begun. Premier Nicholas Kallay sought refuge in the Turkish Embassy.

Horthy returned to Budapest in the middle of the week. Sztojay (sto-yah-y), a major general suddenly turned marshal, was Hitler's choice for Premier and took the oath of office in Horthy's presence. Sztojay had been Hungarian Minister in Berlin since 1935. The new government made arrests of prominent Hungarians and threw them into concentration camps. Heinrich Himmler set up Gestapo Headquarters at the Hotel Szent Gallert.

Some Hungarians fled to Yugoslavia or the Carpathians, but the majority kept still and hoped that Hungary would not become a battleground.

(condensed from "TIME"; 3 April 1944)

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